



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

New Site Request

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate
NEW SITE(S):	Online
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	2019-2020 Academic Year
CIP CODE:	51.3817
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Graduate Nursing
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Graduate School

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

President of the University

5/13/2019

Date

1. What is the need for offering the program at the new physical site or through distance delivery?

South Dakota State University (SDSU) requests authorization to offer the Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate online. The Post-Graduate Nurse Educator certificate program prepares graduates to utilize theories of teaching and learning in a variety of settings with emphasis on nursing education. Graduates demonstrates the ability to plan, implement, and evaluate nursing education programs. Individuals who have earned a Master's in Nursing degree from SDSU or any other CCNE or NLNAC accredited nursing program are eligible to apply for the Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate program. Additionally, graduates may be eligible to earn National Certification as a Certified Nurse Educator.

The plan of study consists of online courses from the well-established Master of Science in Nursing - Nurse Educator Specialization program, i.e., courses delivered entirely using the institutional delivery method code 018 (Internet Synchronous). This delivery method ensures flexible student accessibility given that graduate nursing students are employed at least half time and live in locations across the state, region and nation.

Faculty shortages and the related limiting effect on nursing program enrollment¹ underscore the need for streamlined pathways for achieving qualification as a nursing educator. The ongoing

¹ <https://www.aacnnursing.org/News-Information/Fact-Sheets/Nursing-Faculty-Shortage>

need for nurse faculty will extend well into the next decade as the profession is currently experiencing a surge in retirement. In South Dakota and the surrounding region, the need for nurse educators exists at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

SDSU’s *Imagine 2023* strategic plan² has identified numerous goals and strategies that support delivery of an online certificate. The certificate helps to “Attain academic excellence” (Goal: Achieve Excellence Through Transformative Education). Specifically, it will:

- 1b. Develop and grow high-quality and distinct academic programs designed to meet the needs of diverse students and market demands;
- 1c. Increase programs offered which use a diversity of delivery methods, times, (or scheduling) and locations.

SDSU will not require additional resources.

2. Are any other Regental universities authorized to offer a similar program at the proposed site(s) or through distance delivery? If “yes,” identify the institutions and programs and explain why authorization is requested.

No other Regental university offers a similar program.

3. Are students enrolling in the program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university? Complete the table below and explain the methodology used in developing the estimates (replace “XX” in the table with the appropriate year).

SDSU anticipates students enrolling in the Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate may have been College of Nursing undergraduates or MS students, however, some may be entirely new to the University. As seen in the table below, the certificate is expected to attract 2-4 students per year through online delivery. Certificate students join currently enrolled master’s in nursing students in sequential coursework. The certificate is intended for individuals already in the workforce to receive new or updated training. As an example, a SDSU Clinical Nurse Leader graduate has returned for the nurse educator certificate at the request of his employer who has added teaching components to the job description.

	Fiscal Years*			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<i>Estimates</i>	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23
Students new to the university	2	3	4	4
Students from other university programs	0	0	0	0
=Total students in the program at the site	0	5	7	8
Program credit hours (major courses)**	22	39	53	56
Graduates		2	3	4

*Do not include current fiscal year.

**This is the total number of credit hours generated by students in the program in the required or elective program courses. Use the same numbers in Appendix B – Budget.

4. What is the perceived impact of this request on existing programs in the Regental system?

No negative impact is expected.

² <https://www.sdstate.edu/imagine-2023-aspire-discover-achieve>

5. Complete the table and explain any special circumstances. Attach a copy of the program as it appears in the current catalog. If there are corresponding program modifications requested, please attach the associated form. Explain the delivery of the new courses and attach any associated new course request forms.

		Credit hours currently available from this university online	Credit hours currently available from other universities available online	Credit hours new to this university
Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate	Credit hours			
Required Courses	14	14	0	0
<i>Total, Degree with Proposed Major</i>	14	14	0	0

*If the major will be available in more than one degree (e.g., BA, BS, BS Ed) at the new site(s) and the number or distribution of credits will vary with the degree, provide a separate table for each degree.

The College of Nursing has processed a minor modification for the Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate effective for the 2019-2020 academic year. Revisions to the certificate are necessary to stay current with national trends in teaching and learning, including instruction in active learning teaching strategies, evidence-based assessment and evaluation of students, the use of technology to engage students, national simulation guidelines, and standards for online teaching. Additionally, the proposed changes will assist students in meeting the competencies required for national certification as a nurse educator. The National League for Nursing (NLN) provides the certified nurse educator (CNE) examination and outlines eight competencies. A recent change made by the NLN allows students who graduate with a master's degree or post-graduate credentials with a focus on nursing education to immediately be eligible for the CNE examination instead of requiring two years of teaching experience. While not required, it is highly encouraged for graduates to become certified as nurse educators and the proposed changes to the nurse educator curriculum will ensure they are prepared for certification immediately following graduation.

The College recommended the following curriculum changes within the Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate:

- Revised the course titles for *NURS 710 Curriculum Development in Nursing* (3 cr.) to *Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation in Nursing* and *NURS 720 Technology-Based Instruction for Nurse Educators* (3 cr.) to *Teaching and Learning Methodologies in Nursing* to more accurately reflect updated course content.
- Added new course *NURS 721 Assessment and Evaluation in Nursing Education* (3 cr.). *NURS 721* will strengthen the certificate content to equip graduates for the breadth of the nurse educator role in practice and academic settings. The Nurse Educator curriculum currently does not have a course specific to the assessment and evaluation of clinical and academic program content including a focus on evidence-based trends, alternate methods, and outcomes analysis. The proposed new course is directly aligned with NLN Competency 3.
- Revised the course title and course description for *NURS 778 Nurse Educator Practicum* (1-5 cr.) to *Nurse Educator Didactic/Practicum*. The modification will reflect updated content.

- Delete *NURS 795 Practicum in Advanced Health Concepts for Nurse Educators* (3 cr.): These credits will be absorbed in the revised *NURS 778 Nurse Educator Didactic/Practicum* to minimize redundancy currently present in the plan of study.

Core requirements:

Prefix & #	Title	Credit Hours
NURS 710	Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation in Nursing	3
NURS 720	Teaching and Learning Methodologies in Nursing	3
NURS 721	Assessment and Evaluation in Nursing Education	3
NURS 778	Nurse Educator Didactic/Practicum	5
Total Credit Hours Required		14

6. How will the university provide student services comparable to those available for students on the main campus?

The College of Nursing (CON) employs a full-time Assistant Director of Nursing Student Services, Graduate Nursing who serves as connection and advising contact for the distance students. Additionally, a faculty member is designated as the Nurse Educator Specialization Coordinator offering yet another layer of support and advisement for distance students. Connection methods such as CON polycom or D2L Zoom offer the synchronous face to face meetings as needed.

7. Is this program accredited by a specialized accrediting body? If so, address any program accreditation issues and costs related to offering the program at the new site(s).

The Master of Science in Nursing program is accredited every 10 years by the Collegiate Commission on Colleges of Nursing (CCNE). The next visit is 2021 at which time all College of Nursing programs, i.e., undergraduate and graduate, will be reviewed. The Post-Graduate Nurse Educator Certificate is not required to be part of the CCNE review.

8. Does the university request any exceptions to Board policy for delivery at the new site(s)? Explain requests for exceptions to Board policy.

No.

9. Cost, Budget, and Resources related to new courses at the site: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, time redirected from other assignments, instructional technology & software, other operations and maintenance, facilities, etc., needed to implement the proposed minor. Complete Appendix B – Budget using the system form.

No additional resources are needed to deliver this certificate. Tuition revenue generated from online tuition will be self-support tuition and will adequately fund the program. The courses offered in the Post-Graduate Certificate are also utilized in the M.S. in Nursing – Nurse Educator Specialization.