

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Academic and Student Affairs**  
**Consent**

**AGENDA ITEM: 6 – I (1)**  
**DATE: March 29-30, 2022**

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**SUBJECT**

**New Site Request – SDSU Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization – D.N.P. in Nursing (Online)**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[BOR Policy 2:23](#) – Program and Curriculum Approval  
[BOR Policy 2:12](#) – Distance Education

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

South Dakota State University (SDSU) requests approval to offer the Family Nurse Practitioner specialization within the D.N.P. in Nursing online. The request applies to both the B.S.N. to D.N.P. and Post Master’s to D.N.P. options. The program was established in 2009 as a face-to-face program to prepare nurse practitioners. Currently, students attend one of two sites to participate in the lab portion of four classes in the plan of study with the remaining being completed online. Unfortunately, applications and enrollment have declined, in part due to competition in online delivery of nurse practitioner programs. Online delivery is needed to increase competitiveness of the program and to recruit place-bound students both from the region and nationally.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION**

SDSU anticipates six graduates annually for the first four years of the program for the Post Master’s to D.N.P. option. For the B.S.N. to D.N.P. option, 70 enrollments each year are anticipated, with 70 graduates by year four. All courses are currently available online. The university requests no new resources.

Board office staff recommends approval to offer the certificate online.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – New Site Request: SDSU Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization – D.N.P. in Nursing

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**DRAFT MOTION 20220329\_6-I(1):**

I move to approve SDSU’s new site proposal to offer the Family Nurse Practitioner specialization within the D.N.P. in Nursing online.



## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

### New Site Request

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	SDSU
<b>DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:</b>	Nursing (D.N.P.) - Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization (B.S.N. to D.N.P. & Post Master's to D.N.P. options)
<b>NEW SITE(S):</b>	Online
<b>INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:</b>	2022-2023 Academic Year
<b>CIP CODE:</b>	51.3801
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	Nursing
<b>BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:</b>	SNUR
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	Nursing
<b>BANNER DIVISION CODE:</b>	3N

**Please check this box to confirm that:**

- The individual preparing this request has read [AAC Guideline 2:11](#), which pertains to new site requests, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

#### University Approval

*To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the University

12/30/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### 1. What is the need for offering the program at the new physical site or through distance delivery?

South Dakota State University (SDSU) requests authorization to offer Nursing (D.N.P.) Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization (B.S.N. to D.N.P. and Post Master's to D.N.P. options) online. The program was established in 2009 as a face-to-face program to prepare nurse practitioners. Currently, students attend one of two sites to participate in the lab portion of four classes in the plan of study with the remaining being completed online. Unfortunately, applications and enrollment have declined in part due to competition in online delivery of nurse practitioner programs. Online delivery is needed to increase the competitiveness of the program with other online programs and to recruit place-bound students both from the region and nationally. Increasing numbers of universities across the nation are offering nursing practitioner programs online and leveraging advances in technology and online teaching innovations to offer the same curriculum as campus programs.

Most nurse practitioner students are employed part-time or full-time and are often place bound due to proximity to family or other resources. Delivering the program online, with asynchronous and synchronous courses, will allow flexibility so students can complete the program while continuing to maintain employment and complete learning activities/course content at times that are convenient for them. The online approach to delivery is aligned with SDSU’s commitment to excellence and access to affordable education and consistent with the university’s land grant mission.

The University does not request new state resources to deliver the program online.

**2. Are any other Regental universities authorized to offer a similar program at the proposed site(s) or through distance delivery? If “yes,” identify the institutions and programs and explain why authorization is requested.**

No.

**3. Are students enrolling in the program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university? Complete the table below and explain the methodology used in developing the estimates.**

Students who enroll in the program will be new to the university. The online Nursing (D.N.P.) - Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization (B.S.N. to D.N.P. and Post Master’s to D.N.P. options) is expected to attract an average of 76 new students per year.

	Fiscal Years*			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Estimates</i>	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26
<i>Post Master’s to D.N.P. Option</i>				
Students new to the university	6	6	6	6
Students from other university programs	0	0	0	0
=Total students in the program at the site	6	12	18	18
Program credit hours (major courses)**	90	192	288	288
Graduates	0	0	6	6
<i>B.S.N. to D.N.P. Option</i>				
Students new to the university	70	70	70	70
Students from other university programs	0	0	0	0
=Total students in the program at the site	70	140	210	280
Program credit hours (major courses)**	1190	2730	4270	5460
Graduates	0	0	0	70

\*Do not include current fiscal year.

\*\*This is the total number of credit hours generated by students in the program in the required or elective program courses. Use the same numbers in Appendix B – Budget.

**4. What is the perceived impact of this request on existing programs in the Regental system?**

No impact on existing Regental programs is anticipated. Delivering the Nursing (DNP) Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization (B.S.N. to D.N.P. and Post Master’s to D.N.P. options) online is expected to enhance enrollment of students.

**5. Complete the table and explain any special circumstances. Attach a copy of the program as it appears in the current catalog. If there are corresponding program modifications requested, please attach the associated form. Explain the delivery of the new courses and attach any associated new course request forms.**

	Credit hours	Credit hours currently available from this university online	Credit hours currently available from other universities available online	Credit hours currently available online	Credit hours new to this university
<i>Nursing (D.N.P.) - Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization</i>					
<i>Post Master's to D.N.P. Option</i>					
Core Requirements	69	69	0	69	0
Free Electives	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total, Degree with Proposed Major</i>	69	69	0	69	0
<i>B.S.N. to D.N.P. Option</i>					
Core Requirements	78	78	0	78	0
Free Electives	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total, Degree with Proposed Major</i>	78	78	0	78	0

Requirements for the Nursing (D.N.P.) - Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization

Post Master's to D.N.P. Option

\* Students who have not previously completed either NURS 623, NURS 631, or PHA 645 OR equivalent coursework within the previous five years, will be required to complete those courses as part of this program option. All previous coursework will need to be evaluated for equivalency and approved by the Associate Dean for Graduate Nursing in order to be included on the student's Plan of Study.

- HSC 631 - Biostatistics I Credits: 3
- NURS 623 - Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan - Application to Advanced Practice Nursing Credits: 2-4 (4 credits required) \*
- NURS 631 - Advanced Assessment Across the Lifespan Credits: 3 \*
- NURS 631L - Advanced Assessment - Lifespan Clinical Laboratory Credits: 1 \*
- NURS 750 - Transformational Leadership in Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 765 - FNP Integration: Practicum I Credits: 7 (3, 4)
- NURS 768 - FNP Integration: Practicum II Credits: 4
- NURS 771 - FNP Integration: Practicum III Credits: 7 (3, 4)
- NURS 776 - FNP Integration: Practicum IV Credits: 8 (3, 5)
- NURS 780 - Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts Credits: 1
- NURS 781 - Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts Credits: 1
- NURS 835 - Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health Credits: 2
- NURS 850 - Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Care Credits: 3
- NURS 855 - Translational Research in Health Care Credits: 3
- NURS 860 - Health Operations and Financial Management for Nurse Leaders Credits: 3
- NURS 875 - DNP Intensive Credits: 1-9 (3 credits required)
- NURS 880 - DNP Project (COM) Credits: 1-8 (8 credits required)

- PHA 645 - Pharmacotherapeutics Across the Lifespan: Application to Advanced Practice Credits: 2-4 (4 credits required) \*
- PHA 738 - Health Informatics Credits: 1

Total Required Credits: 69 Credits

#### B.S.N. to D.N.P. Option

- HSC 631 - Biostatistics I Credits: 3
- NURS 615 - Foundations of Advanced Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 623 - Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan - Application to Advanced Practice Nursing Credits: 2-4 (4 credits required)
- NURS 631 - Advanced Assessment Across the Lifespan Credits: 3
- NURS 631L - Advanced Assessment - Lifespan Clinical Laboratory Credits: 1
- NURS 670 - Health Policy, Legislation, Economics and Ethics Credits: 3
- NURS 750 - Transformational Leadership in Nursing Credits: 3
- NURS 760 - Advanced Concepts in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Credits: 3
- NURS 765 - FNP Integration: Practicum I Credits: 7 (3, 4)
- NURS 768 - FNP Integration: Practicum II Credits: 4
- NURS 771 - FNP Integration: Practicum III Credits: 7 (3, 4)
- NURS 776 - FNP Integration: Practicum IV Credits: 8 (3, 5)
- NURS 780 - Clinical Genetics and Genomics: Advanced Concepts Credits: 1
- NURS 781 - Clinical Epidemiology: Advanced Concepts Credits: 1
- NURS 835 - Ethical Issues Influencing Practice and Research in Health Credits: 2
- NURS 850 - Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Care Credits: 3
- NURS 855 - Translational Research in Health Care Credits: 3
- NURS 860 - Health Operations and Financial Management for Nurse Leaders Credits: 3
- NURS 875 - DNP Intensive Credits: 1-9 (3 credits required)
- NURS 880 - DNP Project (COM) Credits: 1-8 (8 credits required)
- PHA 645 - Pharmacotherapeutics Across the Lifespan: Application to Advanced Practice Credits: 2-4 (4 credits required)
- PHA 738 - Health Informatics Credits: 1

Total Required Credits: 78 Credits

For additional information, refer to the [Graduate Nursing Department webpage](#).

#### **6. How will the university provide student services comparable to those available for students on the main campus?**

A faculty member will serve as the academic and dissertation advisor to students. Students will only be accepted if there is an advisor available. Faculty-student communication will be conducted using e-mail, phone, Zoom, and other technologies facilitating long-distance communication.

Library support services will be available to students through a variety of means:

- Students can contact librarians for research assistance and online research guides that are available for enrolled students.

- Distance library services include book and article delivery for materials owned by the library. Students may request materials not held by the library through interlibrary loan.
- SDSU students have online access to research databases such as Web of Science, EBSCOhost MegaFILE, PubMed, and JSTOR.
- Students in the College of Nursing also have access to the Wegner Health Sciences Library at the University of South Dakota.

**7. Is this program accredited by a specialized accrediting body? If so, address any program accreditation issues and costs related to offering the program at the new site(s).**

The College of Nursing DNP program is accredited by the Collegiate Commission on Colleges of Nursing (CCNE). SDSU just completed the visit in early 2021 and are awaiting final documentation of approval.

**8. Does the university request any exceptions to Board policy for delivery at the new site(s)? Explain requests for exceptions to Board policy.**

No

**9. Cost, Budget, and Resources related to new courses at the site: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, time redirected from other assignments, instructional technology & software, other operations and maintenance, facilities, etc., needed to implement the proposed minor.**

The College of Nursing does not request new state resources to delivery of the Nursing (D.N.P.) - Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization (B.S.N. to D.N.P. and Post Master's to D.N.P. options) online. Self-support tuition generated from the offerings will adequately fund the program. Because all courses are already being delivered, a budget is not provided. No additional costs or resources are required. Courses will be taught by the faculty at the College of Nursing from all campus sites.