

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
ROBERT E. SMITH SCHOOL OF NURSING
DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM
APPLICATION PROCESS

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY (DSU) – students interested in applying to the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing (RESSON) Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program must apply for admission to the university, complete all university requirements for admission, and receive an acceptance letter prior to beginning the program.

1. Apply to DSU
 - a. Online (www.deltastate.edu)
 - i. Go to Undergraduate Admissions [**Post RN**]
 - ii. Go to Graduate and Continuing Studies [**Post BSN/ MSN**]
 - b. Complete all admission requirements
 - c. Students will receive an acceptance letter to Delta State University from Undergraduate and/or Graduate and Continuing Studies when requirements have been met
 - i. ALL requirements must be met before students can receive a PIN number to register for courses

ROBERT E. SMITH SCHOOL OF NURSING - students must complete the RESSON DNP Program application; complete all requirements; and receive an acceptance letter from the RESSON prior to beginning the program.

2. Apply to RESSON DNP Program
 - a. Online (www.deltastate.edu)
 - i. Go to Nursing, Program of Study, DNP Application
 - b. Application packets are also available at DSU Robert E. Smith School of Nursing
 - i. Room #137
 - ii. Mrs. Judy Haney 662-846-4255.
 - c. Complete all admission requirements
 - i. Verify completion of all requirements by contacting Judy Haney in the RESSON @ 662-846-4255
 - d. Schedule an interview with DSU RESSON graduate faculty
(See **Scheduling an Interview with the RESSON Graduate Faculty Committee**)

- e. Receive an acceptance/denial letter from the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing
- f. Return the acceptance letter on or before the deadline

DSU ROBERT E. SMITH SCHOOL OF NURSING
DNP (Post RN) DEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- _____ GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale upon entry into the program with an overall 3.2 GPA upon completion of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.
- _____ A grade of “C” or better in all non-nursing (pre-requisite) support courses
- _____ Complete Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application
- _____ Complete written advanced role in nursing statement as noted in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application
- _____ Three current (<1 year) letters of professional/academic reference. At least one reference must be academic in nature
- _____ A copy of a current unencumbered registered nurse license to practice in the state in which the student will perform clinical.
- _____ A combined (verbal & quantitative) score ≥ 800 (≥ 280 on new test) and analytical score ≥ 3.5 on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) by completion of the BSN degree requirements [score must have been obtained in the past 5 years]
- _____ At least one year of continuous clinical nursing experience with patient contact as a Registered Nurse within the past three (3) years by completion of the BSN degree requirements
- _____ Submission of a resume (see additional information provided)
- _____ Complete the interview process with the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing Graduate Faculty Committee with a score of 50 or better
- _____ Complete writing sample during interview (if required)
- _____ A grade of “C” or better on a graduate level pathophysiology course either by completion of the BSN degree requirements or prior to enrolling in all other graduate level courses

DSU ROBERT E. SMITH SCHOOL OF NURSING
DNP (Post BSN) DEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- _____ Baccalaureate degree in nursing with a minimum GPA of 3.2 overall
- _____ GRE combined (verbal & quantitative) score ≥ 800 (≥ 280 on new test)
GRE analytical score ≥ 3.5 [score must have been obtained in the past 5 years]
- _____ A grade of “C” or better on an introductory course in statistics
- _____ Complete Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application
- _____ Complete written advanced role in nursing statement as noted in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application
- _____ Three current (<1 year) letters of professional/academic reference. At least one reference must be academic in nature
- _____ A copy of a current unencumbered registered nurse license to practice in the state in which the student will perform clinical.
- _____ A combined (verbal & quantitative) score ≥ 800 (≥ 280 on new test) and analytical score ≥ 3.5 on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) [score must have been obtained in the past 5 years]
- _____ At least one year of continuous clinical nursing experience with patient contact as a Registered Nurse within the past three (3) years
- _____ Submission of a resume (see additional information provided)
- _____ Complete the interview process with the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing Graduate Faculty Committee with a score of 50 or better
- _____ Complete writing sample during interview (if required)
- _____ A grade of “C” or better on a graduate level pathophysiology course prior to enrolling in all other graduate level courses

DSU ROBERT E. SMITH SCHOOL OF NURSING
DNP (POST MSN) ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- _____ Master of Science degree in Nursing with a minimum GPA of 3.2 overall
- _____ Complete Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application
- _____ Complete written advanced role in nursing statement as noted in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application
- _____ Three current (<1 year) letters of professional/academic reference. At least one reference must be academic in nature
- _____ A copy of a current unencumbered registered nurse license to practice in the state in which the student will perform clinical.
- _____ Copy of current national family practitioner certification (ANCC & AANP) **[FNP only]**
- _____ A combined (verbal & quantitative) score ≥ 800 (≥ 280 on new test) and analytical score ≥ 3.5 on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) [score must have been obtained in the past 5 years]
- _____ At least one year of continuous clinical nursing experience with patient contact as a Registered Nurse within the past three (3) years
- _____ Submission of a resume (see additional information provided)
- _____ Complete the interview process with the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing Graduate Faculty Committee with a score of 50 or better
- _____ Complete writing sample during interview (if required)
- _____ A grade of “C” or better on a graduate level pathophysiology course prior to enrolling in all other graduate level courses

SCHEDULING AN INTERVIEW WITH GRADUATE FACULTY

The following items must be in the applicant's RESSON file before an interview with the Graduate Faculty will be scheduled:

- _____ A GPA and/or GRE score that meets admission criteria
- _____ Completed RESSON DNP Program application
- _____ Official transcripts from all colleges/universities
- _____ Three (3) current (<1 year) letters of professional/academic reference
At least one reference must be academic in nature
- _____ Advanced Role in Nursing statement
- _____ Resume
- _____ Current license or privilege to practice as a Registered Nurse in Mississippi

(It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the file is complete on or before the deadline of April 1st)

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION UPON ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM

- After being accepted for admission, each student will be required to submit a completed health and immunization form provided by the RESSON, evidence of personal health insurance and malpractice insurance [students enrolled in a nurse practitioner track are required to purchase student nurse practitioner malpractice insurance], and current BLS certification on the DNP orientation date.
- Applicants must comply with Mississippi legislative statues and regulations regarding criminal background checks by having fingerprints taken at an approved health care agency (not a police or sheriff's department) and a criminal background check completed. Any cost of this requirement will be the student's responsibility.
- Applicants who want to receive credit for prior nursing course(s) from another program must submit a request and credit be negotiated before admission to the RESSON and not after the student is enrolled. A copy of the course syllabus is required to be on file in the RESSON.
- Proof of total clinical hours completed while enrolled in an FNP program [**Post Master's FNP students ONLY**]

Revised 09/15