

**Quality Indicators for Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Programs**  
(Source: the 2006 report of the DNP Road Map Task Force for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing—see [www.aacn.nche.org](http://www.aacn.nche.org))

This guide may help you to assess the quality of this DNP program and others you may be considering. This program is built around these quality indicators.

The program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or is in the process of becoming accredited.

Faculty who teach in DNP programs have:

- an active faculty practice focused on improving healthcare outcomes
- senior leadership experience
- a network of leadership influence
- a high level of expertise in an area of clinical practice
- demonstrate a commitment to practice innovation

Clinical practice experiences (totaling 1000 hours post-BSN) provide:

- experienced clinicians as preceptors and faculty
- opportunities for translation and application of research findings in practice settings
- opportunity to develop DNP competencies as defined by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2006)

The program provides:

- a demonstrated commitment to practice partnerships
- coursework and learning experiences that develop doctoral level skill sets in defined areas, including the DNP Essential competencies and other relevant competencies (such as the nurse executive competencies defined by the American Organization of Nurse Executives)
- additional courses to develop nurse educator skills if desired
- interdisciplinary faculty and educational experiences
- courses that prepare the graduate for national certification in a specialty area of practice
- encouragement for practice-focused scholarship
- significant emphasis within the curriculum on the development of population-focused care models and health policy initiatives
- teaching positions and other forms of financial support while in the DNP program
- opportunities for various stakeholders, including students, graduates, and employers, to have input into the development and refinement of the curriculum

Feel free to contact the Waynesburg University DNP Program Director, Dr. Lynette Jack, if you wish to discuss these indicators and how the Waynesburg program meets them.