

UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA ITEM**

Meeting Date: November 11, 2022

Action Item     Discussion Item     Information Item

**Name of Item:**

**Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) Graduate Certificate Program**

Responsible Staff Member: Kirsten Fleming, Provost & EVP for Academic Affairs

**Summary of Issue:**

New Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) Graduate Certificate Program in the School of Nursing, College of Natural and Health Sciences.

Recommended Action by BOT:

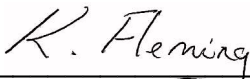
Approval     No Action Needed

Change to Board Policy Manual:

Approval     No Action Needed

If yes, Section:

**Administrative Recommendation (Motion):**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Vice President

10/21/2022

Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of President

10/25/2022

Date



UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHERN  
COLORADO

Office of the Provost

**Board of Trustees - Action Item**  
**Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) Graduate Certificate Program**  
November 11, 2022

**Summary of Change:** New Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) Graduate Certificate Program in the School of Nursing, College of Natural and Health Sciences.

**Background:** UNC offers a highly regarded Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program which qualifies graduates to work in primary care settings. Both regionally and nationally, there is an increasing demand for Emergency Nurse Practitioners (ENPs) who can participate in the delivery of emergency care. This need is especially pressing in rural areas. ENP certification requires additional coursework by currently certified FNP's.

**Rationale:** The proposed new Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) Certificate Program is designed to provide Family Nurse Practitioners with the additional knowledge and tools they need to successfully manage patients requiring emergency/urgent care. Admissions is limited to Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioners who hold a master's degree (or higher) in nursing and have completed the prerequisite coursework. The prerequisite courses can be completed at UNC if it they were not incorporated in the FNP's prior graduate training. The program requires 16 post-graduate credit hours. Upon completion, certificate-holders are eligible to apply for national certification as ENPs.

Note: This program was originally approved by the graduate school during the Academic Year 2019-2020 curriculum cycle. The necessity of moving all operations to remote delivery in March of 2020 followed by the slow return to normal campus operations delayed implementation and request for Board of Trustees approval. The nursing program is ready to begin accepting new students and would like to begin delivering the program in Fall 2023.

Academic Affairs has notified HLC of our intent to offer this program and received assurance that no further HLC approval is required. The program has been fully approved through the curriculum process as outlined in University Regulations Title 3, Article 3, part 5. It now requires approval by the Board of Trustees prior to notification of the CDHE. We are recommending these changes be approved for Academic Year 2023/2024.