



Curriculum effective Fall 2026

Revised February 2026

Post-Baccalaureate DNP Pediatric Dual Primary/Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program

The Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Pediatric Dual Primary/Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP-PC/AC) Program is based at the Rutgers Health Campus in Newark, NJ and is the only dual certification program in the state, preparing doctorally prepared, dually certified pediatric nurse practitioners. Graduates are eligible to take the national certification as an acute AND/OR primary care PNP offered through the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB). You must have a minimum of one-year acute pediatric experience to apply to this program.

Role and Qualifications: Doctorally-prepared dual certified PNP-PC/AC’s demonstrate expert clinical knowledge that is grounded in advanced theory and evidence-based practice across the entire continuum of health from wellness to acute and complex care. The dual certified primary/acute care PNP program at Rutgers University prepares nurse practitioners for the challenges of delivering comprehensive care for the pediatric population (birth to 21 years) across various inpatient, outpatient and specialty practice settings.

Scope of Practice: The scope of practice of the dual certified PNP-PC/AC supports health promotion and providing direct patient care across the entire continuum of health and illness, including acute, complex, and critical conditions. Patient management such as performing in-depth physical assessments, interpreting results of laboratory and diagnostic tests, ordering medications, and performing therapeutic treatments will occur across a variety of inpatient and outpatient clinical settings. PNPs work collaboratively with other health care providers toward the best health outcome for their patients and their families.

Curriculum: The program is 84 credits with 1,200 precepted practicum hours and 320 DNP Project Experience hours. The following are the required courses for this program:

Core Courses:

Course #	Course Title	Credit Hrs.	Clinical Hrs.
XXXX 0000	Advanced Health Assessment	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Advanced Pathophysiology	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Advanced Pediatric Clinical Pharmacology	3.00	N/A

Subtotal Core Credits: 9.00

DNP Core Courses:

Course #	Course Title	Credit Hrs.	DNP Hrs.*
XXXX 0000	Role Development and Foundations of Practice	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Epidemiology and Biostatistics for Evidence-Based Practice	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Scholarly Inquiry, Appraisal, and Writing	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Health Data, Informatics, and Technology	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Strategic Leadership and Partnerships	3.00	35
XXXX 0000	Healthcare Delivery and Economics	3.00	35
XXXX 0000	Evidence-Based Approaches to Advanced Nursing Practice	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Advanced Population Health, Policy, and Advocacy	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	DNP Project Preparation	2.00	30



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XXXX 0000	DNP Project Planning and Proposal Development	2.00	70
XXXX 0000	DNP Project Implementation	2.00	100
XXXX 0000	DNP Project Evaluation and Dissemination	2.00	50

Subtotal DNP Core Credits: 32.00

Specialty Courses:

Course #	Course Title	Credit Hrs.	Clin. Hrs.
XXXX 0000	Advanced Pediatric Physiology and Assessment	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Foundations of Pediatric Care 1	4.00	60
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Primary Care Practicum for Dual Students 1	2.00	120
XXXX 0000	Diagnostics, Procedures, and Clinical Reasoning for Acute Care	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Common and Mild/Episodic Illnesses Theory 2	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Primary Care Practicum 2	3.00	180
XXXX 0000	Introduction to Pediatric Acute Care Theory 1	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Acute Care Practicum Intensive for Dual Students 1	5.00	300
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Acute Care Theory 2	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Advanced Care Theory 3	3.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Advanced Care Practicum for Dual Students 3	4.00	240
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Primary and Acute Care Final Practicum Intensive for Dual Students 2	5.00	300
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Primary Care Review	1.00	N/A
XXXX 0000	Pediatric Acute Care Review	1.00	N/A

Subtotal Specialty Credits: 44.00

Total Program Credits:	84.00
Total Clinical Hours:	1,200 (minimum)
Total DNP Project Hours:	320 (minimum)
Total DNP Degree Hours:	1,520(minimum)

*A student who does not complete their DNP Project during the project-related courses will be registered for a 1-credit DNP Project Continuation course (XXXX 0000) until the project sequence is complete.