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**

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<td>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.</td>
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<td>A grade of “C” or better in all non-nursing (pre-requisite) support courses</td>
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<td>Complete Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application</td>
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<td>Complete written advanced role in nursing statement as noted in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing DNP Program Application</td>
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<td>Three current (&lt;1 year) letters of professional/academic reference. At least one reference must be academic in nature</td>
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<td>A copy of a current unencumbered registered nurse license to practice in the state in which the student will perform clinical.</td>
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|   | A combined (verbal & quantitative) score $\geq 800$ ($\geq 280$ on new test) and analytical score $\geq 3.5$ 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) Admissions 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