The St. David’s School of Nursing at Texas State University will provide supportive and creative educational programs, which inspire those who teach and those who learn, based on mutual respect and a commitment to contribute to the health of individuals, families, populations, communities, and the environment worldwide.

**Mission**

The St. David’s School of Nursing at Texas State University educates and prepares graduates, using innovative teaching strategies and state-of-the-art technology. Graduates provide ethical, safe, and effective, patient-centered care and contribute to present and emerging research and health management practices. Graduates demonstrate competencies in clinical judgement, collaborate as members and leaders of interprofessional healthcare teams, and utilize scientifically based interventions. As caring professional nurses, graduates manage illness; promote, maintain, and restore health; and provide end-of-life care for diverse individuals, families, populations, and global communities across the lifespan.

The Graduate College offers three master’s level nursing programs: Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN-FNP), Master of Science in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (MSN-PMHNP), and Master of Science in Nursing Leadership and Administration (MSN-LAN). A Post Master’s certificate track for PMHNP is also available. Courses in the MSN programs are delivered in a hybrid format, with didactic courses taught online and practicum hours completed with preceptors at clinical sites in Texas with faculty support and oversight. On campus time is required for the purposes of assessment and reinforcement of concepts over the course of the program. Graduates of the programs are prepared to pursue clinical excellence and certifications by the specialty certifying bodies. MSN-FNP and MSN-PMHNP graduates are eligible for licensure as an Advance Practice Registered Nurse upon completion of the program and passing of a national certification exam. The MSN-FNP graduates may apply to take one of the two credentialing exams (i.e., American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)). Currently, the MSN-PMHNP graduates may apply to take the credentialing exam through ANCC. The MSN-LAN graduates may apply for certification as Nurse Executive through ANCC or the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE). The graduate programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

**Academic Progression**

Students enrolled in the MSN program are required to earn a grade of at least 80% (B or higher) in all courses in the MSN curriculum. Graduate nursing courses are offered in a lock-step sequence for part-time sand full-time options. Students must be enrolled in all scheduled nursing courses each semester based on the appropriate degree plan for the program track admitted to. Each course will be offered only once each academic year; therefore, progress in the program will be delayed if the student fails (C or lower) or drops/withdraws from a course. A student may repeat or withdraw from one nursing course only one time during the duration of the program.

**Graduation**

To graduate with a Master of Science in Nursing, a student must successfully complete all graduate nursing courses and requirements and maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA in the graduate nursing program.

**Immunization and Basic Life Support**

It is a policy of the College of Health Professions that each student must complete a Health Certificate and Immunization Test Form. These forms must be signed by a physician or licensed healthcare provider (APRN or PA). Students must stay current on immunizations and Basic Life Support for Healthcare Professionals. Graduate students who fail to keep their clinical requirements (immunizations, CPR, etc.) up to date will not be permitted to attend class or clinical, resulting in a student unable to meet course requirements and failure of the course.

**Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen**

MSN students must successfully pass a criminal background check as well as a drug screen prior to admission. A valid social security number is required by the St. David’s School of Nursing’s clinical partners for the background check administered through a third-party vendor. All graduate nursing students are subject to random or for cause drug screens.

**Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)**

- Major in Family Nurse Practitioner ([http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/family-nurse-practitioner-msn/](http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/family-nurse-practitioner-msn/))
- Major in Leadership and Administration in Nursing ([http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/leadershipandadminnursing-msn/](http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/leadershipandadminnursing-msn/))
- Major in Leadership and Administration in Nursing (RN to B.S.N. to M.S.N. Concentration) ([http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/leadershipandadminnursing-rn-bsn-msn/](http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/leadershipandadminnursing-rn-bsn-msn/))
- Major in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner ([http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/psychiatricmentalhealth-msn/](http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/psychiatricmentalhealth-msn/))

**Certificates**

- Graduate Certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner ([http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/psychsch-mental-health-cert/](http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/health-professions/st-davids-nursing/psychsch-mental-health-cert/))