



UNIVERSITY OF
DETROIT
MERCY

The McAuley School of Nursing (MSON) Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Practicum Handbook describes the current policies and procedures that are unique to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at the University of Detroit Mercy. The purpose of this handbook is to assist students with the expectations for the practicum hours that are obtained throughout the program. The Handbook is an evolving document that is revised and updated periodically. It is important to note that expectations outlined in this handbook apply to students in the year in which they were admitted. It is designed to complement the MSON Graduate Handbook and the University of Detroit Mercy Graduate Catalog which provides detailed information regarding programs of study, course descriptions and University Graduate Program policies and procedures. It also complements the DNP Scholarly Project Handbook and Mentor Handbook.

Post Master's DNP students must complete a total of 1000 post BSN clinical hours. Post Master's entry students are permitted by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) to be credited up to a

The DNP practicum is considered a collaborative endeavor that involves mentors, the student and faculty. Each has a specific role to advance the DNP student's knowledge and skills in practice.

The Mentor's Role and Expectations

The primary role of the mentor is to provide the DNP student with a unique practicum or organizational level experience to achieve the defined objectives as identified by the student. A successful practicum experience is achieved through the student-mentor faculty relationship in which each member of this educational team contributes to the student's learning experience.

The general expectations of mentors are to:

1. Serve as a mentor and role model for the DNP student.
2. Identify and discuss with the DNP student identified learning needs to meet objectives.
3. Oversee the practicum experience based on objectives provided by the student in collaboration with the DNP faculty and mentor.
4. Meet with the DNP student prior to discuss details and logistics of the experience including dates and times.
5. Serve as a host, sponsor, teacher, and role model for the student at the practicum site.
6. Assess opportunities and experience that will enable the student to meet their learning objectives.
7. Direct and support strategies to facilitate the development and implementation of evidenced based standards of care and/or practice guidelines.
8. Guide the DNP student to refine interpersonal skills and promote effective communication with patients and colleagues.
9. Provide feedback to the UDM DNP faculty regarding the DNP student's achievement of the objectives for the experience using the evaluation form.
10. Demonstrate attitudes and qualities consistent with the ethics of the health professions.
11. Immediately report to the UDM DNP faculty any student behaviors that influence or threaten the safety of populations or place the practicum site at risk.
12. Notify UDM faculty when the DNP student demonstrates minimally acceptable performance.

Students and mentors are expected to collaboratively complete student evaluation forms.

The DNP Student's Role and Expectations

DNP students should enter their practicum course with a general idea about their goals for the practicum including the DNP competencies they want to bolster, their specific area of interest and the focus of their DNP project. DNP students are responsible for being self-directed in identifying their initial and ongoing learning needs and seeking learning opportunities to address their needs. A successful practicum experience is achieved through the student-mentor-faculty relationship in which each member of this educational team

Processes for Selecting and Approving Mentors

Individuals who serve as mentors for graduate students in the DNP program must meet the following qualifications:

1. Formal education and professional experience as required for the professional role and practice area; preferably an earned graduate degree or its equivalent in a specialty area of practice.
2. State licensure as required for the professional role and practice area if applicable.
3. Practice expertise derived from practical and theoretical preparation for individuals in practice roles.
4. Administrative or management expertise derived from practical and theoretical preparation for individuals in administrative or public health positions.
5. Commitment to assist students to develop unique aspects of a particular role and meet defined learning objectives as established by the program of study.
6. Signature on mentor form affirming commitment.

Course faculty approve all mentors, practicum sites, and student learning objectives for the practicum experience

Professional Credentials/Licensure (if applicable)

Professional License and Number	State	Expiration
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

University of Detroit Mercy
 McAuley School of Nursing
 Doctor of Nursing Practice Program
 Mentor Evaluation Form: DNP Student Performance

Student's Name: _____

Mentor: _____ Site/Agency: _____

DNP Student Expectations/Objectives: Students are expected to develop specific objectives for the

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Mentor	Comments
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Comments:



Mentor Signature

Date:

