



Mount St. Joseph University Post Licensure MSN and DNP Programs **FAQs**

Why choose the MSN and DNP programs at MSJ?

First and foremost, because we care deeply about our product - the education and support we provide - and that is seen in our courses, faculty communication, advising, and support services offered at MSJ. We live our Mission. We are accredited by AACN and obtained the highest accreditation possible in 2019, gaining 10-year accreditation. We will provide you with the tools, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out a successful MSN or DNP project and thus, practice at the highest level in nursing.

What is the format of the MSN and DNP programs?

The MSN and DNP programs at MSJ are considered blended online. This means there is a blend of asynchronous and synchronous learning throughout the programs. Synchronous learning occurs in “real-time”, while asynchronous learning occurs in the student’s own time throughout each week in the course. For the DNP program, the synchronous learning occurs on Week 1 and Week 10 of every course. For the MSN program, the synchronous learning occurs on Week 1, Week 5, and Week 10 of every course. The synchronous learning consists of 2-hour meetings led by course faculty to review course expectations, present material, answer questions in real time, and solicit student engagement. The remaining learning occurs asynchronously online with various activities such as discussion boards, paper writing, presentation development, project implementation, case studies, and program evaluation.

Where do the synchronous meetings occur?

The synchronous meetings occur on-campus in Cincinnati, Ohio and via Zoom at the same time. Students have the choice to attend the meetings on-campus or via Zoom. The course faculty is present on-campus during the meeting and cast the meeting via Zoom as well. If you’re a student who prefers face-to-face learning or a student who prefers the flexibility of Zoom, both are available to you!

How long is the program?

Both the MSN and DNP programs are 6-semester programs. Both programs feature two 10-week long courses taken each semester. Students are in session from early September through mid-November and again from early February through mid-April. Therefore, students are **off** from mid-November through early February and again from mid-April through early September. These breaks are much needed for the primarily full-time working nurses that comprise our student body.

What is the advantage of obtaining your DNP with MSJ after you’ve already completed your MSN with MSJ?

You have already taken 4 courses that count towards your DNP, making your DNP 4 semesters instead of the usual 6 semesters. Therefore, you can complete the DNP program in as little as 1 year and 8 months, still with summers **off** and still with a winter break between mid-November to early February. All courses follow the same exact pattern as you experienced in your MSN: 10-week courses, two synchronous meetings, practicum hours flexible with your personal schedule.

More questions? Please contact:

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