

# Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

## **Description 1 | Overview**

With a national shortage of mental health providers and an ongoing mental health crisis there is no better opportunity to serve your community than starting your graduate education on the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) path here at Oak Point University. Working in a similar capacity to that of a psychiatrist, PMHNPs assist patients' mental health journey across the lifespan by delivering preventative care in the form of identifying health risks, assessing mental health issues, diagnosing and prescribing treatment, and much more.

Expected to act as educators, leaders, consultants, and advocates, PMHNPs help eliminate the stigma associated with mental health by empowering patients with the right tools and effecting change within psychiatric healthcare through education and research.

This program offers two pathways based on the students' current academic standing.

The first is completed as a Master of Science in Nursing, designed for students who hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and have an active Registered Nurse license. This pathway is completed upon a minimum of 46.5 credit hours and 510 clinical hours; coursework can be completed 100% online with 4 in-person labs at the state-of-the-art Oak Brook facility.

The second option, Post-Master Certificate, is for those who already have a Master of Science in Nursing and an active CNP license but want more experience closely tied to a specific career path. A great stepping stone for advanced learning and developing professional skills, this certificate is completed with a minimum of 24.5 credit hours and 510 clinical hours.

Admissions for the MSN + Certificates start: January 9, 2023

## **Description 2 | What you'll learn**

Students with a passion for mental health advocacy will be immersed in an environment that will challenge their patience and knowledge while providing them with a world-class foundation of experience.

With such a dramatic rise in mental health issues, students will be trained to meet the demands of patients from all walks of life. Clinical practice sessions will be held alongside a designated, qualified preceptor to ensure students' are adhering to ethical guidelines and adapting well to a patients' needs.

When guiding patients through their mental health journey, graduates will be asked to manage a range of primary mental health care services. PMHNPs can work in a variety of settings and students will be trained on how to properly assess patients in every situation from inpatient and emergency to the larger, community-based mental-health services.

With these individualized experiences, graduates will leave Oak Point University with the confidence and compassion to provide proper mental health care for their community.

### **Description 3 | Outcomes**

As a PMHNP student you will find your day-to-day education will prepare you for the overwhelming need for your service.

From interpreting diagnostic tests and lab results to formulating treatment plans and providing psychotherapy, many of your courses will cover patient-peer coordination and consultation between psychotherapy and psychopharmacology treatments and analyses.

With such a great need for this service, students will find ample placement across the country in existing networks or clinical placements provided by the institution.