The Program
PhD in Nursing:
Population Health and Health Policy
- Two (2) “Time” Pathways: FT and PT
- Two (2) Degree Pathways: BS to PhD; MS to PhD

Program Goals
The program focuses on the intersection of nursing, health policy, and population health, and prepares its graduates for leadership as researchers and educators who can:

- Analyze historical, sociological, economic, political, and healthcare perspectives of population health issues and health policies.
- Evaluate health policies that influence the access, quality, and cost of healthcare delivery and nursing practice locally and globally.
- Generate theory-guided qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods research that advances Nursing Science with an emphasis in population health or health policy.
- Create innovative, evidence-based strategies to shape population health and health policy development at local, national, and global levels based on contemporary nursing and interdisciplinary research.
- Relate new inquiries, activities, and values to role development as a nurse scientist, steward of the discipline, and educator for the next generation.

Degree Requirements
- 48 credits beyond the master’s degree including dissertation credits
- 69 credits beyond the baccalaureate degree
- Coursework includes theoretical foundations, population health/health policy, research methods, statistics, philosophy of science
- Successful completion of comprehensive examination in population health/health policy,
- Full-time students may complete the program in three years. Part-time students are required to take six credits per semester and may complete the program in four or five years (8-year limit to complete PhD).

Student Support Mechanisms
Students enrolled in the program may be eligible to receive funding to support their doctoral studies through one of the three available mechanisms:
- Graduate Assistantships
- Teaching Assistantships
- Fellowships
- Grants

Tuition and Fees
Actual tuition and fees vary according to residency, number of credits taken, and where enrollment occurs. For approximate cost per semester visit www.umb.edu/admissions/tuition.

Faculty Research
Our faculty are regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized scholars in population health and policy research. In collaboration with our Exercise and Health Science Department at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, their work focuses on enhancing health equity and quality of care through population and policy research across the life span in the following areas:
- smoking cessation
- sexually transmitted infection prevention and care
- clinical decision making/patient and family engagement in care;
- local and global academic/practice partnerships
- GBLTQ health
- transitional care and elders/home care
- women’s and reproductive health;
- pain assessment management and fall prevention
- cardio-metabolic health
- global health
- adult and child oncology
- nurse leadership

Admission Requirements
1) a clear statement of purpose and goals linked to a focus of study related to Population Health/Policy
2) two references from professionals who can attest to your ability to succeed in the program
3) official transcripts of degrees earned from all colleges attended
4) a curriculum vitae/resume
5) a copy of a nursing practice license (if applicable)
6) a copy of a professional certification (if applicable)

Program’s specific requirements:
- Bachelor’s degree in Nursing from an accredited program (BS-to-PhD)
- Master’s degree in Nursing or related field from an accredited program (MS-to-PhD)
- Current Massachusetts Registered Nurse license or eligibility to
transfer or obtain a Massachusetts nurse licensure

**Taking a course prior to matriculation/Course Waiver**
Students are eligible to transfer up to 6 credits toward their doctoral degree. Options are available to receive credit for courses (waivers) with approval from the Program Director.

**International Students**
In addition to the general admissions requirements, international students must take either the TOEFL exam and IELTS exam as well as meet the minimum score requirements. For additional information on the international student application process please refer to the “Special Instructions” section in your application.

**Interview**
Candidates are required to schedule an interview with the Program Director and/or a faculty member as part of the application process.

**Application Deadline**
Applications must be received no later than March 31st for Fall admission. Applications received after this date are considered on a space-available basis. You may find the application online: www.umb.edu/admissions/graduate.

**Checking on Application Status**
The Chair of the Graduate Admissions Committee will inform applicants of their admission to the program. Following admissions, students are advised to contact the program director to obtain advisement.

**Webinar Information Session**
Become inspired by the numerous opportunities to become a nurse researcher and scientist. If you are interested in attending an information session contact us via email.

**Join Us for an Event**
Throughout the year, we hold a number of events that relate closely to nursing research and scholarship which include the following:
- Distinguished Weekly Scholarly Dialogue Lectures
- Annual Research and Scholarship Day

**For More Information**
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