



## Admissions, Enrollment, and Graduation Trends in Advanced Practice Nursing Education Programs

# 2013

This update presents data for the 25 schools offering advanced nursing education programs leading to Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) licensure in Texas during the 2013 reporting year. These schools represent 31 programs:

- 4 Nurse Anesthetist programs,
- 2 Nurse Midwife programs,
- 21 Nurse Practitioner programs, and
- 4 Clinical Nurse Specialist programs.

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) collected data in the 2013 Board of Nursing's (BON) Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) that was available online as of October 1, 2013. The reporting period was academic year (AY) 2012-2013 (September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013) unless otherwise noted. TCNWS collaborated with the BON in the design and dissemination of the survey.

### Qualified Applications for APRN Programs

Table 1 lists data on qualified applications and admissions to all 31 APRN programs.

- Qualified applications were those that met all criteria for admission at the school to which they were submitted.
- Nurse Practitioner programs had the highest percentage of qualified applications not offered admission with 40.3% not admitted. Nurse Practitioner programs had the highest number of applicants and admission offers, perhaps because there are considerably more NP programs.
- Two Nurse Midwife programs, 4 Nurse Practitioner programs, and 2 Clinical Nurse Specialist programs offered admission to all qualified applicants.

Table 1. Qualified Applications, Admissions & Qualified Applications Not Admitted, 2013

Program Type	Enrollment Capacity	Qualified Applications	Offered Admission	Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission
Nurse Anesthetist	282	405	254	151 (37.3%)
Nurse-Midwife	30	21	21	0 (0%)
Nurse Practitioner	2,145	3,394	2,026	1,368 (40.3%)
Clinical Nurse Specialist	39	56	37	19 (33.9%)
Total	2,496	3,876	2,338	1,538 (39.7%)

Table 2 lists data on qualified applications and admissions from AY 2010-2011 through AY 2012-2013.

- The total enrollment capacity, based on the standards set by individual programs, increased by 563 enrollment spaces (29.1% increase) from AY 2011-2012 to AY 2012-2013.
- From 2012 to 2013, there was a 2.7% decrease in the number of qualified applications but a 17.9% increase in the number offered admission.
- Overall, there was a 21.2% increase in the percentage of qualified applications offered admission from 2012 to 2013. The percentage increase from 2011 to 2013 was only 1%.

Table 2. Qualified Applications & Admissions, AY 2010-2011 to AY 2012-2013

	AY 2010 - 2011	AY 2011 - 2012	AY 2012 - 2013
Enrollment Capacity	1,837	1,933	2,496
Qualified Applications	3,278	3,983	3,876
Offered Admission	1,957	1,983	2,338
Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission	1,321 (40.3%)	2,000 (50.2%)	1,538 (39.7%)



## Reasons Why Qualified Applications Were Not Accepted

The 23 programs that did not accept all qualified applications were asked to rate the most important reasons why qualified applications were not accepted.

- Lack of clinical placement was the reason most often chosen as very important (n=14 programs, 60.9% of programs). The second reason most often rated as very important was a lack of budgeted faculty positions (n=11 programs, 47.8%).
- Lack of qualified faculty applicants for budgeted positions was rated as very important by five programs and was rated as important by nine programs (39.1% of all programs).
- 18 programs rated lack of classroom space as not at all important and only four programs rated this reason as very important or important.

## Newly Enrolled Students in APRN Programs

Table 3 shows the number of newly enrolled students by program type and academic year.

- Overall, there was a 11.7% increase in the number of newly enrolled students from AY 2011-2012 to AY 2012-2013, though the number of APRN programs only increased from 30 to 31 during the same time period.
- The number of newly enrolled students was lower than the total program enrollment capacity by 638 students (25.6% less than total enrollment capacity).
- From AY 2011-2012 to AY 2012-2013, the number of newly enrolled students decreased in Nurse-Midwife programs and in Clinical Nurse Specialist programs.
- Nurse Practitioner programs have reported the

Table 3. Newly Enrolled Students, AY 2010-2011 to AY 2012-2013

Program Type	AY 2010 -2011	AY 2011 -2012	AY 2012 -2013
Nurse Anesthetist	228	210	240
Nurse-Midwife	11	14	10
Nurse Practitioner	1,382	1,403	1,576
Clinical Nurse Specialist	31	37	32
Total	1,652	1,664	1,858

highest number of newly enrolled students during the past three academic years. This year, the number of newly enrolled Nurse Practitioner students increased by 12.3% from last year.

## Total Enrollment in APRN Programs

Table 4 displays enrollment numbers by program type over the past three academic years.

- Overall, there was a 7.7% increase in enrolled students from AY 2011-2012 to AY 2012-2013.
- After a decrease in enrollees from AY 2010-2011 to AY 2011-2012, the number of students enrolled in Nurse Anesthetist programs increased by 11.8% from AY 2011-2012 to AY 2012-2013.
- The number of students enrolled in Nurse-Midwife programs has remained steady over the past three years.
- The number of students enrolled in Nurse Practitioner programs has steadily increased over the past three years. Nurse Practitioner enrollees accounted for 82.8% of all enrolled APRN students in 2013.
- Clinical Nurse Specialist enrollees dropped considerably from AY 2010-2011 to AY 2011-2012, but increased slightly from AY 2011-2012 to AY 2012-2013.

Table 4. Enrollment by Program Type, AY 2010-2011 to AY 2012-2013

Program Type	AY 2010 -2011	AY 2011 -2012	AY 2012 -2013
Nurse Anesthetist	654	611	683
Nurse-Midwife	30	31	31
Nurse Practitioner	3,271	3,574	3,829
Clinical Nurse Specialist	95	82	84
Total	4,050	4,298	4,627

## Graduates from APRN Programs

**Table 5 shows the APRN graduates by program type for the past three academic years.**

- A total of 1,337 students graduated from APRN programs in AY 2012-2013. This is an increase of 6.1% from the number of graduates in AY 2011-2012.
- 22 of 25 schools reported the number of graduates who will work in Texas. Of the 1,313 graduates among the 22 schools, 1,086 (82.7%) will work in Texas.
- In AY 2012-2013, state of residence and family in other states were the reasons schools most frequently cited as to why graduates planned to work in states other than Texas (16 of 22 schools).
- Independent practice (6 schools), higher pay in other states (3 schools), and military service were also cited by schools as reasons why graduates will work in states other than Texas.

**Table 5. Graduates by Program Type, AY 2010-2011 to AY 2012-2013**

Program Type	AY 2010 -2011	AY 2011 -2012	AY 2012 -2013
Nurse Anesthetist	213	229	235
Nurse-Midwife	2	8	9
Nurse Practitioner	774	970	1,067
Clinical Nurse Specialist	30	53	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>1,337</b>

Note: Two programs did not graduate any students in the academic year 2012-2013.

Note: All enrollment, graduation and admissions data gathered from this survey include master's students as well as post-master's certificate, post-baccalaureate DNP, and post-master's DNP students. Also, the data may include nurses that are already licensed to practice as an APRN. For detailed enrollment, graduation, and admissions data by program, go to: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/cnws/2013-APRN-Enrollment,-Admissions,-Graduation-PDF-Spreadsheet.pdf>

## Program Profile: Nurse Anesthetist Programs

**In the 2013 NEPIS, Nurse Anesthetist programs were asked to break out admissions, enrollment, and graduation data by education model. The two programs offered three different education models: master's degree, post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP, and post-master's DNP/DNAP.**

**Table 6 lists data on qualified applications and admissions to the four Nurse Anesthetist programs by education model.**

- Qualified applications were those that met all criteria for admission at the school to which they were submitted.
- The majority of newly enrolled Nurse Anesthetist students were admitted to the Master's Degree education model (52.9%).
- The post-baccalaureate practice doctorate model offered admission to the smallest percentage of qualified applications (55.7%).
- In all education models, the number of qualified applications exceeded enrollment capacity.

**Table 6. Qualified Applications & Admissions in Nurse Anesthetist Programs, 2013**

Education Model	Enrollment Capacity	Qualified Applications	Offered Admission	Newly Enrolled Students
Master's Degree	167	221	137 (62%)	127
Practice Doctorate (Post-Baccalaureate DNP/DNAP)	81	149	83 (55.7%)	81
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	34	35	34 (97.1%)	32
<b>All Nurse Anesthetist Programs</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>254 (62.7%)</b>	<b>240</b>

**Table 7 displays enrollment numbers for Nurse Anesthetist programs by education model.**

- The master's degree model reported the highest student enrollment (64.7% of all Nurse Anesthetist enrollees).

**Table 7. Nurse Anesthetist Enrollment by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	Students Enrolled on Sept. 30, 2013
Master's Degree	442
Practice Doctorate (Post-Baccalaureate DNP/DNAP)	163
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	78
<b>All Nurse Anesthetist Programs</b>	<b>683</b>

- Post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP enrollees made up 23.9% of Nurse Anesthetist enrolled students.
- Post-master's DNP/DNAP enrollees accounted for 11.4% of all Nurse Anesthetist enrolled students.

**Table 8 shows the number of Nurse Anesthetist graduates by education model.**

- There were 235 graduates from Nurse Anesthetist programs.
- The majority of the Nurse Anesthetist graduates were in the master's degree model (89.8%).
- There were no post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP graduates during the 2012-2013 academic year.
- Post-master's DNP/DNAP graduates made up 10.2% of all Nurse Anesthetist graduates.

**Table 8. Nurse Anesthetist Graduates by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	AY 2012-2013 Graduates
Master's Degree	211
Practice Doctorate (Post-Baccalaureate DNP/DNAP)	0
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	24
All Nurse Anesthetist Programs	235

## Program Profile: Nurse Practitioner Programs

In the 2013 NEPIS, Nurse Practitioner programs were asked to break out admissions, enrollment, and graduation data by education model. The 21 programs offered three different education models: master's degree, post-master's certificate, and post-master's DNP/DNAP.

Table 9 lists data on qualified applications and admissions to the 21 Nurse Practitioner programs by education model.

- Qualified applications were those that met all criteria for admission at the school to which they were submitted.
- The majority of newly enrolled Nurse Practitioner students were admitted to the Master's Degree education model (88.8%).
- The master's degree model offered admission to the smallest percentage of qualified applications (57.5%) but also had the highest number of qualified applications.
- In the master's degree and post-master's certificate

models, the number of qualified applications exceeded enrollment capacity.

**Table 9. Qualified Applications & Admissions in Nurse Practitioner Programs, 2013**

Education Model	Enrollment Capacity	Qualified Applications	Offered Admission	Newly Enrolled Students
Master's Degree	1,730	3,039	1,746 (57.5%)	1,400
Post-Master's Certificate	336	295	237 (80.3%)	137
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	79	60	43 (71.7%)	39
All Nurse Practitioner Programs	2,145	3,394	2,026 (59.7%)	1,576

**Table 10 displays enrollment numbers for Nurse Practitioner programs by education model.**

- The master's degree model reported the highest student enrollment (64.7% of all Nurse Practitioner enrollees).
- Post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP enrollees made up 23.9% of Nurse Practitioner enrolled students.
- Post-master's DNP/DNAP enrollees accounted for 11.4% of all Nurse Practitioner enrolled students.

**Table 10. Nurse Practitioner Enrollment by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	Students Enrolled on Sept. 30, 2013
Master's Degree	3,538
Post-Master's Certificate	190
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	101
All Nurse Practitioner Programs	3,829

**Table 11 shows the number of Nurse Practitioner graduates by education model.**

- There were 1,067 graduates from Nurse Practitioner programs.
- The majority of the Nurse Practitioner graduates were in the master's degree model (87.3%).
- Post-master's certificate graduates made up 11.2% of all Nurse Practitioner graduates.
- Post-master's DNP/DNAP graduates made up 1.6% of all Nurse Practitioner graduates.

**Table 11. Nurse Practitioner Graduates by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	AY 2012-2013 Graduates
Master's Degree	931
Post-Master's Certificate	119
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	17
All Nurse Practitioner Programs	1,067

## Program Profile: Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs

In the 2013 NEPIS, Clinical Nurse Specialist programs were asked to break out admissions, enrollment, and graduation data by education model. The four programs offered two education models: master's degree and post-master's certificate.

Table 12 lists data on qualified applications and admissions to the four Clinical Nurse Specialist programs by education model.

- Qualified applications were those that met all criteria for admission at the school to which they were submitted.
- The majority of newly enrolled Clinical Nurse Specialist students were admitted to the Master's Degree education model (96.9%).
- The post-master's certificate model admitted one student during the 2012-2013 academic year.
- Overall, Clinical Nurse Specialist programs accepted 66.1% of qualified applications.

**Table 12. Qualified Applications & Admissions in Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs, 2013**

Education Model	Enrollment Capacity	Qualified Applications	Offered Admission	Newly Enrolled Students
Master's Degree	38	55	36 (65.5%)	31
Post-Master's Certificate	1	1	1 (100%)	1
All Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs	39	56	37 (66.1%)	32

**Table 13 displays enrollment numbers for Nurse Anesthetist programs by education model.**

- The master's degree model reported the highest student enrollment (97.6% of all Clinical Nurse Specialist enrollees).
- There were two students enrolled in the post-master's certificate model of the Clinical Nurse Specialist program.

**Table 13. Clinical Nurse Specialist Enrollment by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	Students Enrolled on Sept. 30, 2013
Master's Degree	82
Post-Master's Certificate	2
All Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs	84

**Table 14 shows the number of Clinical Nurse Specialist graduates by education model.**

- There were 26 graduates from Clinical Nurse Specialist programs.
- The majority of the Clinical Nurse Specialist graduates were in the master's degree model (92.3%).
- Two students graduated from a Clinical Nurse Specialist program with a post-master's certificate.

**Table 14. Clinical Nurse Specialist Graduates by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	AY 2012-2013 Graduates
Master's Degree	24
Post-Master's Certificate	2
All Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs	26

## Program Profile: Nurse-Midwife Programs

In the 2013 NEPIS, Nurse-Midwife programs were asked to break out admissions, enrollment, and graduation data by education model. The two programs offered four different education models: master's degree, post-master's certificate, post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP, and post-master's DNP/DNAP.

Table 15 lists data on qualified applications and admissions to the two Nurse-Midwife programs by education model.

Qualified applications were those that met all criteria for admission at the school to which they were submitted.

- All qualified applications to Nurse-Midwife programs were accepted for the 2012-2013 academic year.
- Half of all newly enrolled Nurse-Midwife students were admitted to the master's degree education model.
- Although all qualified applications were offered admission to the post-master's DNP/DNAP program, zero newly enrolled students registered and enrolled.
- Enrollment capacity was greater than the number of qualified applications received by the master's degree, post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP, and post-master's DNP/DNAP programs.

**Table 15. Qualified Applications & Admissions in Nurse-Midwife Programs, 2013**

Education Model	Enrollment Capacity	Qualified Applications	Offered Admission	Newly Enrolled Students
Master's Degree	8	7	7 (100%)	5
Post-Master's Certificate	2	4	4 (100%)	1
Practice Doctorate (Post-Baccalaureate DNP/DNAP)	10	8	8 (100%)	4
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	10	2	2 (100%)	0
All Nurse-Midwife Programs	20	21	21 (100%)	10

Table 16 displays enrollment numbers for Nurse-Midwife programs by education model.

- The post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP model reported the highest student enrollment (51.6% of all Nurse-Midwife enrollees).
- Master's degree enrollees made up 45.2% of Nurse-Midwife enrolled students.
- There was one student enrolled in the post-master's certificate model of a Nurse-Midwife program.

**Table 16. Nurse-Midwife Enrollment by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	Students Enrolled on Sept. 30, 2013
Master's Degree	14
Post-Master's Certificate	1
Practice Doctorate (Post-Baccalaureate DNP/DNAP)	16
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	0
All Nurse-Midwife Programs	31

Table 17 shows the number of Nurse-Midwife graduates by education model.

- There were nine graduates from Nurse-Midwife programs.
- The majority of the Nurse-Midwife graduates were in the post-baccalaureate DNP/DNAP model (66.7%).
- There were two Nurse-Midwife graduates in the master's degree model and one Nurse-Midwife graduate in the post-master's certificate model.

**Table 17. Nurse-Midwife Graduates by Education Model, 2013**

Education Model	AY 2012-2013 Graduates
Master's Degree	2
Post-Master's Certificate	1
Practice Doctorate (Post-Baccalaureate DNP/DNAP)	6
Practice Doctorate (Post-Master's DNP/DNAP)	0
All Nurse-Midwife Programs	9