

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
SCHOOL OF NURSING  
APPLICATION INFORMATION FOR  
MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING  
POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE  
FALL 2017

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

The school offers a Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredited program ([www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu)), which leads to the Master of Science degree in Nursing (MSN). Students select a functional role of either nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist. The nurse practitioner program has two options: Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP). The MSN NP program consists of 40 graduate units. The Clinical Nurse Specialist has two options: Adult-Gero and Pediatric options that consists of 44 graduate units. These programs have met all of the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) certification eligibility educational requirements. Students who complete one of these programs have the educational preparation to sit for national certification for that specific role and population. The MSN program no longer offers a part-time option.

**Please note: The PNP option will be offered every other year. Therefore the next available application for this option will be for Fall 2018.**

**All applicants must complete a two-part application process: to the University Graduate Division and to the School of Nursing. Note: The School of Nursing will not process your application until you have applied to the University.**

Post-Master's Option

The number of units for the Post Master's Certificate can vary based on prior coursework. Applicants may receive course credit toward a certificate for graduate courses taken previously by submitting a copy of course descriptions, objectives, and assignments for review by the graduate coordinator. At that time, a course of study will be determined with input from the student and graduate curriculum committee.

**All applicants must complete a School of Nursing Application.**

**UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCESS**

1. File application for graduate admission with the designated fee to the University by April 1, 2017. The application can be found at [www.csumentor.edu/AdmissionApp/grad\\_apply.asp](http://www.csumentor.edu/AdmissionApp/grad_apply.asp). For more information call (559) 278-6678.
2. File official transcripts for all post-secondary coursework; Graduate Admissions will verify a cumulative GPA of 2.5 with a 3.0 in nursing.
3. **GRE scores are required for admission to graduate programs in the School of Nursing.**
4. The Graduate Admissions Office will verify information and forward the file to the School of Nursing.
5. If you are already enrolled at Fresno State as a post-baccalaureate student, you must submit a Change of Major form to the Division of Graduate Studies Office in the Thomas Administrative Building before your application can be processed by the School of Nursing.

## **SCHOOL OF NURSING APPLICATION PROCESS**

File School of Nursing Graduate Program Application by April 1, 2017. The application can be found in this document or at <http://www.fresnostate.edu/chhs/nursing/>. To facilitate the admission process, you must **send copies** of the following:

- A. School of Nursing Application - See Page 5 - Be sure to sign where indicated.
- B. Official transcripts from all post-secondary schools. Transcripts must indicate:
  - 1. Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from CCNE or NLN accredited school with cumulative GPA of 2.5 and a 3.0 in nursing.
  - 2. Completion of statistics, introductory research, community health and health assessment courses.
  - 3. Completion of GRE. Have scores sent to the university and to the School of Nursing
- C. Registered Nurse Licensure in California
- D. File three letters of recommendation (see guidelines).
- E. Complete the School of Nursing's Graduate Program Written Essay (see Page 3).

**All documents must be sent together in one package to be considered for admission to the School of Nursing.**

Mail signed application and copies of the above material to:

Dr. Kammi Sayaseng, Graduate Coordinator  
California State University, Fresno  
School of Nursing  
2345 E. San Ramon Ave, M/S MH25  
Fresno, CA 93740-8031  
ksayaseng@csufresno.edu

## **SELECTION**

Candidates selected for admission will be notified by June 15, 2017. The new student orientation will be scheduled the week prior to the fall semester, and selected candidates will be notified as to the date, time, and location of orientation. Attendance at the graduate orientation is mandatory.

## **EVALUATION OF PRIOR EDUCATION OR EXPERIENCE IN PRIMARY CARE**

A gap analysis will be performed on each application to identify areas of strength and weakness. Students who are eligible for admission to graduate standing at California State University, Fresno may have prior educational preparation evaluated for waiver or substitution of required courses. In the case of a student requesting a waiver of graduate coursework, an evaluation of prior educational experience will be performed on an individual basis. Professional experience in primary care may also be evaluated on an individual basis for placement in the clinical courses and development of a curriculum to meet program requirements.

Components of this evaluation include, but are not limited to, a personal interview and review of transcripts, course material, and personal records. Based on this evaluation, an individualized plan for placement and progression in the graduate program will be developed, including the incorporation of alternate assignments.

## **GRADUATE PROGRAM WRITTEN ESSAY**

The written essay is an important element for evaluation of your application and for admission into the School of Nursing's Graduate Program. This essay will provide an opportunity for the selection committee to assess your writing ability and professional strengths and to evaluate your chances for success in advanced practice graduate work. This written essay is a major component of the selection process, and you need to give it thoughtful consideration. Instructions are as follows:

1. Develop a scholarly essay in which you include the following elements:
  - A. Introduction
  - B. Discussion of concepts
    1. Your theoretical framework for professional practice
    2. Your view of the role of nursing in advanced practice settings
    3. Your clinical experience in nursing
    4. Your non-nursing experiences relevant to your professional growth
    5. Your goals for graduate education
  - C. Conclusion
  - D. References
2. The document must be a 3-5 page typed essay, double-spaced, with 12-point type and one-inch margins using the APA format.
3. Attach the essay to the signed School of Nursing's Graduate Program Application form (see Page 5), verifying that the essay is your own work.

## **FINANCIAL AID**

Contact the Financial Aid Office at (559) 278-2182 ([www.csufresno.edu/catoffice/current/admsnsfees](http://www.csufresno.edu/catoffice/current/admsnsfees)) for information about scholarships and loans. Federal traineeships are awarded to eligible students through the School of Nursing ([www.csufresno.edu/nursing](http://www.csufresno.edu/nursing)).

## **GRADUATE ORIENTATION**

An orientation session is offered in August to orient students to important aspects of the program and to meet other students and faculty. Students will be notified as to date, time, and location. Attendance at the graduate orientation is mandatory.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, Please contact:**

Dr. Kammi Sayaseng, Graduate Coordinator  
School of Nursing  
California State University, Fresno  
2345 E. San Ramon Avenue M/S MH25  
Fresno, CA 93740-8031  
Telephone: (559) 278-6678  
Email: [ksayaseng@csufresno.edu](mailto:ksayaseng@csufresno.edu)

The University General Catalog is available at [www.csufresno.edu/catalog/](http://www.csufresno.edu/catalog/)

The Schedule of Courses is available at [www.csufresno.edu/scheduling/](http://www.csufresno.edu/scheduling/)

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO**  
**School of Nursing**  
**Graduate Program Application**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name                                      First                                      M.I.                                      Maiden                                      Soc. Sec.#

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street    City    State    Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone    Work Phone    Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address

Application for:    Master's Degree \_\_\_\_\_                                      Post-Master's \_\_\_\_\_

Check option desired:    FNP \_\_\_\_\_    PNP \_\_\_\_\_    Adult-gero/CNS \_\_\_\_\_    Pediatric/CNS \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate approximate date for completion of the following courses:

Nursing Research (NURS145) \_\_\_\_\_    Physical Assessment (NURS136) \_\_\_\_\_    Statistics \_\_\_\_\_

Colleges & Universities attended or currently enrolled. One official transcript must be submitted from each college or university attended except work in progress for the spring semester.\* Attach to this application transcripts in sealed envelopes from institutions.

All Institutions		Enrolled		# of Units Completed	Degree
		From	To		
School Name	Location				

\*Official transcripts showing grades for the in-progress spring term are due in the appropriate offices by June 15.

Previous degree dates:    BS Nursing \_\_\_\_\_    MS Nursing \_\_\_\_\_    Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

Previous experience: List your nursing experience starting with the most recent (attach additional sheet if necessary).

Institution                                      Location                                      Position                                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I verify that the above information is accurate and that the Graduate Program Written Essay is my own work:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return this application with the Graduate Program Written Essay by April 1, 2017 to:

Dr. Kammi Sayaseng, Graduate Coordinator  
School of Nursing  
2345 E. San Ramon Avenue, M/S MH25  
Fresno, CA 93740-8031

**LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION GUIDELINES**  
**MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM**  
**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO**

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Last Name	First Name	M.I.
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The person whose name appears above is applying for admission as a student of the Master of Science degree program at California State University, Fresno. We would appreciate your impression of the applicant related to:

1. Clinical nursing competence.
2. Interpersonal skills.
3. Personality, integrity, and ability.
4. Potential for success in the advanced practice role.
5. Applicant's references are to include:
  - a. Official letterhead if indicated
  - b. Name, Title, Address(es), contact phone number(s) and email to be provided by Professional References.

Please give the reference to the applicant in a sealed envelope for them to turn in to the School of Nursing.

Please address your comments to:

Dr. Kammi Sayaseng, Graduate Coordinator  
School of Nursing  
California State University, Fresno  
2345 East San Ramon Avenue M/S MH 25  
Fresno, CA 93740-8031  
559-278-6678  
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