



Central to Embracing Compassion.

Central's Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is built on a foundation of advanced clinical knowledge, evidence-based practice, and the humanistic core of nursing. It offers two specialized tracks: Nursing Education and Hospice and Palliative Care. The Nursing Education track prepares students for the nurse educator role in academic and clinical settings. The Hospice and Palliative Care track prepares students to take leadership roles in the delivery of active, holistic therapies to end-of-life and chronic care patients. Both tracks are designed to empower nurses as leaders, educators, and advocates in today's evolving healthcare landscape.

**Nursing Education track:** Combines core advanced nursing practice coursework with specialized courses focusing on curriculum development and the role of the nurse educator in clinical and classroom settings. Students gain the skills to shape the future of nursing by mentoring, teaching, and inspiring the next generation of healthcare professionals.

**Hospice and Palliative Care (HPC) track:** Combines core advanced nursing practice coursework with specialized courses focusing on current trends and integrative health for HPC. Students gain skills in holistic, person-centered care and learn to support patients and families through chronic illness and end-of-life experiences with dignity, empathy, and clinical excellence.

### Program Features

- Starts every August
- 40-credit program
- Attend part-time
- 100% online
- Doctoral prepared faculty with real world experience
- A supportive environment for students with the challenges of work/school/family responsibilities
- Virtual simulation
- Dedicated Program Coordinator
- Individual 1:1 advising
- Financial aid and scholarships are available
- No GMAT/GRE required
- Degree can be completed in 18 months
- Fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) through 2034



### What You'll Gain

#### Nursing Education

- Ability to apply nursing theories within the functional roles of the master's prepared Nurse Educator
- Skills to synthesize general pedagogical, educational, and nursing specific concepts to influence nurse educators' practice as a teacher
- Capacity to prepare students to provide leadership within nursing, academia, and health care delivery systems to improve the safe client care provided by BSN graduates
- Skills to conduct research which will contribute to the development of the nursing profession and nursing education
- Ability to participate in lifelong learning and professional growth through continuing education, specialty certification, and /or doctoral study in nursing

#### Hospice and Palliative Care

- Ability to use appropriate theories from nursing and related fields to respond to emerging health care challenges
- Knowledge to apply ethical analysis and clinical reasoning to assess, intervene, and evaluate advanced nursing care delivery
- Understanding of how to influence health care policy for the purpose of advocating for clients and community
- Skills to use quality processes and improvement science to evaluate care and ensure patient safety for individuals and communities
- Tools to synthesize evidence for practice to determine appropriate application of interventions across all populations affected by end-of-life and chronic care
- Ability to incorporate global nursing knowledge, attitudes, and skills in planning, implementing, and evaluating hospice and palliative care practice
- Skills to integrate inter-professional collaboration and informatics to make changes in the hospice and palliative care environment to improve delivery of care
- Capability to develop leadership skills and integrate scholarship into nursing practice through participation in praxis course Meet the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials for Master's Education in Nursing



PROGRAM WEBSITE



The baccalaureate degree program in nursing and the master's degree program in nursing at Central Connecticut State University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [ccneaccreditation.org](http://ccneaccreditation.org).

### Applying for Admission

**For consideration, applicants must submit the following:**

1. A completed online application with supplemental materials ([ccsu.edu/apply](http://ccsu.edu/apply)):
  - Copy of Active Registered Nurses License
  - Essay describing personal and professional goals
  - Two letters of reference (one from a nursing employer, current preferred)
  - \$50 application fee
2. Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from a regionally accredited institution of higher education with: GPA of 2.70 or higher
  - Bachelor of Science degree with an overall GPA of 2.7 (B-) or above
  - A GPA of 3.0 (B) or above on all post-baccalaureate coursework
  - Grade of 2.3 (C+) or higher in undergraduate statistics
  - Applicants with an undergraduate GPA between 2.50 and 2.69 may be admitted on a conditional basis

**Official transcripts may be sent directly to the Graduate Recruitment & Admissions Office:**

**By Mail:** Central Connecticut State University  
Graduate Recruitment & Admissions Office  
1615 Stanley Street  
Davidson Hall 116  
New Britain, CT 06050

**By Email:** [graduateadmissions@ccsu.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@ccsu.edu)

I believe nursing changes continuously and it is important to remain current. This MSN gave me hope that I could be a stronger voice for hospice and palliative care. This degree is a way for me to continue to work in the specialty I adore. I am motivated to educate the community and to improve care and quality of life.

— Linda Spinetti, MSN '19



#### ABOUT CENTRAL:

Central Connecticut State University is the largest university within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system. Founded in 1849, Central is also the state's oldest publicly funded university. Our campus is located in New Britain, Connecticut. Central is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).