



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

**Substantive Program Modification Form**

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	<b>SDSU</b>
<b>CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:</b>	<b>DNP</b>
<b>CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:</b>	<b>Nursing</b>
<b>CURRENT SPECIALIZATION:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>CIP CODE:</b>	<b>51.3801</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>Nursing</b>
<b>BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:</b>	<b>SNUR</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:</b>	<b>College of Nursing</b>
<b>BANNER COLLEGE CODE:</b>	<b>3N</b>

**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.*

Dennis D. Hedge

12/17/2024

Vice President of Academic Affairs or  
President of the University

Date

**1. This modification addresses a change in:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline   | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program name  | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Admission Requirements      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification requiring Board of Regents approval<br><i>Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee</i> |  |

**2. Effective date of change: 2025-2026 Academic Year**

**3. Program Degree Level:**

Associate  Bachelor's  Master's  Doctoral

**4. Category:**

Certificate  Specialization  Minor  Major

**5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur:**

- On the effective date for all students
- On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name:

**6. Is the program being modified associated with a current articulation agreement?**

Yes  No

- a. If yes, will the articulation agreement need to be updated with the partner institution following the approve of the program change? Please explain:**

## 7. Primary Aspects of the Modification:

### Existing Curriculum

### Proposed Curriculum (*highlight changes*)

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3	HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3
NURS	750	Transformational Leadership in Nursing	3	NURS	750	Transformational Leadership in Nursing	3
NURS	780	Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts	1	<del>NURS</del>	<del>780</del>	<del>Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts</del>	<del>1</del>
NURS	781	Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts	1	<del>NURS</del>	<del>781</del>	<del>Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts</del>	<del>1</del>
				NURS	783	Healthcare System Management and Evaluation	3
				NURS	789	DNP Capstone I	1
NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health	2	NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health	2
NURS	850	Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Care	3	NURS	850	Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Care	3
NURS	855	Translational Research in Health Care	3	NURS	855	Translational Research in Health Care	3
NURS	860	Health Operations and Financial Management for Nurse Leaders	3	NURS	860	Health Operations and Financial Management for Nurse Leaders	3
NURS	875	DNP Intensive*	3-8	NURS	875	DNP Intensive*	0-9
NURS	880	DNP Project	8	NURS	880	DNP Project	6
				NURS	889	DNP Capstone II	1
PHA	738	Health Informatics	1	<del>PHA</del>	<del>738</del>	<del>Health Informatics</del>	<del>1</del>
Total number of hours required for degree			31-36	Total number of hours required for degree			28-37

\*NURS 875 credits are taken to reach 1000 hours and may vary by student. This program is taken by students that are already advanced practice nurses (master's prepared) so their master's education practicum hours are applied to their DNP.

### Additional Admissions Requirements for Post Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice - NP, CRNA, CNS, and CNM

*Current:*

GRE: Not required

TOEFL: Score of 81 Internet-based

TOEFL Essentials: 8.5

IELTS: 6.5 total band

Duolingo: 110

In addition to meeting the Graduate School admission requirements, applicants for graduate study for the Post Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice (who possess current certification as a NP, CRNA, CNM or CNS) must have:

- Current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the United States or its' territories prior to enrollment in first graduate nursing course.
- National certification and licensure as a NP, CRNA, CNM, or CNS.
- Completed and verified application to the Graduate Nursing program via NursingCAS website.
- Interview assessment reviewed by graduate faculty.
- Completed Compliance requirements: Clear Background check, clear FBI rolled fingerprint, clear drug screen, Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers, ACLS certification for FNP specialization, professional liability insurance, influenza vaccine, and TB test.

For applicants who completed their higher education within the United States:

- Bachelor's degree in nursing from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.
- Master's degree in nursing (from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

For applicants who completed their higher education outside the United States:

- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Bachelor's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.
- A degree deemed equivalent (by the World Education Service) to a Master's degree in nursing (within the United States Education System) with a minimum cumulative preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point grading system.

*Proposed:*

GRE: Not required

TOEFL: Score of 81 Internet-based

TOEFL Essentials: 8.5

IELTS: 6.5 total band

Duolingo: 110

In addition to meeting the Graduate School admission requirements, applicants for graduate study for the Post Master's to Doctor of Nursing Practice (who possess current certification as a NP, CRNA, CNM or CNS) must have:

- Current, **unencumbered** licensure as a Registered Nurse in the United States or its' territories prior to enrollment in first graduate nursing course.
- National certification and licensure as a NP, CRNA, CNM, or CNS.
- Completed and verified application to the Graduate Nursing program via NursingCAS website.
- Interview assessment reviewed by graduate faculty.
- Completed Compliance requirements: Clear Background check, clear FBI rolled fingerprint, clear drug screen, Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers, ACLS certification for FNP specialization, professional liability insurance, influenza vaccine, and TB test.

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## **8. Explanation of the Change:**

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing recently updated the standards for nursing

education. These standards were adopted by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), which accredits SDSU College of Nursing programs, including the DNP. As a result, the curriculum was realigned to address the standards and the requirements for clinical hours. The College of Nursing identified the following changes:

- PHA 738 Health Informatics, NURS 780 Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts, and NURS 781 Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts were removed from the requirements. This plan of study is intended for students who are already masters prepared advanced practice registered nurses and would have had this content in their MS education.
- NURS 783 Healthcare System Management and Evaluation has been added to the requirements. The course includes content required for new accreditation standards previously not covered in the plan of study and not covered in the student's previous MS education.
- NURS 880 DNP Project reduced from 8 to 6 credits to accommodate the addition of NURS 789 DNP Capstone I and NURS 889 Capstone II. The two new courses will include didactic content necessary for DNP project. This separation will allow for clarity in the student registration process and workload assignment.
- The admission criteria were revised to include "unencumbered". Students must have an active and also unencumbered license; otherwise, additional licensure could be compromised.