

DNP Essentials: Requirements for DNP Programs

- 1. Scientific underpinnings for practice:** Programs must provide adequate content on life processes and functions of the body.
- 2. Organizational and systems leadership for quality improvement and systems thinking:** DNP graduates must be knowledgeable about patients on individual, population and community levels to help create new health care delivery models.
- 3. Clinical scholarship and analytical methods for evidence-based practice:** DNP graduates must be able to put research into practice.
- 4. Information systems or technology and patient care technology for the improvement and transformation of health care:** DNP graduates should know how to evaluate programs and information systems to best care for patients as well as to evaluate ethical and legal issues surrounding health care technology.
- 5. Health care policy for advocacy in health care:** DNP programs should prepare graduates to take on leadership roles in political action to promote patient care as well as the nursing profession.
- 6. Interprofessional collaboration for improving patient and population health outcomes:** DNP programs should contain content to prepare students for working in and creating collaborative health care teams.
- 7. Clinical prevention and population health for improving the nation's health:** DNP graduates should be able to provide risk reduction and illness prevention for patients and families as well as entire populations.
- 8. Advanced nursing practice:** DNP programs should provide education for mastery in one specialty area of nursing practice.