



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

New Site Request

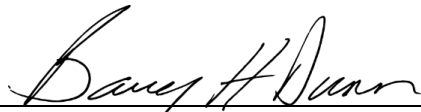
UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	Nursing (Ph.D.)
NEW SITE(S):	Online
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	2021-2022 Academic Year
CIP CODE:	51.3808
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Grad Study - Nursing
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	SGNU
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Graduate School
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	3G

Please check this box to confirm that:

- The individual preparing this request has read [AAC Guideline 2:11](#), which pertains to new site requests, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

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

2/24/2021

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 doctorate in philosophy (Ph.D.) in nursing online. The Ph.D. program in the College of Nursing was established in 2005 as a face-to-face program (offered via the executive weekend model) to prepare nurse scholars and researchers to work in academia, healthcare organizations and systems, health related industry, public health, and health policy arenas. Currently, students attend one of the three sites in classrooms where video-conferencing equipment is available, and the course is delivered to the students simultaneously. Unfortunately, applications and enrollment have declined impart due to competition in online delivery of Ph.D. programs. Online delivery is needed to increase the competitiveness of the program with other online programs and to recruit place-bound students both from the region and nationally. Increasing numbers of universities across the nation are offering nursing Ph.D. programs online and leveraging advances in technology and online teaching innovations to offer the same curriculum as campus programs.

In terms of workforce demand, there is a severe shortage of doctorally prepared nursing faculty. The American Association of Colleges of Nurses (AACN) reports that over 60,000 qualified applicants were turned away from BSN and graduate nursing programs in 2016. Insufficient number of faculty was a primary reason cited for not accepting all qualified applicants. AACN reports the national nurse faculty vacancy rate of 7.9%, and more than 90% of these vacancies require or prefer a doctoral degree.¹ Nurses with research doctorates are needed in many other areas in the workforce. Increasing the number of early career nurses with research doctorates is a national priority of the American Colleges of Nursing and a key goal of the seminal Institute of Medicine report *The Future of Nursing*,² and more recent reports of progress on this national goal.³ Career opportunities in academia, industry and government are abundant.

Most nursing Ph.D. students are employed full-time and are often place bound. Delivering the program online, asynchronously will allow flexibility so students can complete the program while continuing to maintain employment and complete learning activities/projects at times that work best for them. The online approach to delivery is aligned with SDSU's commitment to excellence and access to affordable education and consistent with the university's land grant mission.

The University does not request new state resources to deliver the program online.

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. The SDSU College of Nursing program is the only Ph.D. program in South Dakota. South Dakota State University and the University of South Dakota offer a doctorate in nursing practice (DNP). The DNP program prepares Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to transform clinical practice as clinicians and leaders. The Ph.D. in Nursing prepares the nurse scientists.

Related Ph.D. programs in the region and Peer Institutions:

Minnesota

- University of Minnesota delivers the Ph.D. in Nursing curriculum in a HyFlex instruction format that combines face-to-face and online learning.
- Capella University offers a Ph.D. in Nursing education that is online.

Nebraska

- University of Nebraska Medical Center delivers the Ph.D. in nursing. The curriculum is offered in a hybrid format with both asynchronous and synchronous classes.

¹ www.aacnnursing.org/news-information/research-data

² IOM. *The future of nursing: Leading change, advancing health*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press; 2011.

³ <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/21838/assessing-progress-on-the-institute-of-medicine-report-the-future-of-nursing>

North Dakota

- University of North Dakota – delivers the Ph.D. in nursing curriculum online with one on-campus experience of 3-5 days. There are also synchronous online classes.

Wyoming

- University of Wyoming offers an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in Biomedical Sciences. It is not an online 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.

Students who enroll in the program will be new to the university. The online Ph.D. program is expected to attract an average of 8-12 students per year. This estimate is based on shifting the program from the way the program is currently delivered to only be offered online.

	Fiscal Years*			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<i>Estimates</i>	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25
Students new to the university	8	8	10	12
Students from other university programs	0	0	0	0
=Total students in the program at the site	8	16	26	38
Program credit hours (major courses) **	120	240	390	570
Graduates				8

*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 impact on existing Regental programs is anticipated. Delivering the Ph.D. program online is expected to enhance enrollment of students.

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.

Nursing (Ph.D.)	Credit hours	Credit hours currently available from this university online	Credit hours currently available from other universities available online	Credit hours currently available online	Credit hours new to this university
90 Credit Option (BS to Ph.D.)					
Core Requirements	37	37	0	37	0
Dissertation	23-26	23-26	0	23-26	0
Electives	27-30	27-30	0	27-30	0

Nursing (Ph.D.)	Credit hours	Credit hours currently available from this university online	Credit hours currently available from other universities available online	Credit hours currently available online	Credit hours new to this university
60-credit Option (Post Masters)					
Core Requirements	25	25	0	25	0
Dissertation	23-26	23-26	0	23-26	0
Electives	9-12	9-12	0	9-12	0

Requirements for Ph.D. in Nursing

60 Credit Plan

- HSC 631 - Biostatistics I Credits: 3
- HSC 731 - Biostatistics II Credits: 3
- NURS 810 - Doctoral Seminar Credits: 1 (2 credits required)
- NURS 815 - Philosophical Basis for Nursing Inquiry Credits: 3
- NURS 820 - Theory Development in Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 825 - Qualitative Research Methods in Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 830 - Quantitative Methods in Nursing Research Credits: 3
- NURS 835 - Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health Credits: 2
- NURS 845 - Measurement and Instrument Evaluation in Health Sciences Research Credits: 3
- NURS 898D - Dissertation - PhD (COM) Credits: 1-24 (23-26 credits required)
- Electives Credits: 9-12

(Must include one additional statistics or research methods course. Methods or statistics will be found in the title. Graduate students must consult with their advisors prior to registration.)

90 Credit Plan

- HSC 631 - Biostatistics I Credits: 3
- HSC 731 - Biostatistics II Credits: 3
- NURS 615 - Foundations of Advanced Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 670 - Health Policy, Legislation, Economics and Ethics Credits: 3
- NURS 675 - Cultural Competence in Health Care Credits: 3
- NURS 810 - Doctoral Seminar Credits: 1 (2 credits required)
- NURS 815 - Philosophical Basis for Nursing Inquiry Credits: 3
- NURS 820 - Theory Development in Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 825 - Qualitative Research Methods in Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 830 - Quantitative Methods in Nursing Research Credits: 3
- NURS 835 - Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health Credits: 2
- NURS 840 - Health Promotion Theory and Research in Underserved Populations Credits: 3
- NURS 845 - Measurement and Instrument Evaluation in Health Sciences Research Credits: 3
- NURS 898D - Dissertation - PhD (COM) Credits: 1-24 (23-26 credits required)

- Electives Credits: 27-30
(Must include one additional statistics or research methods course. Methods or statistics will be found in the title. Graduate students must consult with their advisors prior to registration.)

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

A faculty member will serve as the academic and dissertation advisor to students. Students will only be accepted if there is an advisor available. Faculty-student communication will be conducted using e-mail, phone, Zoom, and other technologies facilitating long-distance communication.

Library support services will be available to students through a variety of means:

- Students can contact librarians for research assistance and online research guides that are available for enrolled students.
- Distance library services include book and article delivery for materials owned by the library. Students may request materials not held by the library through interlibrary loan.
- SDSU students have online access to research databases such as Web of Science, EBSCOhost MegaFILE, PubMed, and JSTOR.
- Students in the College of Nursing also have access to the Wegner Health Sciences Library at the University of South Dakota.

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).

No.

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

None.

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.

The College of Nursing does not request new state resources to delivery of the Ph.D. program online. Self-support tuition generated from the offerings will adequately fund the program. Because all courses are already being delivered, a budget is not provided. It is anticipated that revenue from 570 student credits hours will be \$265,000 per year once the projected student enrollment targets are reached. No additional costs or resources are required. Courses will be taught by the faculty at the College of Nursing from all campus sites.