

**FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES  
GRADUATE HEALTH STUDIES**

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<b>Subject:</b>	Admission Policy	<b>Date:</b>	June 28, 2010
<b>Program:</b>	Master of Psychiatric Nursing	<b>Revised:</b>	October 20, 2016
		<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	November 21, 2016

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### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

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

Entry into the Master of Psychiatric Nursing (MPN) program requires:

- A relevant 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;
- Licensure, or eligibility for licensure, as a registered psychiatric nurse or registered nurse in Canada; and
- A strong foundation in psychiatric nursing demonstrated by: current licensure as a registered psychiatric nurse (RPN); OR certification as a psychiatric mental health nurse (CPMHN); OR completion of a post-basic psychiatric nursing program. Applicants who are unable to demonstrate their foundation in psychiatric nursing through the identified means must demonstrate expertise equivalent to a person who has obtained certification or completed a post-basic program.

At least one equivalent full-time year 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 Graduate Program Coordinator in advance of application. Information on application to the Master of Psychiatric Nursing program can be obtained online at <http://www.brandonu.ca/mpn/admissions/>

Applications for September entry must be received by March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which admission is sought. The application will include:

- A curriculum vitae / resume that includes the following:
  - o Past 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;
  - o Innovation in clinical practice; and
  - o Any other supporting information;
- Proof of licensure as a registered psychiatric nurse or registered nurse in Canada;
- A brief essay (500-750 words) outlining rationale for choosing the MPN program and a particular stream, as well as areas of interest for thesis consideration; and
- Two confidential letters of reference, one of which should be an academic reference.

Admission to the program is on a competitive basis. The number of seats in the program is limited. Completed applications will be submitted to the Graduate Program Coordinator and will be reviewed by the Graduate Studies Steering Committee in the Faculty of Health Studies. Decisions will be communicated to applicants by the end of March. Students must confirm attendance with the Graduate Program Coordinator by July 1. Preference will be given to applicants intending to pursue full time studies. Selection into the MPN will also be based upon the ability of the Faculty of Health Studies to establish a fit between the applicant's research interests and faculty expertise.

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 Program Coordinator by July 1. Approval of the request is dependent on program resources. The student must re-apply if deferral is required for more than one year.