Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing

Mission Statement

To advance the science and art of nursing by conducting nursing research and providing nursing students with an education that emphasizes the health status of underserved communities for the purpose of enabling graduates to provide evidence-based nursing care with dignity, respect and compassion to all nursing clients.

The nursing program is committed to preparing highly qualified nurses to provide excellent nursing care to clients from diverse backgrounds in a multi-cultural society, paying attention to the underserved who present with special needs. The emphasis on evidence-based practice underscores the program’s focus on education, research, and practice.

CDU promotes and encourages cultural diversity in its faculty, staff and student body, as well as in its academic programs.

CDU has a proud tradition as one of the few predominantly minority academic health-science institutions in the western United States.

Inquiries should be submitted by e-mail to:

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Gloria J. McNeal, PhD, MSN, ACNS-BC, FAAN
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Charles Drew University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and encourages women and minority candidates.
“The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition.” —Dr. Charles R. Drew

Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing

- is housed within the newly erected $43 million state-of-the-art Life Sciences Research Nursing Education Building, which encompasses space for clinical research and support functions
- is named in honor of Dr Mervyn M. Dymally, who served in the California Assembly for many years distinguishing his service as the first and only black Lieutenant Governor, and later served for six terms as a U.S. congressman. He is currently a professor in the CDU College of Medicine and Director of the Urban Health Institute.
- offers the Master of Science in Nursing program of study with two tracks: Entry Level Master’s (ELM) Track and the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Track. Future programs will include the Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Nursing Practice, and degree completion programs of study.
- provides clinical instruction in a simulation laboratory that maintains an OR suite, ICU beds, birthing room, and nurses’ station for a 12-bed medical-surgical unit
- focuses on the design and implementation of strategies to address healthcare disparities
- was granted initial approval by the CA Board of Registered Nursing and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

Master of Science in Nursing Program

As you embark upon your new career in nursing, you will find that being a student in the MSN program will be both challenging and stimulating. This intensive program is designed to prepare graduates to provide excellent care with compassion to the underserved, and to be leaders in the discipline of nursing. Currently, we offer two tracks to the completion of the MSN credential: the Entry Level Master’s (ELM) track and the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track. CDU MSN graduates will be prepared to improve health and quality of life for individuals through excellent healthcare, transforming the health of underserved communities.

Successful applicants must
- possess at least a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with an overall GPA of 3.0 on a 4 point scale,
- submit a recent GRE score and TOEFL score (if a graduate of a foreign university),
- provide three letters of recommendation, and
- have completed the following pre-requisite courses prior to admission: English Composition, Speech, Anatomy and Physiology (with lab) Sociology, Microbiology (with lab), Psychology, Nutrition, & Statistics

History of Charles Drew University

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, is a private non-profit, nonsectarian, minority-serving medical and health science institution established in 1966. Its mission is to help society’s poorest communities, starting with its home in the Watts-Willowbrook section of South Los Angeles. CDU, which continues to serve as the only academic health sciences center for the area’s 1.5 million residents, is one of the nation’s four designated Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI). In an effort to address the shortages of registered nurses and nursing faculty in the State of California, the Charles Drew University Board of Trustees approved the concept for a School of Nursing as an additional yet integral entity, equal to both the College of Medicine and the College of Science and Health.