

**BRANDON UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES**

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| Subject: | Admission Policy | Date: | June 28, 2010 |
| Program: | Master of Psychiatric Nursing | Revised: | June 2, 2020 |
| | | Approved at FHS Faculty Council: | June 22, 2020 |
| | | Approved at Senate: | May 18, 2021 |

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students applying to enter the Master of Psychiatric Nursing (MPN) program must first apply and be admitted to Brandon University.

Entry into the MPN program requires:

- Licensure, or eligibility for licensure, as a registered psychiatric nurse or registered nurse in Canada with mental health nursing experience;
- An undergraduate degree in either psychiatric nursing and or nursing OR a diploma in psychiatric nursing accompanied by an alternative undergraduate degree which includes a research methods course and a statistics course. If the undergraduate program does not sufficiently prepare students for the MPN program, additional courses may be required and must be completed prior to admission;
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 (B) in the last 60 credit hours of university study or all credit hours of post-diploma degree if less than 60 credit hours;

At least two equivalent full-time years of practice experience in psychiatric nursing is required. Criminal Records Check, Child Abuse Registry, CPR and current immunization are not required for admission, but may be required for specific clinical placements in the program.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Applicants are strongly encouraged to speak with the MPN Program Coordinator in advance of application. Information on application to the MPN program can be obtained online at [http:// www.brandonu.ca/mpn/admissions/](http://www.brandonu.ca/mpn/admissions/)

Applications for September entry must be received by February 15th of the year in which admission is sought. The application will include:

1. A curriculum vitae / resume that includes the following:

- o Educational preparation;
- o Employment experience, indicating level of responsibility;
- o Community service, including involvement in professional associations;
- o Awards and honours
- o Research projects and publications;
- o Continuing education;

- Innovation in clinical practice; and
- Any other supporting information;

2. Proof of licensure as a registered psychiatric nurse or registered nurse in Canada;

3. A Statement of Interest which must include (500-750 words):

- Rationale for interest in the MPN program
- Rationale for interest in a particular program stream (i.e. clinical, education, and administration)
- Research proposal synopsis to identify;
 - the phenomena or area(s) of interest for potential research and rationale
 - potential research questions
 - possible methodology (qualitative, quantitative)

4. Two confidential letters of reference, one from an academic referee is preferred and one from a supervisor within the past five years is required. If an academic referee is unavailable please provide another letter of reference from a supervisor/program manager.

Admission to the MPN program is on a competitive basis. The number of seats in the program is limited. Completed applications will be submitted to the MPN Program Assistant and will be reviewed by the MPN Steering Committee. Admission decisions will be communicated to applicants by the end of March. Students must confirm acceptance of admission with the MPN Program Coordinator by May 1st. Information from the Statement of Interest will be used to inform potential thesis advisor/student pairings.

A student who has been admitted to the MPN program and is unable to start the program in September of the year of application may apply to defer entrance for up to one year. A letter of request containing rationale for deferral must be submitted to the MPN Program Coordinator by May 1st. Approval of the request is dependent on program resources. The student must re-apply if deferral is required for more than one year.