

Notification of Request for Authorization under the Degree-Granting Institutions Act

Date posted: November 7, 2011

Institution: Capella University

Nature of request: Authorization to advertise and recruit in Washington State for three additional masters-level program specializations to be offered exclusively via distance learning

Program specializations to be offered:

Master of Science in Nursing specializations in:

- Diabetes Nursing
- Gerontology Nursing
- Nursing Leadership and Administration

Background:

Capella University is based in Minneapolis, Minnesota and offers its programs exclusively via distance learning. It has been accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA-HLC) since 1997 and it has been authorized to advertise and recruit for its distance learning programs in Washington State since March of 2003.

Nature of the review:

Prior to granting authorization to offer new degree program specializations in Washington State, the Higher Education Coordinating Board/Degree Authorization reviews elements such as program specialization outcomes, course requirements, method of course delivery and faculty credentials.

The program specializations to be offered by Capella University appear to meet the requirements of the Degree-Granting Institutions Act.

Information on the additional program specializations can be found at the end of this notice.

Timeline:

The HECB will accept comments on this application until November 21, 2011.

Any individuals with knowledge that may indicate the institution and/or the program does not meet the authorization requirements of WAC 250-61 are requested to submit comments to:

<mailto:DegreeAuthorization@hecb.wa.gov>.

If you would like to know more about the current law and regulations that govern the program, the statute is RCW 28B.85 and the regulation is WAC 250-61. They can both be found at the following link: [Statutes and Regulations](#).

Specialization Title:

Master of Science in Nursing specialization in Diabetes Nursing

Specialization Outcomes:

- “Assessment: Collect, prioritize, and process information to formulate diagnosis, goals, and the plan of care.
- Diagnosis: Outline differential diagnoses and prioritize the diagnoses that will inform the plan of care.
- Outcome Identification: Identify desired outcomes based on evidence and patient input.
- Planning: Formulate a plan of care consistent with the evidence, diagnosis, and desired outcome.
- Implementation: Operationalize the plan of care through leadership and collaboration with an interdisciplinary team.
- Evaluation: Measure, analyze, and synthesize outcome data to revise, improve, or confirm the plan of care.
- Program Development and Evaluation: Develop, lead, coordinate, and evaluate programs to meet community, population, organizational, and system needs.”

“The MSN Diabetes Nursing specialization presents advanced theories, research, and evidence-based practices of caring for the needs of individuals, groups, communities, and diverse populations with diabetes and its related conditions across the lifespan. Learners explore the advanced diabetes-specific pathophysiology needed to conduct the physical and psychosocial assessments that inform diagnoses and help prioritize the needs and problems of diabetes patients. Learners collaborate with interdisciplinary teams to develop and implement education plans and outcomes-based care plans that effectively and safely treat and manage diabetes in patients. The curriculum also emphasizes the advanced professional nurse’s role in coaching, leading, consulting, educating, researching, evaluating, practicing, and serving as a change agent. Successful graduates of this specialization are prepared to pursue advanced roles as practitioner-scholars or diabetes specialists in a variety of research, education, or clinical settings to meet individual, community, population, organization, or system needs.”

Number of Credits: 25 out of 57 quarter credits for the entire MSN program

Required Courses unique to this specialization:

MSN6310	Diabetes Pathophysiology and Assessment	4
MSN6301	Diabetes Nursing Field Experience 1: Diabetes Pathophysiology and Assessment	1
MSN6312	Evidence-Based Education, Planning, and Outcomes for Diabetes Care	4
MSN6302	Diabetes Nursing Field Experience 2: Evidence-Based Education, Planning, and Outcomes for Diabetes Care.....	1
MSN6314	Nonpharmacologic Interventions for Diabetes Care	4
MSN6303	Diabetes Nursing Field Experience 3: Nonpharmacologic Interventions for Diabetes Care	1
MSN6316	Pharmacologic Interventions for Diabetes Care.....	4
MSN6304	Diabetes Nursing Field Experience 4: Pharmacologic Interventions for Diabetes Care	1
MSN6318	Data Evaluation and Program Development in Diabetes Care	4

MSN6305 Diabetes Nursing Field Experience 5: Data Evaluation and Program Development in Diabetes Care	1
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Specialization Title:

Master of Science in Nursing specialization in Gerontology Nursing

Specialization Outcomes:

- “Apply theoretical, experiential, and systemic knowledge of the physical and psychological aspects of aging to the practice of care.
- Integrate evidence-based practice with interdisciplinary teams to manage the care of the aging.
- Translate knowledge of laws, ethics, and social implications to the practice and care of the aging population.
- Deliver culturally appropriate and ethical patient and client care to the aging population.
- Apply technology tools to professionally communicate, coordinate, deliver and advocate for gerontological quality care and safety.
- Deliver appropriate care for aging through the assessment of sociological, psychological, physical, emotional, volitional, and patient safety factors.
- Communicate clearly to teach, gather information, inquire, and interact with clients, advocates, and families while promoting empathy.”

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 “The MSN Gerontology Nursing specialization presents advanced theories, research, and evidence-based practices of caring for the aging client in various settings across the lifespan. Learners explore the physical, cognitive, emotional, and mental aspects of aging; examine alternative tools and strategies to assist in assessing, diagnosing, and delivering evidence-based care to aging clients; and expand their knowledge of health care laws and policies, health promotion and wellness, and the use of technology in gerontological care. Learners collaborate with interdisciplinary teams to develop and implement education plans and outcomes-based care plans that effectively and safely treat and manage acute and chronic disease. Successful graduates of this specialization are prepared to pursue roles as advanced practice nurses in nonprofit or for-profit health care organizations, long-term care facilities, community and government agencies, community colleges, or universities.”

Number of Credits: 25 out of 57 quarter credits for the entire MSN program

Required Courses unique to this specialization:

MSN6510	Physical Aspects of Aging	4
MSN6501	Gerontology Nursing Field Experience 1: Physical Aspects of the Aging	1
MSN6512	Psychological and Psychopathological Care for the Aging	4
MSN6502	Gerontology Nursing Field Experience 2: Psychological and Psychopathological Care for the Aging	1
MSN6514	Caring for the Aging Across the Lifespan	4
MSN6503	Gerontology Nursing Field Experience 3: Caring for the Aging Across the Lifespan	1
MSN6516	Social, Ethical, and Legal Issues in Aging	4

MSN6504	Gerontology Nursing Field Experience 4: Social, Ethical, and Legal Issues in Aging.....	1
MSN6518	Behaviors and Quality of Life of the Aging	4
MSN6505	Gerontology Nursing Field Experience 5: behaviors and Quality of Life of the Aging	1

Specialization Title:

Master of Science in Nursing specialization in Nursing Leadership and Administration

Specialization Outcomes:

- “Build high quality healthcare organizations that meet compliance and regulatory standards through the incorporation of evidence-based decision-making and inter-professional approaches.
- Integrate nursing leadership theory and management skills to foster and promote ethical and legal healthcare delivery systems with diverse population in multiple environments.
- Promote the integration of changing technologies in global healthcare delivery environments.
- Create organizational cultures that support quality patient care and address needs of the inter-professional healthcare team.
- Cultivate a balance between quality care and fiscal responsibility in order to meet organizational goals.
- Lead the transformation of healthcare to build innovative and quality healthcare organizations.”

“The MSN Nursing Leadership and Administration specialization presents advanced theories, research, and evidence-based practices of nurse executive leadership and administration. Learners explore the knowledge and skills nurse executive need to manage healthcare quality and safety, manage the finance and operations of healthcare organizations, lead healthcare innovations, and respond to healthcare challenges and trends. Throughout the specialization, learners also assess and further strengthen their characteristics as ethical, culturally aware healthcare leaders, visionaries, and risk takers. Successful graduates of this specialization will be prepared to apply for Nurse Executive, Advanced certification (additional requirements, such as professional experience will apply) and pursue roles as nurse executives in a variety of health care settings.”

Number of Credits: 25 out of 57 quarter credits for the entire MSN program

Required Courses unique to this specialization:

MSN6210	Leadership Management for Nurse Executives.....	4
MSN6201	Leadership and Administration Field Experience 1: Leadership and Management for Nurse Executives	1
MSN6212	Health Care Quality and Safety Management.....	4
MSN6202	Leadership and Administration Field Experience 2: Health Care Quality and Safety Management.....	1
MSN6214	Health Care Informatics and Technology	4
MSN6203	Leadership and Administration Field Experience 3: Health Care Informatics and Technology	1

MSN6216	Advanced Finance and Operations Management	4
MSN6204	Leadership and Administration Field Experience 4: Advanced Finance and Operations Management.....	1
MSN6218	Leading the Future of Health Care	4
MSN6205	Leadership and Administration Field Experience 5: Leading the Future of Health Care	1