

Claflin University- Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

– FAQs



When is the deadline to apply?

Applications are accepted once per year for FNP Track and twice per year for Nurse Leader Track:

- **Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)**
- **Fall Start** — Deadline: **July 1**
- **Nurse Leader Track**
- **Spring and Fall Start** — Deadline: **September 1st For Spring and July 1st for Fall**

When will applicants be notified of admission decisions?

Applications are reviewed after each deadline, and admission notifications are sent by:

- **Fall** applicants: no later than **July 31**
- **Spring** applicants: no later than **September 30**

This applies to all applicants regardless of decision outcome.

Is there an early decision option?

No. All applicants who meet the published deadline receive equal consideration in the holistic review process.

How do I apply?

Apply online using the **Graduate Application Portal**:

<https://apply.claflin.edu>

- New applicants: create an account.

Do previous Claflin nursing graduates need to resend transcripts?

- **No**, if you have **not** attended any colleges/universities after completing your BSN at Claflin.
- **Yes**, if you completed coursework elsewhere after your BSN.

Where do I send transcripts?

Only **official transcripts** are accepted to finalize course transfers. Unofficial transcripts are accepted through the application portal for preliminary review.

Official transcripts may be: - Electronically sent **directly** from the institution - Sent via official transcript services (Parchment, National Student Clearinghouse) –

Mailed to:

Nursing Department

400 Magnolia Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115

Emailed to: nursing@claflin.edu

Tip: If you are near the deadline when requesting official transcripts, you may upload unofficial transcripts to the application portal before the deadline.

Do I still email reference letters or upload them?

Applicants now upload to the Claflin University application portal:

- 2 professional letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- CV (employment history from the past 5 years)
- Unencumbered RN license and BLS certification
- Unofficial transcripts

All documents can now be uploaded directly through the application portal.

Are scholarships or loan repayment programs available?

While there are no internal graduate nursing scholarships at this time, applicants may explore:

- National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Programs
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment & Recovery Loan Repayment Program
- Faculty Loan Repayment Program
- United Negro College Fund (UNCF)
- Federal financial aid (student loans)

What is the current tuition?

Tuition rates are updated annually. Each year in March the Board of Trustees meet to determine tuition adjustments. Current master's level tuition is \$562/credit hour plus technology and FNP fees (as applicable). See Tuition and Fees page for the most current rates.

Do I need a BSN to enter the program?

Yes. Applicants must hold a **BSN** from an accredited program and meet all admission criteria.

Admission Requirements

1. Completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee.
2. Possession of a four-year US (or equivalent) Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing degree with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA from an accredited college or university with national nursing accreditation
3. Official transcripts of all previous academic work attempted beyond high school. Transfer credit posted on the records of other institutions is unacceptable and official transcripts of these credits must be supplied.
4. Official copies of Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for International Students. A score of 80 or higher (550 or higher prior to 2007) will be required.
5. Two letters of recommendation from former professors/ instructors or professionals qualified to comment on the applicant's graduate study potential. (i.e. past or present employers and/or past faculty members).
6. A 300-500-word personal statement describing the applicant's objective in undertaking graduate study.
7. A current resume or Curricula Vitae (CV).
8. Verification of unencumbered RN licensure and BLS certification

How long is the program?

The MSN program is 18-24 months depending on the student's track.

Is the program online?

Didactic course content will be delivered online, however the FNP program has intensives that require students to come to campus once per semester. These dates will be published early so that students can arrange work schedule and local accommodation needs.

Is the MSN program accredited?

The BSN and MSN programs at Claflin University are both accredited by CCNE.

When does the program start?

- **FNP** cohorts begin **each Fall**
- **Nurse Leader** cohorts begin **each Spring and Fall**

How often are students admitted?

- FNP: Fall annually
- Nurse Leader: Spring and Fall annually

Where can I review program requirements?

Do I need the GRE?

No. A GRE is not required. Claflin is implementing a holistic admission process that looks beyond a test score.

What is the difference between MSN vs. FNP?

Claflin University is offering the Master of Science (MSN) degree. The Family Nurse Practitioner track and Nurse Leader tracks are programs within the Master of Science in Nursing program. All students who graduate, regardless of track, are awarded a Master of Science in Nursing.

Are part-time options available?

At this time, only a **full-time** option is offered. Currently there is only a fulltime option that includes about 6- 9 credit hours per semester. As we grow, we anticipate being able to admit more students in different options.

Do I have to find my own preceptor?

Yes. Securing clinical sites will be the responsibility of the student. However, we have a database of potential preceptors through our Typhon system to support students in securing a preceptor. We are continually adding to this database of potential preceptors. Once enrolled, students should carefully read course requirements for clinical placement before selecting a preceptor. FNP students will not have clinical in their first semester.

Is work experience required?

While, there is not a prescribed number of clinical hours for admission to the program, admission is a competitive process. Academic performance, work experience (type and length), essay, resume, and letters of reference will all be integrated into a holistic decision for admission.

How do I pay the application fee?

The application fee is \$50.00. You can pay it online if you have a student ID number and pin (i.e. former student) or you may contact the Cashier's office to pay at 803-535-5131. Follow this link to Pay application fee online. <https://my.claflin.edu/ICS/>

Where can I get help with questions not on this sheet?

Please email: nursing@claflin.edu or dmoorer@claflin.edu

This inbox ensures your message is appropriately routed.
Please avoid emailing individual faculty to prevent delays.