

**California State University,  
Fresno  
Doctor of Nursing Practice**

**MENTOR INFORMATION**



Dear Mentors,

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a mentor for a California State University, Fresno, Doctor of Nursing Practice student. Your role as mentor is to assist the student in identifying professional development experiences and encourage practice associations that enhance their educational experience during their practicum.

For accreditation, we are required to obtain and keep a copy of your current CV. Please send a copy to your student, they will forward it to their program advisor.

Thank you for your gracious commitment to support the practicum experience. Without the generosity and time of professionals such as yourself, this program could not be offered.

Respectively,  
Kathi Rindahl, DNP Program Director.

Within this document you will find specific information about the mentor role.

- Contact information for the program advisor. If you have any questions or for any reason you would like to contact the DNP advisor for clarification, please feel free to do so.
- The DNP's mission statement, program outcomes, and student learning outcomes.
- Information regarding mentor role, practicum hours, and work setting, as well as serving on the project committee.
- A visual representation of the resources available to all DNP students.
- All mentors will be required to attend a Virtual Orientation that will be scheduled at the end of the DNP student's first semester in the program.
- A Mentor Evaluation of Student. The Mentor Evaluation of Student is included in this packet. Please complete at the end of your experience with the student. After you have completed the form, email a copy to the student's program advisor. Program advisor contact information will be provided by the student.
- Students will complete a Student Evaluation of Mentor form. The Student Evaluation of Mentor form is included in this packet.

## DNP Program Contact Information

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## **MISSION**

The mission of the DNP program is to prepare promising nursing leaders, advance practice clinicians, and nursing faculty with high leadership potential to examine critically current healthcare practices and policies from a broad theoretical and practical perspective; and to formulate clinical, administrative, and instructionally effective leadership approaches that can improve the quality of healthcare throughout the state.

## **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

The goal of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program is to prepare nurses for advanced practice roles, as clinical scholars, and as health policy leaders. Program outcomes have been identified as preparing graduates to provide safe, effective, and efficient care within the scope of advanced nursing practice.

The following outcomes have been identified as preparing graduates to:

1. Provide safe, effective, and efficient care within the scope of advanced nursing practice.
2. Develop effective strategies to ensure the safety of patients and populations.
3. Critically analyze literature and develop best practices.
4. Translate research into clinical practice.
5. Measure patient outcomes.
6. Design, implement, and evaluate quality improvement measures.
7. Analyze the cost-effectiveness of practice initiatives.
8. Evaluate information systems and patient care technology.
9. Influence health care policy, educate others about health disparities, and advocate for social justice.
10. Demonstrate leadership skills to ensure patient outcomes, enhance communication, and create change in healthcare.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Student Learning Outcomes are taken directly from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's *The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice* (2006). The eight overarching essentials form the core concepts for the DNP program and are threaded throughout the coursework.

The eight Essentials include:

- I. Scientific Underpinnings for Practice
- II. Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and System Thinking
- III. Clinical Scholarship and Analytical Methods for Evidence-Based Practice
- IV. Information Systems/Technology and Patient Care Technology for the Improvement and Transformation of Health Care
- V. Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health Care
- VI. Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes
- VII. Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation's Health
- VIII. Advanced Nursing Practice

## **ADVISING & MENTORING**

The advising and mentoring component of the DNP program is designed to provide an array of professional development opportunities. Each student is assigned a program advisor at the start of the program. The program advisor assists the student in selecting a project chair, along with two other committee members. The student selects a practicum mentor with the approval of the program advisor. Advisors and mentors assist the student in identifying professional development experiences and professional associations / networks to enhance their success in the program.

The role of the program advisor, project chair and practicum mentor are to:

- a) promote a well-planned and efficient DNP course of study that can be completed within five semesters by a working professional;
- b) provide guidance and information that foster academic and professional development;
- c) assist a student as the individual applies knowledge gained through coursework toward improving nursing practice and client outcomes;
- d) advocate on behalf of the student and their academic needs;
- e) create a doctoral culture typified by
  1. scholarly discussion and dialogue that foster critical inquiry and clinical reasoning;
  2. expert supervision of a DNP candidate in the conduct of a doctoral project.
  3. fostering informal assessment and feedback designed to enhance student reflection on their doctoral role in advanced nursing practice.

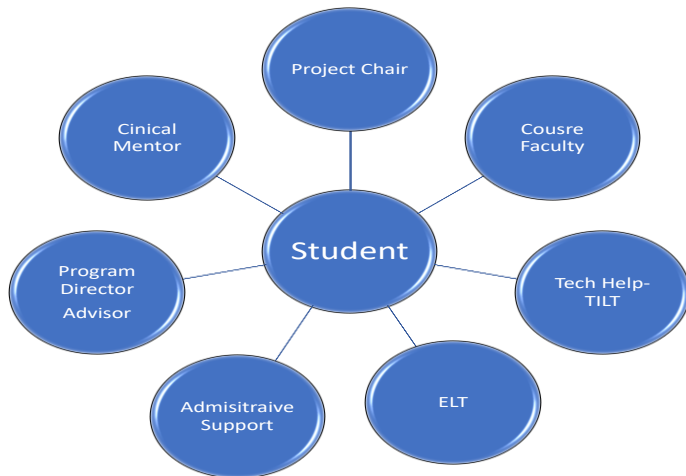


Figure 1. Director / Advisor / Mentor / Student Relationship

## **MENTOR**

Each student selects, with the input of their program advisor, a mentor for their practicum experience. The mentor must be an expert in the area in which the students wishes to develop proficiency. The practicum mentor is not necessarily a DNP prepared advanced practice nurse. The mentor, in conjunction with the program advisor, serves as overseer, advocate, and coordinator of activities in the healthcare setting. Students may have more than one mentor. The mentor submits a resume or curriculum vitae for review of appropriate qualifications.

Examples of individuals who may assume a clinical mentor position include:

- An advanced practice nurse or other professional with a doctoral degree;
- An advanced practice nurse with considerable experience and recognition as an expert in a particular clinical field;
- An MD with specialized training and experience;
- A nurse with a high level administrative position such as a Director, Vice President, President, or CEO within a health care organization;
- A doctoral-prepared nurse educator;
- A nurse with an advanced business or other degree, etc.
- Any health care professional with a Master's degree, who holds a health care leadership role and approved by the DNP Director.

The clinical mentor must hold a position in an organization where the individual can facilitate the DNP student's access to clinical services, organizational information, decision makers, and other personnel in order to meet the DNP student's clinical experience objectives and implement the Doctoral Project (if applicable) during the practicum within the organization.

The line between current employment, practicum hours, and project must be clear to the organization, the mentor, the faculty, the DNP Project Committee (as applicable) and the DNP student.

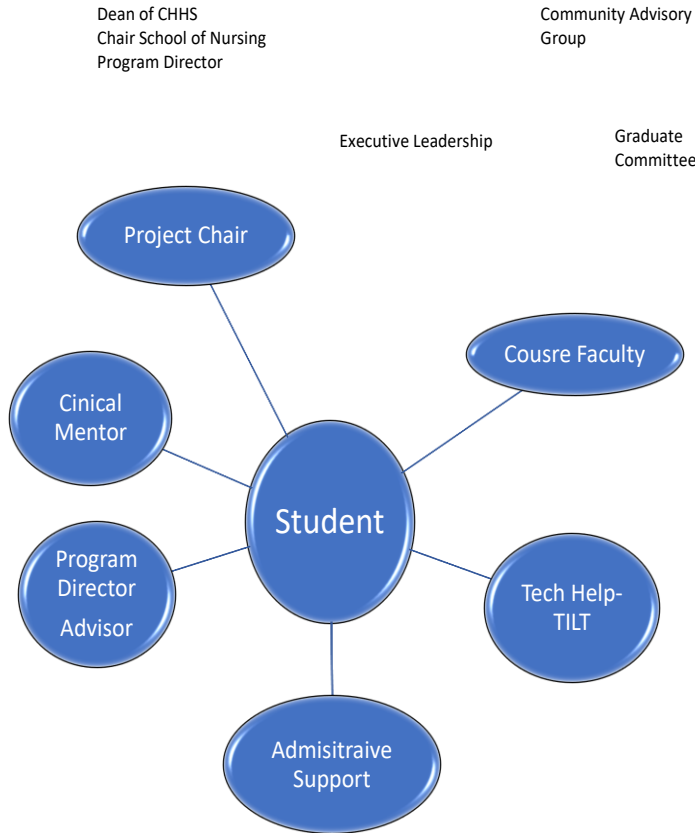


Figure 2. Mentoring and resources available to all DNP students

### **MENTOR Review Form**

The mentor review form should not be considered this a grading tool. It is reasonable that all of the identified competencies will not be achieved during the semester. It is used primarily as a guide for the faculty to improve a student's course of study.

The form should be filled out and emailed to the student's program advisor (the student is to provide contact information) at the end of each semester. The DNP advisor will forward the form to the DNP Fresno State Office to be placed in the student's file.

Your input is important to the evaluation of outcomes and should be considered a formative review.

Thank-you again for your time and input



## Mentor Evaluation of Student

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor Name / Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Practicum Site \_\_\_\_\_

### **Legend**

- CI** Consistently Met/Independently  
**C** Consistently Met/with minimal direction  
**S** Sometimes Met/further exposure of this competency needed  
**NA** Not Applicable to this practicum experience

No.	Competencies / Behaviors	Letter/s (See above)
1	Provide safe, effective, and efficient care within the scope of advanced nursing practice.	
2	Develop effective strategies to ensure the safety of patients and populations.	
3	Critically analyze literature and develop best practices.	
4	Translate research into clinical practice.	
5	Measure patient outcomes.	
6	Design, implement, and evaluate quality improvement measures.	
7	Analyze the cost-effectiveness of practice initiatives.	
8	Evaluate information systems and patient care technology.	
9	Influence health care policy, educate others about health disparities, and advocate for social justice.	
10	Demonstrate leadership skills to ensure patient outcomes, enhance communication, and create change in healthcare	

**Reminder: The form should be filled out and emailed to the student's program advisor (student is to provide contact information) at the end of each semester.**

### Student Evaluation of Mentor

Spring  Summer  Fall  Spring

<b>Student Name:</b>	<b>Frequency or Total Hours Estimated:</b>
<b>Mentor Name:</b> <i>(First, Last, Title)</i>	<b>Site Location:</b>
<b>Area of Specialty:</b>	

#### Regarding meeting the DNP practicum essentials

**Please rate each of the following statements.**

**4 = Good 3 = Average 2 = Fair 1 = Poor**

	4	3	2	1
1. Your mentor facilitates practicum experiences				
2. Your mentor facilitates experiences to meet the DNP Essentials				
3. Your mentor provides opportunities for you to improve nursing practice and/or patient outcomes				

#### Mentor's Leadership Attributes

**Please rate each of the following statements.**

**4 = Good 3 = Average 2 = Fair 1 = Poor**

	4	3	2	1
4. Mentor's ethics				
5. Mentor's ability to work with peers				
6. Mentor's communications skills				
7. Mentor's leadership skills				

**Comments:**