

The University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing has extended its deadline to March 1 for applications to its master's degree program for nurse practitioner specialties.

The nurse practitioner tracks include pediatric, geriatric, family, adult health, mental health, and women's health.

The programs are targeted toward practicing nurses with bachelor's degrees in nursing who want to earn a master's degree in a nurse practitioner specialty.

Nurse practitioners diagnose, treat, prescribe medication and manage patients with acute and chronic illnesses. They educate patients in health promotion and disease prevention, and in the coming years are expected to play a key role in helping to solve the nation's shortage of primary care physicians.

With master's degrees in nursing and advanced clinical experience, nurse practitioners practice in a variety of settings and also are employed in academia.

For more information on nurse practitioner specialties, go online at www.unmc.edu/nursing, call 1-800-626-8431, or e-mail Dani Eveloff at develoff@unmc.edu.