

# Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

The Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) is an expert clinician with advanced education and clinical expertise in a specialized area of nursing practice who may work in a wide variety of health care settings. The CNS is an advanced practice nurse, able to prescribe, order tests, diagnose, treat, and provide ongoing management of patients. A CNS specialty may be defined by patient population, healthcare setting, disease process or medical subspecialty. These specialties may include, but are not limited to, cardiovascular care, women's health, occupational health, oncology or gerontology. A CNS also provides education, expertise and support to nurses caring for patients, helps drive practice change throughout the organization through collaboration and consultation, and ensures the use of best practices and evidence-based care to achieve the best possible patient outcomes. The CNS role enables the individual to strongly influence staff skills and relationships, as well as working closely with patients and families in order to impact quality care and patient satisfaction.

We also offer a **Post-Master's CNS degree** along with an **Adult/Gerontology CNS Post-Baccalaureate DNP**. The DNP degree is becoming the preferred degree for this role.

