

## Frequently Asked Questions Graduate Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What are your concentrations that are offered in the Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) program?

We have one concentration which is Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP).

### 2. What are your prerequisites?

An undergraduate Statistics course must be completed with a minimum grade of C prior to admission into the program.

### 3. Do you offer full or part time?

We offer a full-time (4 semesters) program for the FNP concentration.

### 4. How many students are admitted to the MSN program each year?

We admit between 18 and 24 to our FNP concentration.

### 5. What is the overall GPA required for the program?

An overall GPA average of 3.0 or better is required for admission into the MSN program.

### 6. When are applications due for the MSN program?

See the School of Nursing website for information regarding the application process (<http://www.csustan.edu/nursing/>).

Admission Semester	Concentration	Application Period
Spring	FNP	August 1 – August 30 <sup>th</sup>

### 7. Do I need to apply to the University/Graduate School?

You will need to apply to the Graduate School. See Graduate School website for information regarding the application process ([graduate\\_school@csustan.edu](mailto:graduate_school@csustan.edu)).

Admission Semester	Concentration	Application Period
Spring	FNP	May 1 – August 30 <sup>th</sup>

### 8. Do you have an on-line MSN program?

We do not offer an online MSN program at this time. We offer some hybrid courses.

### 9. Can I transfer units from another MSN program?

With approval from the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Carolyn Martin, nine units may be considered for transfer from other MSN programs. A description of the course and the number of units, will be needed to determine acceptance for transfer.

### 10. Can I work full time and still attend your program?

It is strongly recommended that students do not work full time while attending the full-time FNP concentration.

### 11. How many days per week are classes offered?

The FNP concentration classes are scheduled on Mondays and Fridays. Due to faculty availability and the irregular nature of practicum placement, we cannot always accomplish this. All classes are posted several months in advance to allow for work schedule accommodations.

**12. Why do I need to complete the online [castlebranch.com](http://castlebranch.com) site?**

Practicum placements require completed [castlebranch.com](http://castlebranch.com) documentation.

**13. Do I need to have a CA RN license?**

A current CA RN license is required for acceptance into the MSN program.

**14. What happens if I step out of the program?**

Students are allowed to step out. A risk is that courses are not offered every semester and stepping out may result in the student needing to attend extra semesters in order to complete all required nursing courses. In addition, a risk of stepping out of the FNP concentration would be lack of space to return and join a future cohort.

**15. Is financial aid available for MSN program students?**

The University Financial Aid Department has many resources available, their information and forms are located on the University website under financial aid. In addition, there is specialty funding, such as forgivable loans for future nurse educators and providers. Contact Dr. Carolyn Martin for more information related to specialty funding at [cmartin2@csustan.edu](mailto:cmartin2@csustan.edu).

**16. Will there be an orientation to the MSN program?**

The FNP concentration will have a full day mandatory orientation in November prior to the spring start date.

**17. If I have an ADN degree and a bachelors in something other than nursing what are my options for graduate school?**

Non-nursing bachelor's degree and an Associate Nurse (ADN) from accredited institutions with a current CA RN license can apply to the BRIDGE program. The four BRIDGE courses are NURS3000, NUR4400, NURS4410, and NURS3310. The BRIDGE courses correspond with the current Online RN-BSN roadmap. All BRIDGE courses must be completed prior to applying for the FNP concentration. Contact Dr. Carolyn Martin for more information related to the BRIDGE program at [cmartin2@csustan.edu](mailto:cmartin2@csustan.edu).

**18. What is the WPST test and is it required for the BRIDGE program?**

The WPST stands for the Writing Proficiency Screening test. BRIDGE students are required to pass the test prior to taking the Leadership and Management BRIDGE course (see the online RN-BSN program roadmap). See the following website for more information regarding dates and how to sign up to take the test: [www.csustan.edu/wpst/](http://www.csustan.edu/wpst/)

**19. Do you offer a Nurse Education Certificate?**

It is anticipated that a Nurse Educator Certificate will be offered in the fall of 2022 and will require completion of four courses over two semesters. Didactic courses will be online and practicum where you are given the opportunity to teach in a variety of setting may be face-to-face. Contact Dr. Carolyn Martin for more information related to the Nurse Educator Certificate at [cmartin2@csustan.edu](mailto:cmartin2@csustan.edu).

**20. Do you offer a Post Graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Advance Practice RN (APRN) Certificate?**

It is anticipated that a PMHNP certificate will be offered in the spring of 2023. Contact Dr. Carolyn Martin for more information related to the PMHNP certificate at [cmartin2@csustan.edu](mailto:cmartin2@csustan.edu).

**21. What if I have more questions?**

Contact Dr. Carolyn Martin, the Graduate Program Director, if you have more questions. You can e-mail her at [cmartin2@csustan.edu](mailto:cmartin2@csustan.edu).