

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 four concentrations: Nursing Education (EDU), Nurse Administration (ADMIN), Gerontological Nursing (GERI), and 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 part-time program (6 semesters) for the EDU, ADMIN, and GERI concentrations. 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 20 students to our EDU, ADMIN, and GERI concentration 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
Fall	EDU, ADMIN, and GERI	October 1 through July 31 st
Spring	FNP	August 1 – August 30 th

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).

Admission Semester	Concentration	Application Period
Fall	EDU, ADMIN, and GERI	October 1 through July 31 st
Spring	FNP	May 1 – August 30 th

8. What happens if I miss the University Graduate School application period?

Contact Dr. Carolyn Martin, Graduate Program Director, for options at cmartin2@csustan.edu.

9. Do you have an on-line MSN program?

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

10. Do you offer a dual concentration option?

We offer a dual concentration option for students who are enrolled or completed the Stan State MSN program. Contact Dr. Carolyn Martin for more information at cmartin2@csustan.edu.

11. 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.

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

Many students work while attending our part-time MSN program (EDU, ADMIN, and GERI). It is strongly recommended that students do not work while attending the full-time FNP concentration.

13. Are classes offered on one or two days?

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

14. Why do I need to complete the online castlebranch.com site?

Clinical/practicum placements require completed castlebranch.com documentation.

15. Do I need to have a CA RN license?

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

16. 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. Following the recommended track helps insure class availability.

17. 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. There are also scholarships available through the Financial Aid/Scholarship

Department. 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.

18. Will there be an orientation to the MSN program?

The EDU, ADMIN, and GERI concentrations have an orientation that will be on the same day as the first day of nursing classes in the fall semester. The FNP concentration will have a full day orientation in November. Detailed information will be mailed to students.

19. 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 RN-BSN and Online RN-BSN roadmap, visit <https://www.csustan.edu/nursing/rn-bsn-track-0> and <https://www.csustan.edu/nursing/online-rn-bsn> for program roadmaps. BRIDGE courses may be completed prior to or during the EDU, ADMIN, and GERI concentrations, but must be finished prior to progressing into the graduate culminating experience. All BRIDGE courses must be completed prior to applying for the FNP concentration.

20. What is the WPST test and is it required?

The WPST stands for the Writing Proficiency Screening test. Students are required to pass the test prior to taking the Leadership and Management BRIDGE course (see the 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/

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.