



**ESTABLISHING GRADUATE CERTIFICATES  
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE EDUCATION**

**This form should be used by programs seeking to establish a new graduate certificate. All sections should be completed.**

The graduate certificate is a programmatic or linked series of courses in a single field or in one that crosses disciplinary boundaries. The graduate certificate facilitates professional growth for people who already hold the baccalaureate degree, and it may be freestanding or linked to a degree program. The graduate certificate enables the university to respond to societal needs while promoting university cooperation with corporate, industrial, and professional communities.

Submit the completed and signed (chairs, unit deans) proposal to the **Office of Graduate Academic Programs** in Graduate Education. Mail code: 1003 and electronic copies to [eric.wertheimer@asu.edu](mailto:eric.wertheimer@asu.edu) or [amanda.morales-calderon@asu.edu](mailto:amanda.morales-calderon@asu.edu).

**Please type.**

<b>Contact Name(s):</b> Brenda Morris	<b>Contact Phone(s):</b> 602-496-0850
<b>College:</b> College of Nursing and Health Innovation (CONHI)	
<b>Department/School:</b> College of Nursing and Health Innovation	
<b>Name of proposed Certificate:</b> Patient Safety and Health Care Quality	
<b>Requested Effective Term and Year:</b> Fall 2015 (e.g. Fall 2014)	
<b>Do Not Fill in this information: <u>Office Use Only</u></b>	
<b>CIP Code:</b>	

**1. OVERVIEW.** Below, please provide a brief overview of the certificate, including the rationale and need for the program, potential size and nature of the target audience, information on comparable programs (at ASU and/or peer institutions), how this program would relate to existing programs at ASU, and any additional appropriate information.

The proposed graduate certificate in Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality (PSHQ) provides Registered Nurses (RNs) with advanced preparation in nursing practice and the ability to translate concepts, practices and principles in the application of safety and improvement science to enhance safe, effective patient care.

**Rationale/need:** In 1999, the Institute of Medicine released the publication "To Err is Human" which called for advancements in patient safety and healthcare quality to prevent medical errors. Despite the recommendations from this landmark report, preventable medical errors continue to be the third leading cause of death (following heart disease and cancer) in the United States, claiming the lives of 400,000 individuals per year, and costing the healthcare system over \$1 trillion dollars annually. Healthcare accrediting bodies, insurers and the government agencies have created a renewed focus on healthcare quality by linking financial reimbursement to quality and safety outcomes.

**Target Audience:** This certificate program is designed for baccalaureate or higher prepared RNs who are interested in specializing in the field of patient safety and healthcare quality. In Arizona, there are approximately 27,000 RNs prepared at the baccalaureate level. Many of these nurses wish to pursue graduate education to specialize in a clinical practice area. The demand for RNs with expertise in patient safety and healthcare quality has increased due to increased accountability of healthcare systems to prevent medical errors, and the movement by insurers and governmental agencies to tie quality and safety outcomes to healthcare reimbursement.

**Relationship to existing ASU programs:** There are no other graduate programs at ASU that focus on patient safety and healthcare quality. The College of Nursing and Health Innovation has also proposed a concentration in the MS in Nursing degree in patient safety and healthcare quality. Students enrolled in this prospective program will take 15 shared credits with students enrolled in the patient safety and healthcare quality concentration in the MS in Nursing program. This approach of sharing courses across the graduate certificate and degree concentration increases the potential enrollment in shared courses, and maximizes revenue generation, while minimizing teaching costs.

Graduates are specialists able to: synthesize innovation principles and best available evidence to develop interventions for implementation; and, lead interprofessional teams to design, deliver, and evaluate safety and quality

improvement efforts that are patient centered, minimize risk, and improve outcomes across diverse practice settings. This program supports preparation for national certification as a Certified Professional in Health Care Quality (CPHQ), and Certified Patient Safety Officer (CPSO).

## 2. ADMINISTRATION AND RESOURCES

- A. How will the proposed certificate be administered (including recommendations for admissions, student advisement, retention etc.)? Describe the administering body in detail, especially if the proposed certificate is part of a larger interdisciplinary agenda. How will the graduate support staffing needs for this proposed certificate program be met?**

The proposed certificate will be administered under CONHI's Academic Affairs. The Assistant Dean for Nursing Programs will oversee the program and collaborate with graduate program faculty to make recommendations for admission. The Executive Director for Student Recruitment, Retention and Engagement, Academic Success Specialists and graduate nursing program support staff will follow the same processes and procedures that are provided by the University regarding administering the concentration for admission, advisement, and retention.

- B. What are the resource implications for the proposed certificate, including projected budget needs? Will new books, library holdings, equipment, laboratory space and/or personnel be required now or in the future? If multiple units/programs will collaborate in offering this certificate, please discuss the resource contribution of each participating program. Letters of support must be included from all academic units that will commit resources to this certificate program.**

Current library, equipment, laboratory spaces are sufficient. The proposed certificate will not increase the demand for laboratory and simulation space.

The proposed certificate program will increase the demand for clinical sites for students to complete their role-focused practicum. The CONHI has clinical affiliation agreements with over 800 health care organizations. The college has discussed the need for clinical placements for these students with our larger clinical partners, such as Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale Healthcare/John C. Lincoln Healthcare, and the Phoenix Veterans Administration Health Care System. We have received significant interest from these larger health care systems in collaborating with the college to provide the role-focused practicum experiences for these students and have begun dialogue as to how we can meet this increased demand.

## 3. ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA

- A. Admission criteria – Applicants must meet the admissions criteria for Graduate Education. Please also include any other additional admission requirements, e.g. type of undergraduate degree, minimum GPA, tests and/or entry-level skills that are required for this certificate program.**

[http://graduate.asu.edu/sites/default/files/GraduatePolicies\\_1.pdf](http://graduate.asu.edu/sites/default/files/GraduatePolicies_1.pdf)

Applicants must submit an online Graduate Education application.

Admission to the certificate is based upon meeting the following requirements:

1. completion of a bachelor of science degree in nursing at a nationally recognized, regionally accredited academic institution
2. an undergraduate junior/senior GPA equal to 3.00, or a cumulative GPA equal to 3.00 (4.00=A) or higher for the baccalaureate or graduate degree attained
3. Students must hold a current unencumbered license to practice as a registered nurse in the state where the nursing clinical practicums will be conducted; and/or a current unencumbered license to practice as a registered nurse in Arizona to enroll in nursing clinical practicum courses.
4. three online recommendations from individuals knowledgeable about the applicant's academic potential
5. Submission of a 1 – 2 page essay describing career/professional goals and how this program will support attainment of career/professional goals
6. Proof of English proficiency per Graduate Education requirement.

**International applicants:** \*\*Applicants whose native language is not English (regardless of where they may now reside) must provide proof of English proficiency per Graduate Education requirement and all requirements for the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools, if considered an international student.

**Required Admission Examinations:**  GRE  GMAT  Millers Analogies  None required

#### B. Application Review Terms

Indicate all terms for which applications for admissions are accepted and the corresponding application deadline dates, if any:

To select desired box, place cursor on the left side of the box, right click mouse, select **Properties**, under **Default Value** select **Checked**, press **OK** and the desired box will be checked

Fall                      Deadline (month/year): June/2015

Spring                      Deadline (month/year): October/2015

#### C. Projected annual admission/enrollment

How many students will be admitted immediately following final approval of the certificate? What are enrollment projections for the next three years?

Admission/Enrollment figures reflect student enrollment in the graduate certificate.

F 2015 = 5 students

F 2016 = 12 students

F 2017 = 20 students

### 4. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

#### A. Minimum credit hours required for certificate (15 credit hour minimum)

15 credits

#### B. Please describe the primary course delivery mode, (e.g., online, face-to-face, off-site etc.). Please note: If this proposed initiative will be offered completely online, clearly state that in this section.

The primary course delivery mode is a hybrid format. Students will complete in-person immersion experiences one to two times per semester at the downtown campus. During the immersion experience, students will participate in face-to-face courses delivered over a 3 – 5 day period. The remaining coursework will be delivered online via i-courses. The practicum course is delivered in-person and provides students with required clinical practice experiences.

#### C. As applicable, please describe culminating experience required (e.g., internship, project, research paper, capstone course, etc.)

N/A

**D. What knowledge, competencies, and skills (learning outcomes) should graduates have when they complete this proposed certificate program? Examples of program learning outcomes can be found at (<https://uoeee.asu.edu/program-outcomes>).**

1. Apply safety and quality principles within an organization incorporating methods, tools, performance measures, and standards.
2. Design systems for patient safety and risk reduction.
3. Design systems for performance/quality measurement and improvement.
4. Integrate best available evidence, system data and analytics to improve outcomes.

**E. How will students be assessed and evaluated in achieving the knowledge, competencies, and skills outlined in 4.D. above? Examples of assessment methods can be found at (<http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html>).**

Program Completion Outcome	Course	Measure	Performance Criterion
1. Apply safety and quality principles within an organization incorporating methods, tools, performance measures, and standards.	NUR 529	Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality project	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
		Practicum performance evaluation	90% of students will earn a B or better on the practicum performance evaluation.
		Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Case Study	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
2. Design systems for patient safety and risk reduction.	NUR 522	Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Design project	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
		Quality Improvement Case Study	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
		Safety and Quality Improvement Discussion Board	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
3. Design systems for performance/quality measurement and improvement.	NUR 523	Final paper	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
		Common team care issues Discussion Board	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
		Team communication and conflict management Discussion Board	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
4. Integrate best available evidence, system data and analytics to improve outcomes.	NUR 521	Final project	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
		Sampling for QI and surveillance Discussion board	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.
		Analyze outcomes for EBP, QI and surveillance systems Discussion board	90% of students will earn a B or better on the assignment.

**F. Please state the satisfactory student academic progress standards and guidelines (including any time limits for completion).**

This proposed certificate program will follow university standards and guidelines for satisfactory academic progress. Students will fulfill Graduate Education satisfactory academic progress standard of completing the certificate program courses with a GPA of 3.0 and all coursework completed within 6 years. If students do not meet the GPA or time limit policy requirements, they will be recommended for dismissal of the certificate program.

**G. Will this proposed certificate program allow sharing of credit hours from another ASU degree program to be used as part of this certificate program?**

Yes, students may share coursework with the MS in Nursing or the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). The proposed certificate shares up to 15 credit hours with the proposed MS in Nursing concentration in Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality (PSHQ).

**H. Below, please list all required and elective courses in the appropriate boxes (you may attach additional pages if necessary).**

Please ensure that all new core course proposals have been submitted to the Provost's office through the Curriculum ChangeMaker online course proposal submission system before this initiative is put on the University Graduate Council and CAPC agendas. Please note: a minimum of 2/3 of the courses required for a graduate certificate must be at the 500-level or above.

<b>Required Courses</b>			<b>Credit Hours</b>
<i>(Prefix &amp; Number)</i>	<i>(Course Title)</i>	<i>(New Course?) Yes or No?</i>	<b>(Insert Section Sub-total)</b>
			<b>15</b>
NUR 520	Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Principles, Assessment & Methods	Yes	3
NUR 521	Healthcare Evidence, Informatics & Analysis	Yes	3
NUR 522	Designing Systems for Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality	Yes	3
NUR 523	Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Outcomes	Yes	3
NUR 529	Role-Focused Practicum: Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality	Yes	3
<b>Electives</b>			<b>Credit Hours</b>
<i>(Prefix &amp; Number)</i>	<i>(Course Title)</i>	<i>(New Course?) Yes or No?</i>	<b>(Insert Section Sub-total)</b>
	N/A		
<b>Culminating Experience (if applicable)</b>			<b>Credit Hours</b>
N/A			
<b>Total required credit hours</b>			<b>15</b>

**5. PRIMARY FACULTY PARTICIPANTS** - Please list all primary faculty participants for the proposed certificate, including home unit and title. You may attach additional pages if necessary.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Home Unit</b>	<b>Title</b>
Karen Saewert, PhD, RN	CONHI	Clinical Professor
Gerri Lamb, PhD, RN	CONHI	Associate Professor
Margaret Morris, PhD, RN	CONHI	Instructor
Jennifer Mensik, PhD, RN	CONHI	Instructor

**6. REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

(Please label accordingly, i.e., Appendix or Attachment A, B, etc.)

Please include the following with your proposal:

- A. Sample plans of study for students in the proposed program – See Appendix II
- B. Statements of support from all deans and heads of impacted academic units – See Appendix III

**Statement of Impact:**

Admission to this proposed certificate is limited to RN's only; therefore there no other ASU programs are directly impacted by this proposed certificate. However, there may be opportunity for future collaborations to create complementary interprofessional curricula in the patient safety and healthcare quality specialty. A letter of support is included from the College of Health Solutions.

**7. APPROVALS** - If the proposal submission involves multiple units, please include letters of support from those units.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR or SCHOOL DIRECTOR (PRINT/TYPE)	
Brenda Morris	
SIGNATURE	DATE
	9/10/2014

DEAN (PRINT/TYPE)	
Teri Pipe	
SIGNATURE	DATE
	9/10/2014

The following section will be completed by Graduate Education following the recommendations of faculty governance bodies.

VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION	
SIGNATURE	DATE

**Please note:** Proposals for new certificates also require the review and recommendation of approval from the University Graduate Council, Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee (CAPC), the Academic Senate, and the Office of the Provost before they can be put into operation.

**The final approval notification will come from the Office of the Provost.**

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**APPENDIX  
OPERATIONAL INFORMATION FOR GRADUATE CERTIFICATES**

(This information is used to populate the [Graduate Programs Search](#) website.)

**1. Provide a brief (catalog type - no more than 150 words) program description.**

The proposed graduate certificate in Patient Safety and Health Care Quality (PSHQ) provides nurses with advanced preparation in nursing practice the ability to translate concepts, practices and principles in the application of safety and improvement science to enhance safe, effective patient care. Graduates are specialists able to: synthesize innovation principles and best available evidence to develop interventions for implementation; and, lead interprofessional teams to design, deliver, and evaluate safety and quality improvement efforts that are patient centered, minimize risk, and improve outcomes across diverse practice settings. This program supports preparation for national certification as a Certified Professional in Health Care Quality (CPHQ), and Certified Patient Safety Officer (CPSO).

2. Campus(es) where program will be offered: \*
- |                                     |               |                          |       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Downtown      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tempe |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Online (only) | <input type="checkbox"/> | West  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polytechnic   |                          |       |

\* **To select desired box**, place cursor on the left side of the box, right click mouse, select **Properties**, under **Default Value** select **Checked**, press **OK** and the desired box will be checked

**3. Keywords:** (List all keywords that could be used to search for this program. Keywords should be specific to the proposed program.)

Patient Safety, Healthcare Quality, Safety, Quality

**4. Area(s) of Interest:**

\* **To select desired box**, place cursor on the left side of the box, right click mouse, select **Properties**, under **Default Value** select **Checked**, press **OK** and the desired box will be checked

A. Select one (1) primary area of interest from the list below that applies to this program.

- [Architecture & Construction](#)
- [Arts](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Communications & Media](#)
- [Education & Teaching](#)
- [Engineering & Technology](#)
- [Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Health & Wellness](#)
- [Humanities](#)
- [Interdisciplinary Studies](#)
- [Law & Justice](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Psychology](#)
- [STEM](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Social and Behavioral Sciences](#)
- [Sustainability](#)



B. Select one (1) secondary area of interest from the list below that applies to this program.

- [Architecture & Construction](#)
- [Arts](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Communications & Media](#)
- [Education & Teaching](#)
- [Engineering & Technology](#)
- [Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Health & Wellness](#)
- [Humanities](#)
- [Interdisciplinary Studies](#)
- [Law & Justice](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Psychology](#)
- [STEM](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Social and Behavioral Sciences](#)
- [Sustainability](#)

## (NEW GRADUATE INITIATIVES)

### PROPOSAL PROCEDURES CHECKLIST

Academic units should adhere to the following procedures when requesting new curricular initiatives (degrees, concentrations or certificates).

**Obtain the required approval from the Office of the Provost to move the initiative forward for internal ASU governance reviews/approvals.**

- Establishment of new curricular initiative requests; degrees, concentrations, or certificates
- Rename requests; existing degrees, concentrations or certificates
- Disestablishment requests; existing degrees, concentrations or certificates

**Submit any new courses that will be required for the new curricular program to the Curriculum ChangeMaker online course approval system for review and approval.**

- Additional information can be found at the Provost's Office Curriculum Development website: [Courses link](#)
- For questions regarding proposing new courses, send an email to: [courses@asu.edu](mailto:courses@asu.edu)

**Prepare the applicable proposal template and operational appendix for the proposed initiative.**

- New degree, concentration and certificate templates (contain proposal template and operational appendix) can be found at the Provost's Office Curriculum Development website: [Academic Programs link](#)

**Obtain letters or memos of support or collaboration. (if applicable)**

- When resources (faculty or courses) from another academic unit will be utilized
- When other academic units may be impacted by the proposed program request

**Obtain the internal reviews/approvals of the academic unit.**

- Internal faculty governance review committee(s)
- Academic unit head (e.g. Department Chair or School Director)
- Academic unit Dean (will submit approved proposal to the [curriculumplanning@asu.edu](mailto:curriculumplanning@asu.edu) email account for further ASU internal governance reviews (as applicable, University Graduate Council, CAPC and Senate)

**Additional Recommendations** - All new graduate programs require specific processes and procedures to maintain a successful degree program. Below are items that Graduate Education strongly recommends that academic units establish after the program is approved for implementation.

**Set-up a Graduate Faculty Roster for new PhD Programs** – This roster will include the faculty eligible to mentor, co-chair or chair dissertations. For more information, please go to [http://graduate.asu.edu/graduate\\_faculty\\_initiative](http://graduate.asu.edu/graduate_faculty_initiative).

**Establish Satisfactory Academic Progress Policies, Processes and Guidelines** – Check within the proposing academic unit and/or college to see if there are existing academic progress policies and processes in place. If none have been established, please go to [http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty\\_staff/policies](http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty_staff/policies) and scroll down to the **academic progress review and remediation processes** (for faculty and staff) section to locate the reference tool and samples for establishing these procedures.

**Establish a Graduate Student Handbook for the New Degree Program** – Students need to know the specific requirements and milestones they must meet throughout their degree program. A Graduate Student Handbook provided to students when they are admitted to the degree program and published on the website for the new degree gives students this information. Include in the handbook the unit/college satisfactory academic progress policies, current degree program requirements (outlined in the approved proposal) and provide a link to the Graduate Policies and Procedures website. Please go to [http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty\\_staff/policies](http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty_staff/policies) to access Graduate Policies and Procedures.

## APPENDIX II

### Sample Plan of Study

#### Proposed Graduate Certificate - Patient Safety & Healthcare Quality Plan of Study

##### Academic Year 1, Fall – 6 credits

- NUR 520 Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Principles, Assessment & Methods
- NUR 523 Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality Outcomes

##### Academic Year 1, Spring – 6 credits

- NUR 521 Healthcare Evidence, Informatics & Analysis
- NUR 522 Designing Systems for Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality

##### Academic Year 1, Summer – 3 credits

- NUR 529 Role-Focused Practicum: Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality

**APPENDIX III**  
**Support Memos**

**College of Nursing and Health Innovation Support**  
**Official Submission**

**From:** Brenda Morris [<mailto:BRENDA.MORRIS@asu.edu>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 18, 2014 1:41 PM  
**To:** [curriculumplanning@asu.edu](mailto:curriculumplanning@asu.edu)  
**Cc:** Brenda Morris  
**Subject:** Submission of Proposals to establish new Graduate Certificates - word version - per request

Hi,

I have attached the following proposals to establish new Graduate Certificates in word format per request of Graduate Education.

Please note the word version does not contain Dean Pipe's signature. However, the pdf and hard copies that were submitted do have her signature.

Take care, Brenda

Brenda Morris, EdD, RN, CNE  
Associate Dean, Academic Affairs  
ASU College of Nursing & Health Innovation  
[Brenda.morris@asu.edu](mailto:Brenda.morris@asu.edu)  
602-496-0850

College of Health Solutions  
Support Statement



October 18, 2014

Dear Dr. Morris,

This letter is to confirm support for the offering of MS in Nursing Concentration in Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality; and Graduate Certificate in Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality. I have reviewed the syllabi and related materials and this concentration and this certificate do not duplicate, compete, or conflict with offerings in CHS.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Liss".

Julie Liss, Ph.D.  
Associate Dean

500 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Phoenix, AZ 85004  
Phone: 602.496.2644 | Fax: 602.496.0886  
[chs@asu.edu](mailto:chs@asu.edu) | <https://chs.asu.edu>