

**MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING
AT ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY**
Family Nurse Practitioner - Description of Practice*

A family nurse practitioner is a registered nurse with a graduate degree in nursing who is prepared for advanced practice with individuals and families throughout the life span and across the health continuum. This practice includes independent and interdependent decision-making and direct accountability for clinical judgment. Graduate preparation expands the comprehensiveness of the family nurse practitioner role to include participation in and use of research, development and implementation of health policy, leadership, education, and consultation.

Program Objectives*

Upon completion of the family nurse practitioner sequence within the master's program in advanced practice nursing, the graduate is able to:

1. Elicit a comprehensive health history, including an evaluation of the individual's development, maturation, coping ability, activities of daily living, physiological function, and emotional and social well-being.
2. Perform a complete physical examination on adults, children, and pregnant women.
3. Order and/or perform pertinent diagnostic tests.
4. Analyze the data collected to determine health status.
5. Formulate a problem list.
6. Develop and implement, with the individual family, a plan of care to promote, maintain, and restore health.
7. Evaluate the client's response to the health care provided and the effectiveness of the care with the individual and his or her family.
8. Modify the plan and intervention as needed.
9. Collaborate with other health care professionals in meeting individual and family health care needs.
10. Refer individuals and families to other health care professionals as appropriate.
11. Record all pertinent data about the client including the history and physical examination, problems identified, interventions provided, results of care, and plans for follow-up or referral.
12. Coordinate the services required to meet individual and family needs for health care.
13. Define the family nurse practitioner role and primary health care scope of practice.
14. Identify and implement strategies to maximize the family nurse practitioner role.
15. Develop and implement strategies that have a positive effect upon the political and regulatory processes related to the health care system and the family nurse practitioner role.

* from ANCC Certification Guidelines