

Revisiting Policy on  
Approval of the  
BSN-to-DNP Pathway at  
Institutions with an  
Existing DNP Program



Texas Higher Education  
Coordinating Board

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### Current Policy

An institution with an existing Doctor of Nursing Practice program is required to submit a proposal for approval by the Board to offer a BSN-to-DNP pathway for students.



## Rationale for Considering Revision

- Entry to DNP programs is beginning to change
- Nationally, about 40 percent of DNP programs now offer the BSN-to-DNP pathway
- Texas could benefit from having BSN-to-DNP pathways available for students
- For some students, this would allow a more efficient, less expensive pathway to the DNP



## Proposed Revised Policy

Allow institutions with strong, existing master's-entry Doctor of Nursing programs to submit proposals to offer the BSN-to-DNP pathway for approval by the Commissioner.



## Rationale for Policy Revision

- Institutions with existing programs have been asking for the BSN-to-DNP pathway
- In 2014, Board staff met with Deans of the DNP programs
- BSN-to-DNP pathway be considered without Board approval required if they met certain conditions:
  - Existing DNP program has consistent or increasing enrollment
  - Existing DNP program has successful completion rates
  - Existing DNP documented student demand
  - Curriculum plans for full-time and part-time students



## Additional Information

Post-Master's DNP Institution	Start Date	Declared Majors						
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
UTHSC-Houston	2006	36	46	57	66	96	102	153
TTUHSC	2007	40	45	43	48	60	61	53
Texas Woman's	2007	26	35	35	42	50	48	52
UT-Arlington (part-time only)	2008	11	15	22	36	43	42	43
UT-El Paso	2011		8	22	37	28	16	23
UTMB-Galveston (part-time only)	2011			21	25	31	27	42
UTHSC-San Antonio	2012			23	27	35	29	33
Prairie View A&M	2013					16	20	11
UT-Austin	2015							14
TAMU-Corpus Christi	2016							10
UT-Tyler	2016							9
TOTALS		113	149	223	281	359	345	443
<b>Percent Change from 2010-2015: 292%</b>								



## Additional Information

Post-Master's DNP Institution	Start Date	Degrees Awarded						
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
UTHSC-Houston	2006	7	11	13	5	25	35	15
TTUHSC	2007	19	17	20	22	21	27	31
Texas Woman's	2007	13	9	8	10	6	12	11
UT-Arlington (part-time only)	2008		2	4	1	6	12	4
UT-El Paso	2011				8	14	21	6
UTMB-Galveston (part-time only)	2011					6	11	4
UTHSC-San Antonio	2012				5	3	14	10
Prairie View A&M	2013							8
UT-Austin	2015							
TAMU-Corpus Christi	2016							
UT-Tyler	2016							
<b>TOTALS</b>		39	39	45	51	81	132	89
<b>Percent Change from 2010-2015:</b>		<b>128%</b>						



## Additional Information

BSN-to-DNP programs offered by Texas private institutions are expensive

~\$90 - \$120K for a 3 to 4 year program  
(tuition and fees only)

Higher cost and longer time for students to first complete an MSN in Nurse Practitioner and then complete their DNP

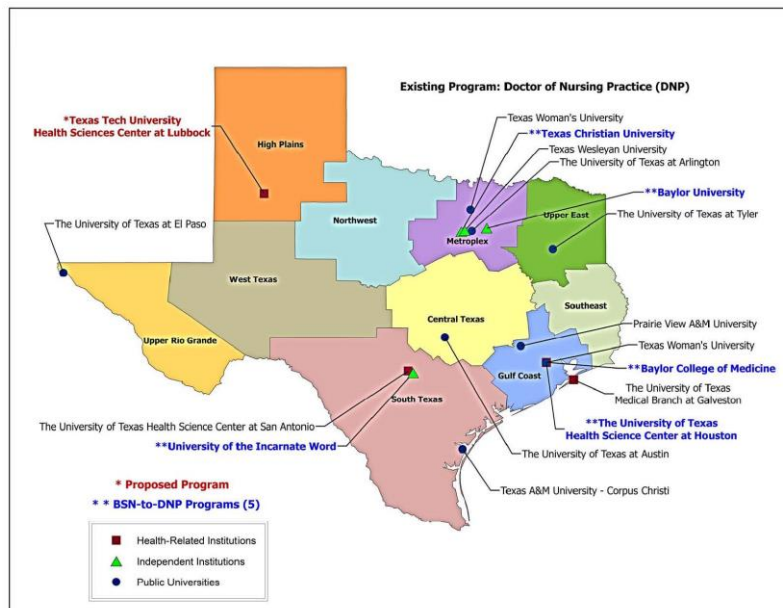
~\$60,000 for MSN and ~2 years, plus  
~\$60,000 for DNP and ~3 years



## Additional Information

- Texas students are entering private institutions to pursue the BSN-to-DNP
- Texas students are also enrolling in out-of-state programs that offer the BSN-to-DNP

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