

Post-Master's Certificate Program: Psychiatric-Mental Health

Online Psychiatric-Mental Health (MSN) Program

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Admission Guidelines

The Role

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) online PMH program prepares graduates to function as psychiatric nurse practitioners. The central focus is on clinical practice where students develop knowledge and skills in the behavioral and biological disciplines and apply their learning to the treatment of psychiatric disorders within individuals, families and groups. Emphasis is placed on the development of practitioners who will be prepared to function autonomously in a variety of clinical settings.

The Program

There are five unique aspects of this program: a) distance learning with only two short visits on campus, b) "virtual clinical supervision", c) accessible clinical practice, d) individually designed post master's certificate options, and e) competency-based application of knowledge to clinical practice.

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 University 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 NP and CNS Programs in PMH:

Adult Focus

Linnea Carlson-Sabelli, RN, PhD *

Phone: (312) 942-6120

E-mail: Linnea_Carlson-Sabelli@rush.edu

Child/Family Focus

Kathleen Delaney, PhD, APRN-BC

Phone: (312) 942-6208

E-mail: Kathleen_R_Delaney@rush.edu

Clinical Sites

Rush University Medical Center offers graduate practitioner students in psychiatric nursing clinical experiences in a wide variety of settings. Practicum sites include outpatient community mental health centers, psychiatric home health agencies, day hospital and therapeutic day school settings, as well as other community facilities. Negotiations with appropriate preceptors and accessible practicum sites for distance students are done by a member of the Rush College of Nursing faculty.

Career Opportunities

Career prospects for practitioners in psychiatric nursing are quite diverse. Psychiatric nurse practitioners provide care in large health care organizations and in the community. They function independently and collaboratively with health care team members to provide comprehensive health care that will maximize patient care outcomes. Opportunities include clinical practice and/or consultation, as well as teaching, research and administration.

Certification and Accreditation

Completion of the program provides eligibility for certification as an adult or family psychiatric nurse practitioner by the American Nurses' Association American Nurses Credentialing Center, and for state licensure/certification where available.

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