The PhD Program in Nursing (PhD)
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

The Program
PhD in Nursing:
Population Health/Health Policy
- Two (2) Foci (Pop/Health Policy)
- Two (2) “Time” Pathways: FT and PT
- Two (2) Degree Pathways: BS-PhD; MS-PhD
- 6 Curricular Plans (no part-time study for BS-PhD Programs):
  - FT, MS-PhD Pop
  - FT, BS-PhD Pop
  - PT, MS-PhD Pop
  - FT, MS-PhD HP
  - FT, BS-PhD HP
  - PT, MS-PhD HP

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 the historical, sociological, economic, political and nursing perspectives of population health problems and existing proposed health policies.
- Evaluate and critique health policies that influence the access, quality, and cost of healthcare services.
- Conduct theory-guided qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research that advances knowledge of and informs innovative solutions to population health problems.
- Influence the development of innovative solutions to population health problems and health policies at local, state, national and international levels.

Degree Requirements
- 60 credits beyond the master’s degree including dissertation credits
- 81 credits beyond the baccalaureate degree including dissertation credits
- Coursework includes population health, health policy, economics, research methods, statistics, philosophy of science, a health policy internship
- Successful completion of comprehensive examination in population health/health policy,
- Full-time students may complete the program in four years. Part-time students are required to take six credits per semester and may complete the program in five or six 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.

Internships
For our health policy track ONLY: internships are designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills relevant to nursing research and policy. Settings include but are not limited to research intuitions, community-based health organizations and departments of public health.

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

A sample of external funding which matches areas of interests of our faculty includes:
- The National Institutes of Health
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Systems Administration (SAMHSA)
- American Cancer Society;
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
**Admission Requirements**

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

*The GRE is no longer a continuing requirement but students may submit scores for consideration. This change is effective as of Fall 2018.*

**International Students**

In addition to the general admissions requirements, international students must take both 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 strongly encouraged to schedule an interview with the Program Director 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 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 Sessions**

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.