

Terminal Nursing Degree Program Comparisons

The below table shows a brief comparison of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD), and Doctorate of Education (EdD) in Nursing degrees at all accredited, non-profit nursing institutions with a physical campus in Alabama. All information was obtained from the individual schools' website. For the most up-to-date information and program contact information, visit <http://www.al-hac.org/education> and click on the interactive map and contact the institutions directly.

Programs listed are for post-MSN DNP, PhD, and EdD. Other educational pathways are available. Please contact institutions directly for more information.

School	Admission Terms	Admission Criteria	Program of Study	Clinical Hour Requirement	Costs per credit hour	Credit Hours	Other/Progression Policy
Samford University	Spring, Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RN license • BSN degree • Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in nursing courses • One undergraduate course in nursing research with a grade of C (2.0) or better • One undergraduate health assessment course with a grade of B (3.0) or better 	Family Nurse Practitioner Dual Nurse Practitioner (Family/Emergency) Health Systems Administration Administration and Advanced Practice	1,140 (Family Nurse Practitioner) 1,380 (Dual Nurse Practitioner Family/Emergency) 1,050 Practicum hours (Health Systems Administration)	\$833	69 (Family Nurse Practitioner) 77 (Dual Nurse Practitioner Family/Emergency) 71 (Health Systems Administration) 37-39 (Administration and Advanced Practice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a common core of six DNP courses (18 credits) and two DNP project courses (4 credits) • Make a grade of "B" or better in each required or prescribed course in the DNP program. NOTE: a grade of "C", "D", or "F" constitutes a failure in any prescribed or required course in the DNP program • Maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA and may not earn a grade below B in any course to progress in the curriculum • A student who receives a grade below a "B" in any required or prescribed course or whose cumulative GPA falls below a 3.0 will be placed on academic probation and must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Repeat any nursing course in which a grade received was below a

							<p>“B” and receive a grade of “B” or better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A required nursing course can only be repeated one time ○ Failure of the same course twice or failure of two separate courses constitutes dismissal from the program.
<p>The University of Alabama</p>	<p>Fall</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA of at least 3.0 overall (based on a 4.0 grading scale) or 3.0 for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate work is required • In addition to GPA, applicants must have a score of at least 300 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test or at least the 50th percentile on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No GRE/MAT needed if applicants have worked 5 years post MSN • For conditional admission, GPA of at least 2.5 overall (based on a 4.0 grading scale) 	<p>Doctorate of Education (EdD) in Instructional Leadership for Nurse Educators</p> <p>Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)</p>	<p>73 (EdD in Instructional Leadership for Nurse Educators)</p> <p>40 (DNP)</p>	<p>\$375 for distance learning</p>	<p>720 (DNP)</p>	<p>DNP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA of 3.0 or higher • Good standing at the time of graduation • Successful completion of the required coursework and scholarly project hours/ practice immersion experience • Attendance at one (1) DNP Intensive during program <p>EdD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA of 3.0 or higher • Good standing at the time of graduation • Successful final oral defense of the dissertation • Successful completion of the required coursework and dissertation hours • A minimum of 1000 post-baccalaureate practice hours are required for completion of the DNP degree.

		<p>for undergraduate work, and a score of at least 300 on the revised Graduate Record Exam (GRE) OR at least in the 40th percentile on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) is required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSN degree • RN license in Alabama or Mississippi. • An MSN from an accredited school of nursing is required for the EdD program 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students who do not have sufficient clinical hours will be required to complete additional clinical hours as determined by the Assistant Dean of the Graduate Programs prior to the beginning of DNP courses. In such cases, 60 clinical hours are the equivalent of 1 semester credit hour
Troy University	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a BSN or MSN degree • Earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) on all nursing coursework if post baccalaureate applicant or on all graduate coursework if post-masters applicant. • Earn a minimum GRE score of 294. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Note: This requirement is waived for post-MSN applicants. • RN license 	DNP		\$494	35 (required for completion of the DNP-Post-Masters degree program)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.0 or better GPA • Have a 3.0 GPA (4.0 scale) for all work attempted at the time of degree completion • Credits over eight years old shall not be used in computing the final grade point average at the time of degree completion

University of Alabama at Birmingham	Fall, Summer (DNP) Fall (PhD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's degree in an area of advanced nursing practice (nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nursing administration, or nurse anesthetist) • Eligibility for licensure as a registered nurse in Alabama 	DNP Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing		\$555 (Online) \$1,272 (Live courses)	43 (DNP) 74 (PhD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must achieve a minimum grade of "B" in all MSN coursework • Must maintain a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale • Successfully complete every course required in the program • Two unsuccessful course attempts will result in dismissal • Students who are unsuccessful in a didactic course but pass its companion clinical course, will not be required to repeat the course they have passed, but may be required to register for and successfully complete an independent study to maintain clinical competency
University of South Alabama	Fall, Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RN license • Two years of nursing experience in an area appropriate to designated specialty track prior to enrolling in nurse practitioner clinical courses • Master of Science in Nursing degree with preparation in an area of advanced practice nursing offered by the USA College of Nursing as listed under the DNP areas of specialization • Applicants to the MSN-DNP Pathways must 	DNP		\$485 (in-state) \$970 (Out-of-state) \$566 (Online)	36 (MSN-DNP Pathway) 69-87(MSN to DNP for adding a new specialty certificate area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 to remain in the program • Only one grade of "C" can be earned in the MSN to DNP program • A student earning a second "C" or lower will be academically dismissed from the program. A student earning a grade of "D" or "F" in the program will be academically dismissed. • Any term in which a graduate student drops below a 3.0 Program GPA, the student is placed on probationary status and has a period of two terms to attain a 3.0 Program GPA or be dismissed.

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		<p>have an overall graduate GPA no less than 3.0 as calculated by NursingCAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicant must be in good standing with all academic institutions/nursing programs that they have attended in order to be admitted to any DNP program.					<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The outcome of the DNP Project Planning and Development course is "pass/fail." Students failing the course twice will be academically dismissed. A student who has been academically dismissed is not eligible for readmission to the DNP program.
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