

GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM NEWS

Fall 2025



MOSS SCHOOL
OF NURSING
COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY

Colorado Mesa University

Health Sciences Building
1100 North Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501-3122

8 am–5 pm, Monday–Friday

970.248.1306 • 800.982.6372

coloradomesa.edu/health-sciences

MESSAGE FOR THE WINTERBREAK:

As the semester ends, we want to take a moment to recognize the **dedication, resilience, and hard work** you've shown throughout the fall semester. Balancing academics, clinical practice, and personal life is no small feat—and you should be **proud of all you've accomplished**. Winter break is a well-deserved opportunity to reconnect with loved ones, and recharge both physically and mentally. Whether you're catching up on sleep, traveling, reflecting on your goals, or simply enjoying some quiet time, we hope you're able to prioritize your well-being.

As you take this break, remember that caring for yourself is an essential part of becoming an excellent nurse practitioner. We look forward to welcoming you back refreshed and ready for the opportunities and challenges of the upcoming term. **Wishing you a peaceful holiday season and a healthy, happy start to the new year!**

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM ...

Colorado Mesa University (CMU) offers Master of Science in Nursing degrees in family nurse practitioner (FNP) and adult-gerontology nurse practitioner (AGNP) tracks. CMU also offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice FNP. The CMU graduate nursing program is focused on the care of rural and underserved populations. Courses in our curriculum include primary care across the lifespan, mental and behavior health, and a rural and underserved capstone. CMU boasts relatively small class sizes, allowing students to have meaningful interactions with peers and course faculty. CMU graduates also perform at or above the national average for nurse practitioner certification pass rates.

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Nurse Practitioners Symposium 2026
Keystone Conference Center
633 Tennis Club Road
Dillon, CO 80435
July 14 - July 18, 2026

New Graduate Student Orientation: May 18, 2026 at 8 am to 2:30 pm (MST); Students may attend in person or virtual (via Zoom)

Spring OSCES & GPS for students in clinical courses 577, 615, 610, 630, 640 (in person) May 12,13, & 14, 2026

Spring Faculty Meetings

You are all welcome to attend all or part of a meeting!

Time: 3-4:30 pm (MST)
Tuesdays: Jan 20th, Feb 10th, March 10th, April 14th, May 5th

Meetings are held in person in one of the DHS conference rooms and there is an option to join via Zoom. RSVP to Mr. Cruse if you wish to attend in person or want to receive a Zoom invite.

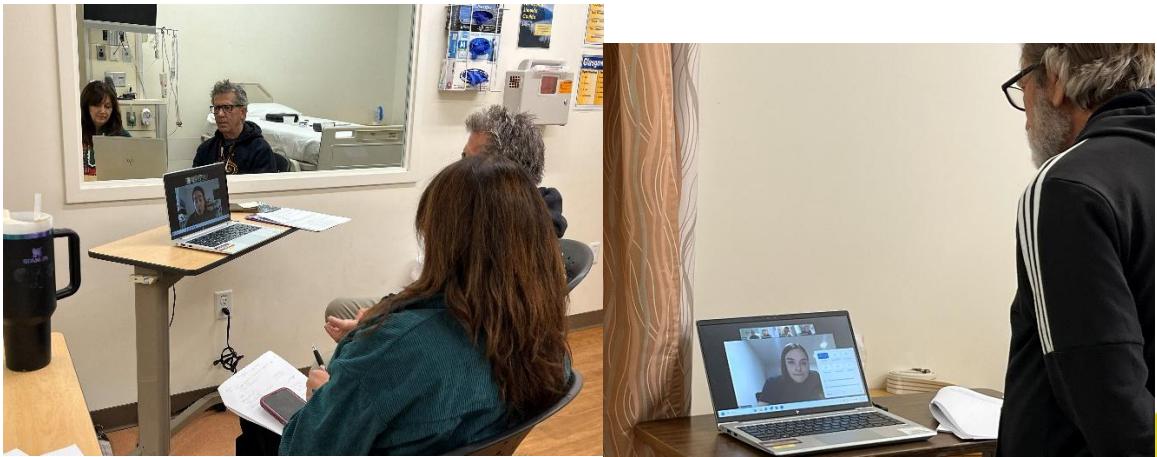
Spring Classes start Jan. 20, 2026

Summer Classes start May 27, 2026

ADVISING

Please contact your assigned advisor should you vary from your Course Progression Sheet.

- Dr. Urban will advise all MSN FNP students.
- Dr. Hall will continue to advise all AGNP and NE students.
- Dr. Marshall will advise DNP students.



PHOTOS from the Fall OSCEs & Celebrating new Babies!

Colter Kyle 9/3/2025



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Happy Belated NURSE PRACTITIONER Week 2025 (which was held November 9–15, 2025).

During 2025, the NP Week theme was: **NPs: Trusted Voices, Proven Care.** In a world increasingly shaped by technology and artificial intelligence, NP Week reminds us why human connection, clinical expertise, and compassionate care still matter most.

In 2025, The Association of Nurse Practitioners' (AANP's) messages highlighted **NP leadership in addressing healthcare trends**, focusing on AI, elder care, mental health, and substance use disorders, alongside advocating for full practice authority. Key themes included the **40th Anniversary** ("AANP at 40") with a focus on growth, the NP week theme, and **crucial advocacy for NP students facing loan issues**, emphasizing NPs as trusted providers for improving patient access.

To our Graduate Nursing Students:

Embrace challenges as growth, stay curious, and remember that your purpose is rooted in something bigger than yourself. Your journey is shaping the future of health!

CLINICAL PLACEMENT COORDINATOR NEWS

-Mr. Steven Cruse continues as our clinical placement coordinator. (scruse@coloradomesa.edu)

-Registration for the Spring 2026 term has opened, email Steven Cruse with the courses you intend to register for course overrides, then you may register.

- Students are expected to begin seeking clinical placements upon acceptance to the graduate nursing program. Please reach out to Mr. Cruse to determine if there is a clinical contract once you have identified a potential preceptor. Students may not begin clinical rotations until approved by the course instructor and Mr. Cruse.

AACN Essentials outline the necessary curriculum content and expected competencies of graduates from baccalaureate, master's, and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs. Our CMU Graduate Nursing Program aligns with this model. Students are encouraged to explore the Essentials' domains and concepts:

<https://www.aacnnursing.org/essentials>

STUDENTS ON THE MOVE:

Kellie Harmelink & TJ Probst:

Congratulations for completing their MSN FNP!



HAVE A WONDERFUL WINTER BREAK!

Mr. Cruse and Drs. Bailey, Eyre, Hall, Marshall, Ridgway, Stanley, and Urban



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