

SUBJECT:	Graduation Requirements
REVIEWED/REVISED:	07/2015, 3/2021
PURPOSE:	This policy outlines programmatic specific guidelines for students to ensure that he/she is able to satisfy all graduation requirements prior to the graduation ceremony in order to be eligible for the conferring of their degree and ceremony attendance.
POLICY OWNER:	Vice President, Academic Affairs

POLICY:

NMC retains the exclusive right to judge academic proficiency and may decline to award any degree, certificate or other evidence of successful completion of a program, curriculum or course of study based thereupon. All College and Program requirements must be satisfied prior to commencement in order to participate in the ceremony.

Certificate Programs

Successful completion of Certificate Programs includes student compliance with program and College policies. Students must also satisfy all classroom, laboratory, clinical, and examination requirements. Students must also complete appropriate clinical requirements.

Undergraduate

Undergraduate study comprises two areas: arts and sciences and professional/technical education requirements. Students are expected to assume responsibility for understanding the requirements of the program and for seeking appropriate assistance to do so. Students must complete the arts and sciences and professional education requirements described in the program section of this catalog.

Students should expect to fulfill the requirements for the program under which the initial enrollment occurred. However, students taking longer than six (6) academic years to meet the requirements of a baccalaureate or three (3) academic years of an associate program of study may be required to meet curriculum changes and/or modifications regardless of the coursework previously completed.

Graduation is dependent upon a student attaining a "C" (2.0) minimum cumulative grade point average for the required course of study. A minimum grade of "C" (2.0) must be attained for each course. Additionally, the student must satisfactorily complete all requirements for the Student Portfolio Assessment in order to graduate.

The minimum credit hours required per program are as follows:

Program	Minimum Credit Hours
AS Diagnostic Medical Sonography - Multispecialty	76
AS Diagnostic Medical Sonography - Cardiovascular	72
AS Health Studies	61
AS Physical Therapist Assistant	75
AS Radiologic Technology	80
AS Respiratory Care	79
AS Surgical Technology	62
BSN Nursing	127
BSN Accelerated Nursing	124
BS Health Studies	120
BS Healthcare Administration	123
BS Respiratory Care	124
BS Imaging Sciences	119
BS Women's Medical Imaging	124

Graduate

The following graduation requirements apply to the NMC Master's Degree Programs:

- Students in the NMC Master's Programs must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 to graduate.
- Graduate students in MBH, Family Nurse Practitioner, Health Promotion Management and Nursing are allowed to incur a grade below "B" in no more than one course. In the MSN Program, students are not allowed to incur a grade below "B" in NRS 523, NRS 524, NRS 558, NRS 559, NRS 592 or NRS 594. In the Healthcare Operations Management program, students are allowed to incur a grade below "B" in no more than two courses.

- Students must complete the minimum number of credit hours required for the program in which they are enrolled.
- All work for the Master's degree must be completed within six calendar years from the date of credit for the first graduate course in the program.

Program	Minimum Credit Hours
BSN-DNP (Family Nurse Practitioner)	75
APRN-DNP (Advanced Nursing Practice)	34
MS Health Promotion Management	33
MS Healthcare Operations Management	32
MSN Nursing	36
Master in Business Administration	33
Post-Master's Certificate, Healthcare Operations Management	10
Certificate, Wellness & Health Promotion	9

Residency Requirement

Undergraduate students must complete 30 of the last 36 hours in residence to receive a baccalaureate degree.

Students must complete 15 of the last 18 credit hours in residence to receive an associate's degree. One exception to this policy is for those who graduated with a 12-month certificate from NMC and return to the College having not attended an institution of higher learning in between earning the certificate and returning to complete an associate of science degree in health studies. For these students, a minimum of 9 out of 21 arts and sciences credits must be taken at NMC.

Graduate students may transfer in a maximum of nine credits toward their master's degree.

Students in graduate-level certificate programs must complete the prescribed plan of study in residence to receive the certificate of completion for the program.

Doctorate students in the BSN-DNP (Family Nurse Practitioner) program may transfer in a maximum of 18 credits, and students in the APRN-DNP (Advanced Nursing Practice) program may transfer in a maximum of six credits.

Exceptions to the residency requirement can be made in extenuating circumstances but require the approval of the Academic Dean.

Graduation Application

All students (certificate and degree-seeking) must submit an application for graduation. This will initiate a degree audit to ensure that the student is on track to complete all required coursework. Graduation applications are due:

- Fall graduation: due by May 15th
- Spring graduation: due by October 15th
- Summer graduation: due by February 15th

The Registrar's Office will audit the student's academic record to ensure compliance with graduation requirements. If all degree requirements are not completed by the anticipated graduation date, the student must resubmit a graduation application in a later term.

Licensure and Certification

While the academic programs described herein are designed for the purpose of qualifying students for licensure, certification or registration in a profession, successful completion of any such program in no way assures licensure or certification by another agency. For specific programs, certification examinations are a program requirement for graduation. (See specific program handbooks.)