

Advanced Public Health Nursing (APHN) Online Program

[Apply Online Now](#)

- **Master of Science in Nursing**
- **Post-Master's Certificate***

[Admission Guidelines](#)

The Role

The focus of Advanced Public Health Nursing practice (APHN) at Rush is population-based, with interventions directed to the population/community as a whole. Students who enroll in the APHN concentration develop skills in assessing, planning and evaluating nursing interventions for individuals, families and aggregates/populations. There is strong emphasis on health promotion, primary prevention and program management for vulnerable populations.

The Program

The uniqueness of this competency-based, online program is its availability to students across the nation and its commitment to the promotion of health in multiple community settings. Two study options are available to meet student interests. The first option is for students interested in a population-focused practice and includes course work that emphasizes health promotion and disease prevention for diverse populations across the lifespan. The second option is for students who are interested in developing and managing programs that deliver care to individuals and groups in community-based settings. All students will gain skills in case management, disaster preparedness, environmental hazard assessment, and health policy. Courses are available on-line, with two compressed weekend on-site courses.

The Faculty

Rush College of Nursing faculty are highly experienced practitioner-teachers with doctoral and master's degrees and certification in their specialties. The Practitioner-Teacher model at Rush allows faculty to maintain and enhance their clinical expertise and apply it to research and academic programs. Faculty are nationally known in their various areas of expertise and are actively involved in professional organizations. Faculty are also well published and frequently speak at regional, national and international professional meetings.

Faculty contact for the APHN program or Post-Master's Certificate

Susan Swider, PhD, APHN-BC
Phone: (312) 942-8826
E-mail: Susan_Swider@rush.edu

Clinical Sites

A unique feature of this program is the structured clinical experiences in the student's community. Faculty provide local preceptors with the tools needed to maximize the quality of each student's experience to ensure competency achievement. Examples of possible practice sites include: official public health agencies, community health centers, school nursing sites, occupational health sites, home health and hospice agencies, American Indian health centers, and social service agencies that serve the underserved.

Career Opportunities

Graduates are prepared as leaders for a wide variety of specialties including public health, occupational health, school health, home health and hospice, and health care for the homeless. National and local employment needs continue to exceed the number of nurses prepared as leaders in these public health nursing specialties. Nurses in the community with advanced preparation in public health nursing are in a strategic position to influence and shape health care delivery.

Certification and Accreditation

Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the specialty certification examination in Advanced Public Health Nursing at the American Nurses Association Credentialing Center.

To apply, or for further information, contact:

College Admission Services
600 S. Paulina - Suite 440
Chicago, IL 60612
Phone: (312) 942-7100
Fax: (312) 942-2219
E-mail: Rush_Admissions@rush.edu
<http://www.rushu.rush.edu/nursing/admission.html>