

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING STUDENT HANDBOOK POST MASTER'S DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

2025 – 2026

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Welcome

Greetings Students!

We are delighted to welcome you to the Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (PMDNP) program at the University of North Dakota (UND). The College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines (CNPD) has a rich history and solid reputation for preparing future clinicians and leaders to advance human well-being and improve quality of life for diverse populations. Our mission and commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and community service stems from our high-quality faculty who regard nursing with stringent ideals. The PMDNP program, curriculum, and teaching-learning practices reflect the best evidence-based educational and professional standards.

Faculty, staff, and administrators are highly committed to your success. During your studies at the CNPD, you will engage with challenging courses, exceptional faculty, and wonderful learning experiences. You will also make lifelong friendships. Our faculty and staff are here to support your program of study and will assist you with all the phases of your academic journey.

We have prepared this *Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice Student Handbook* as a complement to the *Department of Nursing Student Handbook (2025-2026)* and the *Graduate Programs in Nursing Student Handbook (2025-2026)* to provide you with a comprehensive overview of information about academic and general student matters that can facilitate your learning experiences and interactions at the College and at UND. Upon review of the handbooks applicable to your program, you will complete the electronic DocuSign form acknowledging you have reviewed and understand the information presented. The Office of Student services will send the electronic document acknowledging handbooks via email, along with the following items:

- Consent to Release Information/Release from Liability
- Photograph/Video Record Image Release
- Student Conduct Release Form
- Student Document Consent Form

Other resources that will help you are University of North Dakota Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Catalog and the UND Code of Student Life. These publications are available online.

Although the nursing program requires your serious attention to study, we are confident you will find your efforts very meaningful and contributory to your educational pursuits. As a graduate of the PMDNP program, you will make a significant contribution to your own future and that of the clients and families you serve here in North Dakota, rural communities, and beyond. Our goal is to assist you with the transition to the DNP-prepared nurse and to become a member of a community of clinical scholars. We extend our very best wishes for a rewarding doctoral education.

Mary Jane Rivard, DNP, RN, NI-BC
Post Master's DNP Program Director
Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines

Overview

College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines Mission Statement

To provide excellent and collaborative education, scholarship, and service to advance human well-being for all, with an emphasis on rural and underserved populations.

Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

The CNPD Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (PMDNP) program admitted its first class in August 2013. This Post-Master's DNP program prepares certified nurse practitioners, certified clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-midwives, certified nurse anesthetists, and advanced nursing practice specialists for the highest level of nursing practice. DNP prepared nurses hold expertise in quality improvement and systems leadership and influence health policy and health care outcomes for individuals, families, and underserved or vulnerable populations.

Outcomes of DNP Graduates

Based on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) *The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education* (2021), DNP graduates will demonstrate the ability to:

Domain 1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice

UND DNP Program Outcome #1: Integrate nursing science with knowledge of ethics, biophysical, psychosocial, analytical and organizational sciences as a basis of practice and inquiry.

UND DNP Program Outcome #9: Demonstrate advanced levels of nursing practice, clinical judgment and accountability to deliver optimal patient care with an emphasis on rural communities.

Domain 2: Person-Centered Care

UND DNP Program Outcome #3: Evaluate evidence-based processes that address practice patterns and healthcare organizations in order to promote safe, equitable and patient-centered care.

UND DNP Program Outcome #4: Apply relevant evidence-based findings to develop practice guidelines that improve population health, the practice environment and promote safe, equitable and patient-centered care.

UND DNP Program Outcome #5: Integrate technology and information systems with advanced nursing practice to improve patient care and outcomes.

UND DNP Program Outcome #6: Demonstrate expertise in the analysis, formulation and implementation process of healthcare policy.

UND DNP Program Outcome #7: Collaborate effectively as a member and leader of inter-professional teams.

Domain 3: Population Health

UND DNP Program Outcome #6: Demonstrate expertise in the analysis, formulation and implementation process of healthcare policy.

UND DNP Program Outcome #7: Collaborate effectively as a member and leader of inter-professional teams.

UND DNP Program Outcome #8: Employ clinical prevention and health promotion strategies to improve population health with an emphasis on rural, diverse and vulnerable populations.

Domain 4: Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline

UND DNP Program Outcome #7: Collaborate effectively as a member and leader of inter-professional teams.

UND DNP Program Outcome #9: Demonstrate advanced levels of nursing practice, clinical judgment and accountability to deliver optimal patient care with an emphasis on rural communities.

Domain 5: Quality and Safety

UND DNP Program Outcome #2: Lead systems level quality improvement and safety initiatives to enhance patient outcomes.

Domain 6: Interprofessional Partnerships

UND DNP Program Outcome #7: Collaborate effectively as a member and leader of inter-professional teams.

Domain 7: Systems-Based Practice

UND DNP Program Outcome #2: Lead systems level quality improvement and safety initiatives to enhance patient outcomes.

UND DNP Program Outcome #3: Evaluate evidence-based processes that address practice patterns and healthcare organizations in order to promote safe, equitable and patient-centered care.

UND DNP Program Outcome #4: Apply relevant evidence-based findings to develop practice guidelines that improve population health, the practice environment and promote safe, equitable and patient-centered care.

UND DNP Program Outcome #8: Employ clinical prevention and health promotion strategies to improve population health with an emphasis on rural, diverse and vulnerable populations.

Domain 8: Informatics and Healthcare Technologies

UND DNP Program Outcome #5: Integrate technology and information systems with advanced nursing practice to improve patient care and outcomes.

Domain 9: Professionalism

UND DNP Program Outcome #7: Collaborate effectively as a member and leader of inter-professional teams.

Domain 10: Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development

UND DNP Program Outcome #9: Demonstrate advanced levels of nursing practice, clinical judgment and accountability to deliver optimal patient care with an emphasis on rural communities.

Please see the [AACN The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education](#)

Policy 619: Graduate Nursing Program Admission Requirements

UND CNPD Department of Nursing Manual 619

Policy Number: 619

Policy Name: Graduate Nursing Program Admission Requirements

Reviewed by: Graduate Council

Last Review Date: 02/09/2024

Policy

Approved admission to the **Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)** degree program requires the following of all students:

1. Completion of a master's degree or higher from an accredited program of nursing
2. Current U.S. licensure unencumbered and in good standing as a Registered Nurse (upload Nurses verification report in application)
3. A minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0 from a previous graduate program (official transcripts must be submitted)
4. Three letters of recommendation
5. Current resume or curriculum vitae
6. Active national certification in an advance practice registered nurse (APRN) specialty for the APRN track. APRN certification is not required for Leadership track.
7. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements for Nursing Students as published in the graduate catalog.
8. A two-page American Psychological Association (APA) formatted professional statement which addresses your professional goals and how the DNP degree will contribute to the achievement of these goals.
9. Interview may be required (via web, phone, or in person)
10. Successful passage of criminal background check will be required upon offer of admission.
11. Successful passage of drug screen and satisfaction of current health and immunization policy of the Department of Nursing will be required the semester prior to data collection in a clinical setting.

Approved admission to the **Nurse Anesthesia Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)** degree program requires the following of all students:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited program of

nursing

2. Current U.S. licensure unencumbered and in good standing as a Registered Nurse (upload Nurses verification report in application)
3. Minimum of one year of critical care nursing experience within the U.S., its territories, or a U.S. military hospital outside of the U.S.
4. A minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0. This includes a minimum GPA of 3.0 in undergraduate science coursework.
5. Evidence of a completed statistics course (undergraduate or graduate)
6. Evidence of a completed Organic Chemistry I or upper division Biochemistry course
7. Typed personal statement that is no more than two pages in length and addresses the following three areas:
 8. Describe why you have chosen the Nurse Anesthesia specialization.
 9. Describe your professional goals.
 10. Describe why you feel the University of North Dakota program is best suited to help you meet your professional goals.
11. Three letters of recommendation, preferably from a manager or supervisor, a healthcare provider, or nursing faculty member. Letters should speak to applicants' ability to be successful in the DNP program, addressing items such as clinical skills, critical thinking, independent decision making, and collaborative skills with other health professionals, nursing leadership, etc.
12. Professional resume or curriculum vitae
13. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements for Nursing Students as published in the graduate catalog.
14. Interview required.
15. Successful passage of criminal background check and drug screen will be required upon offer of admission.
16. Satisfaction of current health and immunization policy of the Department of Nursing will be required upon offer of admission.

Approved admission to the **Family Nurse Practitioner Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)** degree program requires the following of all students:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited program of nursing
2. Current U.S. licensure unencumbered and in good standing as a Registered Nurse (upload Nursys verification report in application)
3. Minimum of one year of work experience as an R.N. within the U.S., its territories or a U.S. military hospital outside of the U.S. required
4. Achieve a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0. Applications will not be considered for GPA below 3.0
5. Evidence of a completed statistics course (undergraduate or graduate)
6. Official transcripts from every institution attended
7. Typed personal statement that is no more than two pages in length and addresses the following areas:
 - a. Describe why you have chosen the FNP specialization
 - b. Describe your professional goals

8. Three letters of recommendation, preferably from a manager or supervisor, a healthcare provider, or nursing faculty member. Letters should speak to applicants' ability to be successful in the DNP program, addressing items such as clinical skills, critical thinking, independent decision making, and collaborative skills with other health professionals, nursing leadership, etc.
9. Professional resume or curriculum vitae
10. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements for Nursing Students as published in the graduate catalog.
11. Online application and \$35 nonrefundable application fee
12. Successful completion of an interview with program faculty
13. Reside in a state in which the University of North Dakota is approved to deliver the graduate nursing program at the time of admission and throughout duration of the nursing program
14. If enrolled in a previous graduate nursing program, a letter of good standing from program director, unless a degree was conferred
15. Successful passage of criminal background check and drug screen will be required upon offer of admission
16. Satisfaction of current health and immunization policy of the Department of Nursing will be required upon offer of admission

Approved admission to the **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)** degree program requires the following of all students:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited program of nursing
2. Current U.S. licensure unencumbered and in good standing as a Registered Nurse (upload Nursys verification report in application)
3. Minimum of one year of work experience as an R.N. in an inpatient psychiatric unit within the U.S., its territories or a U.S. military hospital outside of the U.S. required
4. Achieve a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0. Applications will not be considered for GPA below 3.0
5. Evidence of a completed statistics course (undergraduate or graduate)
6. Official transcripts from every institution attended
7. Typed personal statement that is no more than two pages in length and addresses the following areas:
 - a. Describe why you have chosen the PMHNP specialization
 - b. Describe your professional goals
8. Three letters of recommendation, preferably from a manager or supervisor, a healthcare provider, or nursing faculty member. Letters should speak to applicant's ability to be successful in the DNP program, addressing items such as clinical skills, critical thinking, independent decision making, and collaborative skills with other health professionals, nursing leadership, etc.
9. Professional resume or curriculum vitae

10. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements for Nursing Students as published in the graduate catalog.
11. Online application and \$35 nonrefundable application fee
12. Successful completion of an interview with program faculty
13. Reside in a state in which the University of North Dakota is approved to deliver the graduate nursing program at the time of admission and throughout duration of the nursing program
14. If enrolled in a previous graduate nursing program, a letter of good standing from program director, unless a degree was conferred
15. Successful passage of criminal background check and drug screen will be required upon offer of admission
16. Satisfaction of current health and immunization policy of the Department of Nursing will be required upon offer of admission

Approved admission to the **Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)** degree program requires the following of all students:

1. The applicant must meet the School of Graduate Studies' current minimum general admission requirements as published in the graduate catalog.
2. Completion of a baccalaureate or higher degree in nursing from a nationally accredited program or equivalent nursing preparation.
3. A cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.00 for all undergraduate work or a GPA of at least 3.00 for the junior and senior years of undergraduate work (Based on A=4.00).
4. A cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above in graduate course work.
5. Completion of a graduate level univariate statistics course.
6. A one- to two-page paper stating the applicant's research interests and professional goals.
7. Evidence of current, unencumbered licensure to practice as a registered nurse.
8. Three professional letters of recommendation.
9. Current resume or curriculum vitae.
10. Completion of a graduate level nursing theory course.
11. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements for Nursing Students as published in the graduate catalog.
12. An interview (via web, phone, or in person) will be required for applicants meeting the admission requirements.
13. Successful passage of criminal background check will be required upon offer of admission.
14. Successful passage of drug screen and satisfaction of current health and immunization policy of the Department of Nursing will be required the semester prior to data collection in a clinical setting.

Approved by Nursing Faculty 10/24/14

Approved by Graduate Council R 12/14/18; R 05/10/19; 09/09/2022; R 04/14/2023; **R 02/09/2024**

Degree Requirement Overview

Students admitted to the PMDNP program are required to complete a minimum of 37 credits. Graduate credits earned at other institutions may be offered in partial fulfillment of the University of North Dakota's required credits for conferment of a doctoral degree from this institution.

Students seeking the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree at the University of North Dakota must satisfy all general requirements set forth by the School of Graduate Studies as well as requirements set forth by the Nursing Department. The PMDNP nursing courses are offered online.

Completion of all course work with GPA of at least 3.0

- Completion of a minimum of eighty semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree.
- Satisfactory completion of all designated practice experience hours.
- Satisfactory completion of the DNP project.
- Satisfactory completion of the DNP project paper.
- Satisfactory completion of a campus oral presentation of the DNP project.

Compose a scholarly product (i.e., abstract/manuscript/poster) for presentation and publication.

Post Master's DNP –Leadership Track Course Progression

For Plan of Study/Track Course Progression information, please see the [Curriculum Plans](#) page on the UND website.

Academic Policies

Academic Advisement

Students are appointed an advisor by the Chair of the Graduate Nursing program when admitted to the program. The academic advisor is typically the DNP Program Director. DNP students will also be assigned a DNP Project advisor to assist with defining the DNP Project topic, navigating IRB approval, submitting the Program of Study and Topic Proposal, completing the final DNP Project and paper, and assisting with initial presentation and publication preparation.

See *Department of Nursing, Graduate Programs in Nursing Student Handbook 2025-2026

Doctoral forms for the Program of Study and Topic Proposal can be accessed at [Forms for Graduate Students](#).

Questions regarding the Institutional Review Board (IRB), human participants in research, and IRB forms may be downloaded from the [Institutional Review Board web page](#).

All research which involves the use of humans as subjects, or which use human material, must be reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) prior to the initiation of any research using human participants including recruitment and screening activities. Independent Study and DNP Projects may require IRB approval. The length of time necessary to approve IRB applications can be affected by the quality of the application, current volume of applications submitted and under review, and type of review.

Grievance/Appeals Process

***See** *Department of Nursing, Graduate Programs in Nursing Student Handbook 2025-2026*

Technology Requirements

You must verify your computer equipment meets the minimum technical requirements needed for your courses.

Although specific technical requirements may vary by course or program, make sure your computer meets the general technical requirements and that your web browser is configured correctly.

For more specific information about technical requirements, refer to your course syllabus or contact your instructor.

Office 365 Email and Apps

UND students, faculty, and staff use Microsoft Office 365 email system provided by the North Dakota University System.

Required DNP Comprehensive Experiences

DNP Project Requirements

The DNP Project is the final scholarly project completed by the DNP student. It demonstrates a high-level mastery of advanced nursing practice and focuses on translating evidence and research into practice. According to *The Doctor of Nursing Practice: Current issues and clarifying recommendations published by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in 2015*, the DNP Project demonstrates a measurable improvement or impact on healthcare care delivery and/or patient outcomes (p2). It has the potential to advance nursing practice at local, state, and national levels by addressing key issues and barriers surrounding healthcare and promoting inter-professional collaboration. The DNP Project must be completed and disseminated through an oral presentation before the student graduates from the program. The DNP student will also complete a DNP Project paper per the following guidelines and be expected to disseminate their work through future journal submission and/or future presentations at state and national levels.

DNP Project Paper Overview

The paper should be formatted using the guidelines from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (revised 7th ed.)* (2020) and be no more than 30 pages in length, exclusive of tables, and references. Recommended sections for the DNP project paper are listed below. These may change based on the project, in concert with your DNP project faculty advisor.

TITLE PAGE

The format for the title page will be provided in the courses.

ABSTRACT (½ PAGE)

An abstract of your project should include a very brief description of the problem, the project purpose or research question and a BRIEF description of the project design, setting, subjects, and instruments used to measure your outcomes. You should briefly add information to the abstract about your results and conclusions.

BACKGROUND

This section should include a description of the problem, the incidence or frequency of occurrence, and the significance to nursing. It should also discuss the specific aim/purpose of your project, explaining what your project will do to address the problem. You should include definitions of key terms /variables—as you defined them for your project. These definitions might differ from the standard definitions of terms, populations, or scenarios—and that is okay. You want to be sure that your reader interprets them the same way that you used them.

- Statement of the problem or needs assessment
- Clinical question
- Definition of terminology

LITERATURE REVIEW

This section should start with a sentence identifying the search engines/databases used for your literature review. You should organize previous research in a manner that best supports your project's purpose. You should critique the strengths and weaknesses of the body of knowledge related to your project as a whole, identify gaps in the literature, and concisely state how your project will address these gaps. Avoid merely summarizing study after study; however, you can summarize a few (fewer than five) noteworthy studies in more detail.

- Provide an overview of theoretical, methodological research in the literature pertinent to your project and include results related to your project or population
- Include local and/or national data if pertinent
- Identify gaps or limitations in the literature

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Describe your chosen conceptual/theoretical framework and include a brief description as to why you chose this framework (the applicability to your identified project or the problem at hand). You should state your research problem. Discuss the key concepts related to the chosen framework. Explain the reason the framework was selected.

PROJECT PURPOSE

Specifically state the purpose of the project and list the project goals and objectives. Include the significance of the project for nursing and health care. The project goals should be SMART goals: specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time specific. They should form the basis for the evaluation.

DESIGN AND METHODS

The purpose of this section is to describe the project steps in detail. Describe step-by-step what happened in the project, starting from obtaining IRB approval to analyzing data. How did you identify eligible subjects? How did you collect the data, safeguard the data and store the data? Which statistical tests did you use? Describe your sample and include the number of subjects and length of time it took to collect data. Provide a brief overview of any important demographics for your project.

- Description of your population (who your subjects are), sampling (convenience? inclusion, exclusion criteria), and recruitment (how did you obtain your subjects?)
- Study design: describe the type of design; number of groups or participants; type of testing or survey (pre- and post-testing) (chart review)
- Setting for your project including a BRIEF organizational analysis
- A detailed description of the intervention (what did you do?)
- Procedure for implementation
- Describe your survey or tool, including the demographic data collected
- Protection of human subjects and confidentiality of data collected: briefly describe how you maintained anonymity
- Outcomes (describe your measures and, if appropriate, their reliability and validity or sensitivity /specificity profile)

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Start by re-stating (in one paragraph) the overall purpose/aim of your project. Then discuss your results. Discuss any problems you encountered that may have influenced or biased your results. Present your results using a statistical model and description (for example, Specific measures: standard deviation, frequency, t-test, correlations, p-value, etc.)

- Specific results
- Validity of your results (problems you may have encountered implementing your project that might have influenced your results)

- Interpret your results

PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Summarize and explain your result findings – did you achieve your stated goals?
- Discuss the impact of your results on practice
- Explain how your results either support or differ from previous research findings,
- Speculate on reasons that your findings agree or disagree (perhaps sample, size, or variation, environment, timing of the project).
- Were there any unexpected findings? Speculate why these may have occurred.
- Evaluate your conceptual/ theoretical model- how do the results support or not support the model selected for the project
- Discuss the strengths and limitations of the project- support from the organization, sample size adequacy, findings generalizability, biases, sample diversity.
- Discuss the significance of your project findings. What are suggestions for changing nursing practice? For interprofessional practice? Do you have suggestions for advanced practice? For nursing education? For health policy?
- What are the implications for future projects: what are the next steps in implementing the results or changing practice as a result of your project?

CONCLUSIONS

Make the last paragraph a conclusion that summarizes your overall project aim, project findings, and contribution to nursing knowledge, practice, or theory.

- Summary of results
- Clinical implications of results/impact on practice
- Sustainability of the intervention
- Limitations and suggestions for improvement
- Suggestions for future clinical projects or research

REFERENCES

Current APA formatted list of sources cited within the paper.

APPENDICES

- Theoretical models (schematics)
- Project timeline graphic
- Summary matrix of individual data review tables (a table of data analysis)
- Copy of data collection survey
- Copy of consent forms

- IRB approval letter

Graduation Requirements

DNP Students are required to:

- Complete all coursework with a GPA of at least 3.0.
- Completion of a minimum of eighty semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree.
- Satisfactorily complete all designated practice experience hours.
- Satisfactorily complete the DNP Project paper under the guidance of their faculty advisor and DNP Project advisor.
- Satisfactorily complete and submit the DNP Project paper according to the overview listed above.
 - Note: Students will build the paper throughout the curriculum.
 - An expert in the student's DNP Project topic may be requested by the faculty or student to review the content.
 - The student will be responsible for facilitating contact with the chosen expert.
- Satisfactorily complete an oral presentation to the UND community prior to graduation. This presentation features a Power Point presentation outlining the DNP Project.
 - The oral presentation represents the compilation of the DNP student's work. The presentation will be attended by members of the DNP Project Team and content experts if applicable.
 - The DNP Project advisor and any faculty advisors on the PMDNP student's project team will grade the presentation according to the **Criteria for Grading DNP Project Presentation and Defense**. The DNP student will meet with the DNP Project Team immediately following the presentation. The DNP Project Team must agree that the presentation was satisfactory and recommend the student for graduation.
 - In the event that the student does not meet the standards for a satisfactory presentation, the DNP faculty will work with the student to develop a remediation process. The student will then be required to complete paper revisions and/or repeat the oral presentation.
 - The presentation is open to the student's community partner and the public.
- Compose a scholarly product (i.e., abstract/manuscript/poster) for presentation and/or publication

DNP Practice Experience Hours Log

DNP students are required to maintain a log of their clinical hours accumulated throughout their program of study as indicated in the selected courses. Courses that have practice experience hours requirements will each have a minimum number of hours listed. These total to a minimum of 520 total hours to be completed by the end of the DNP program. An excel spreadsheet will be provided to the student and used to keep track of the practice experience hours. The log will include:

- Course Number
- Program Outcome to which the activity applies
- Activity Details
- Date activity was completed
- Completed hours

Appendix A: Criteria For Grading DNP Project Presentation

The DNP Faculty who attend the final DNP Project Presentation will complete a Microsoft Form that includes the criteria list in the list below:

Instructions: Each DNP Project Team member will use a separate grading sheet. The criteria below are applicable to the evaluation of the DNP Project Presentation and Defense. The examination grade of Pass or Fail is determined by tallying the satisfactory and unsatisfactory ratings for each DNP Project Team member. For the presentation to be accepted as Satisfactory, all members must indicate that the student has received satisfactory marks in ten out of ten criteria.

Criteria:

- Demonstrated depth of knowledge.
- Demonstrated breadth of knowledge.
- Based Capstone on pertinent clinical knowledge and applicability to practice.
- Synthesized relevant knowledge to support the topic.
- Demonstrated critical thinking in development of project design.
- Demonstrated critical appraisal of project results.
- Derived meaningful, defensible conclusions, including strengths, limitations of project.
- Summarized implications, future directions and sustainability of project.
- Presentation followed required guidelines
- Overall presentation was thoughtful, professional and organized.

Comments:

In addition to your general comments, you are required to provide the reasons for unsatisfactory marks and identify the student's missed opportunity to successfully demonstrate the criteria successfully.

Appendix B: DNP Student Checklist

Upon admission to the DNP program, all doctoral students are required to complete the following task during their tenure with the CNPD. The checklist provides a general sequence of events. Students will work with their advisors to complete the list.

- Advisor assigned on admission by the Graduate Department Chair.
- Submit and complete all required CNPD verifications and requirements. Note: some verifications and requirements are yearly, and others are a one-time requirement.
- File Program of Study (POS) with the CNPD. This will be forwarded to the UND School of Graduate Studies. The POS should be completed as directed by the student's advisor.
- DNP Project Advisor assigned at the beginning of DNP Project Teams.
- Submit IRB forms for DNP Project.
- File Topic Proposal for the DNP Project with the CNPD, once IRB approval is received, which will be forwarded to the UND School of Graduate Studies – must be filed at least one semester prior to when you wish to graduate.
- Advance to Candidacy – this will occur once your POS and Topic Proposal have been accepted by the UND School of Graduate Studies.
- Present DNP Project to the UND campus and interested community during last semester in the DNP program.
- Submit an electronic copy of your DNP Project Paper to your DNP Advisor and DNP Project Advisor and the CNPD's Office of Student Services.
- Advisor completes and submits "Final Report on Candidate" to the CNPD and the UND School of Graduate Studies.

** For a complete list of date and deadlines each semester, go to the UND Graduate School's Website at: [Term Deadlines](#)