



NURSE PRACTITIONER

What is a Nurse Practitioner?

Nurse practitioners are registered nurses, who have additional training that permits them to provide expanded services in the areas of physical examinations, prescribing medications, medical histories, taking, diagnosing and treating minor acute health problems and performing minor surgical procedures.

Job responsibilities for the Nurse Practitioner include:

- Diagnosing minor acute health problems
- Counselling patients on appropriate medical treatments
- Prescribing appropriate medications and ordering some diagnostic work, e.g., laboratory work and x-rays.
- Interpreting diagnostic studies, for instance, laboratory work and x-rays
- Participating in the development of health promotion programs
- Illness and injury prevention
- Active participation in community development, especially in remote or rural areas
- Performing minor surgical procedures

A Career as a Nurse Practitioner requires:

- Excellent communication skills
- A high degree of responsibility, accountability and organization
- Good judgment
- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Desire to help people
- Ability to act calm in emergency situations
- Ability to work collaboratively with physicians and other health care professionals

How do you become a Nurse Practitioner?

To obtain initial licensing in the RN(NP) category, a RN must:

- Be a member in good standing
- Be currently licensed as an RN
- Have practiced 4500 hours as an RN
- Have completed a nurse practitioner education program approved or recognized by SRNA council or have satisfactorily completed a demonstration of nurse practitioner competencies approved or recognized by SRNA council (Competence Assessment Process, CAP).

Where can you be trained to be a Nurse Practitioner?

Saskatchewan

SIASST Wascana Campus
Continuing Nursing Education Programs
Basic Critical Care, Gerontological Nursing,
Perioperative Nursing,
Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
Program Head: Yvonne Warnes
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Alberta

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Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2G3

Nova Scotia

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B3H 3J5
Tel: (902)494-2535
Fax: (902)494-3487
Toll Free: 1-800-500-0912
Email: nursing@dal.ca

What do you need to get into a Nurse Practitioner training program?

At SIASST the admission requirements for an Advanced Certificate in Primary Care Nursing Practitioner is that a RN must:

- Be a member in good standing
 - Be currently licensed as an RN
 - Have practiced 4500 hours as an RN
 - Have a Certificate in Basic Life support- C (BLS-C) and a requirement to have/obtain a basic trauma Life Support – Advanced (BTLS) Certificate or Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC) before the clinical portion of the program.
 - Demonstrate medical fitness including current immunization prior to participating in the clinical experience.
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What does a Nurse Practitioner study?

An Advanced Certificate in Primary Nursing practitioner typically includes:

- Foundations of Advanced Nursing practice
- Health Assessment
- Clinical assessment and Interventions
- Child Health
- Women's Health and the newborn
- Clinical Drug therapy
- Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics
- Seminars
- Clinical component

What is the salary of a Nurse Practitioner?

Nurse Practitioners pay scales are part of the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses/SAHO Collective Agreement:
<http://www.sun-nurses.sk.ca>

Related Links

For further information, visit Saskatchewan Health's Web site at <http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/>

Please check the Saskatchewan Health Bursary webpage for information about bursaries for health science students: http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/hhrp_bursaries.html