

Indiana State University
School of Nursing
BSN to DNP Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What does the [BSN-DNP curriculum](#) entail?

The BSN to DNP program is a 78-credit hour program requiring a total of 350 hours of supervised clinical mentorship (for your DNP project) and 750 hours of precepted clinical experiences (to learn the role of the family nurse practitioner). The program can be completed in seven semesters.

2. Do I have to enroll full-time?

This program requires continuous enrollment in a cohort for 28 months. Currently, part-time options are not available. Course credits vary by semester. Each credit of course work requires approximately 3-5 hours of study per week.

3. What are the research requirements? Do I have to do a dissertation?

No dissertation is required; however, each DNP student will complete an independent project throughout the curriculum. This project provides students the opportunity to apply their doctorate level skills by designing and implementing a project addressing a clinical issue in advanced nursing for individuals, groups, systems or populations.

4. Is the program accredited?

Yes, the program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

5. Do I have to come to campus?

The majority of our students/graduates only come to campus for graduation. While there are opportunities to come to campus and work with faculty and community partners, we pride ourselves on keeping you in your own communities to continue working to improve health outcomes where you live and work.

6. Will there be synchronous teaching/learning sessions?

Students can expect to have at least 2-3 synchronous online learning sessions each semester. Sessions with faculty and your colleagues are facilitated via live, interactive video conferencing. The dates and times of these sessions are announced 1-2 weeks prior to the start of each semester to allow students to plan for these commitments. While sessions are flexible, students should plan on attending these meetings and are required to present their work in an online forum at the end of each semester.

7. Do all states approve distance learning programs?

No, due to varying state regulations, there are some states from which Indiana State University is unable to accept distance/online students. Each state has its own unique approval process for out-of-state institutions offering distance education. States in which the BSN-DNP program is available for enrollment are shown in blue on our [map](#).

8. How will I know which courses to take?

Upon admission to the program, a plan of study is uniquely designed for you. All changes to the plan must be approved prior to the change as courses are sequenced and may not be offered every semester.

9. Where do I complete my clinical hours?

Clinical hours are completed at facilities in and around your community. Our faculty and staff work with you to help identify potential clinical sites for the completion of your clinical experiences.