

Yale University
JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Joint Degree Program in MSN and PhD in Nursing

This joint-degree program established in 2018 combines the two-year Master of Science in Nursing degree from the School of Nursing and the Ph.D. in Nursing from the Graduate School. It allows students to complete requirements for both degrees in five years.

ADMISSIONS

Applicants for admission to the joint program must be admitted to both schools. Students typically enter the joint program at matriculation, but M.S.N. students who are completing the Research Concentration may apply to the Ph.D. program while enrolled in the fall of year two of the M.S.N. degree.

The minimum residence requirement in the program is five years. The tuition requirement is two years in the School of Nursing and three years in the Graduate School.

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is awarded by each school according to its own criteria. While enrolled at the School of Nursing, students are eligible to compete for financial aid available to master's students but are not eligible for Graduate School aid.

Once they have completed the M.S.N. degree and enroll in the Graduate School in year three, students in the joint-degree program receive a full doctoral financial aid package during those terms in which they are enrolled in the Graduate School, including up to three years of tuition, stipend, and a health award to cover the cost of Yale Health Hospitalization/Specialty Coverage. Students are expected to complete the joint-degree program within six years.

JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM SEQUENCE

Upon enrollment, the student is assigned a Ph.D. adviser who will work closely with the student to determine a plan of study, course selection (aligned with the student's research interests), and the development of research ideas.

The first two years of the program are spent in the School of Nursing, completing all requirements for the M.S.N. degree.

In the second year, students will complete the Research Concentration, which provides mentored research experience and the development of a research proposal. The M.S.N. Research Concentration will fulfill one half of the first-term Research Assistantship in the Ph.D. program.

Students are eligible to take Graduate School courses while enrolled at the School of Nursing, with up to three courses counting toward both degrees. One didactic or clinical course, aligned with the student's proposed research topic, may count as a cognate course toward the Ph.D. Students may have the opportunity to undertake additional mentored research experiences in the summers following years one and two, including research assistantship hours.

The M.S.N. and Ph.D. degrees are awarded separately, upon completion of the M.S.N. requirements (at the end of the second year of study in the M.S.N program by the School of Nursing), and upon completion of the requirements for the Ph.D. by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. To qualify for the M.S.N. and Ph.D. degrees, students must satisfy all degree requirements of both schools. Any exception to this pattern of study must be approved by the director of graduate studies and the appropriate associate dean.