

CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST, POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE

The School of Nursing offers a Post-Master's Certificate in Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), Neonatal CNS, or Pediatric CNS for nurses with a master's or doctorate degree in nursing. Included in the APRN course of study are advanced health assessment, advanced pathophysiology, pharmacology, health promotion, and management of complex care for children and families or for the adult population (from young adult to older adult, including the frail elderly) in various clinical and community settings. The Certificate Program consists of a total of 31 units.

Prior to application for the Certificate Programs, individuals are strongly encouraged to consult with the CNS Program Coordinator (advisor) regarding previous graduate coursework completed to determine the best semester to apply for entry. Cohorts for the Adult-Child CNS specialty and clinical phase begin annually each Fall semester. Cohorts for the Neonatal CNS and Pediatric CNS specialty and clinical phase begin Fall semester of even years (every other year).

Eligibility Requirements

1. Completion of a master's degree in nursing or doctor of nursing practice from a regionally accredited institution and Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredited nursing program.
2. Overall grade point average of 3.0 (on a four-point scale) in units attempted.
3. Registered nurse licensure in the United States, unencumbered, unrestricted, with no disciplinary action pending or imposed.
4. Minimum of two years recent clinical professional nursing experience with the specialty population (neonatal, pediatric, or adult/geriatric) acute care experience.
5. Health clearance (immunity, etc.) is required prior to enrolling in a role performance course. A background check or drug screen may be required by the clinical location.
6. Residence in a state in which the School of Nursing at California State University, Dominguez Hills is permitted to deliver online education.

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Gap Analysis and Certificate Requirements

Upon admission a "gap analysis" will be done by the faculty to determine if any previous graduate level nursing coursework satisfies any of the required courses for the specific certificate. The gap analysis is documented and a list of all courses required for the certificate are clearly indicated. Additionally, the semester and year that the certificate student should enroll in each course is indicated to create a individualized plan of study.

Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist Post-Master's Certificate

Code	Title	Hours
MSN 514	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
MSN 521	Advanced Health Assessment	2
MSN 522	Advanced Health Assessment Lab	1
MSN 526	Pharmacology	3
MSN 528	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
MSN 540	Clinical Management of Acute Pediatric Health Problems	4
MSN 561	Primary Care of the Family II: Pediatric Health	2
MSN 547	Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Performance I	3
MSN 548	Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Performance II	4
MSN 549	Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Performance III	3
MSN 550	Theoretical Foundations of Clinical Nurse Specialist Practice	3
Total Hours		31

CNS-Adult-Gerontology Post-Master's Certificate

Code	Title	Hours
MSN 514	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
MSN 521	Advanced Health Assessment	2
MSN 522	Advanced Health Assessment Lab	1
MSN 526	Pharmacology	3
MSN 528	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
MSN 533	Theoretical Aspects of Aging	3
MSN 535	Clinical Management and Differential Diagnosis of Adult Acute Health Problems	3
MSN 547	Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Performance I	3
MSN 548	Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Performance II	4
MSN 549	Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Performance III	3

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MSN 550	Theoretical Foundations of Clinical Nurse Specialist Practice	3
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Total Hours		31