averag purdu global militari student award 54 credit need associ 's 45 credit need bachelor 's commonli search commonli search nurs make move earn doctor nurs practic dnp degre american associ colleg nurs indic growth dnp program continu 40,834 student enrol 2021 39,530 2020 number graduat period increas 10,086 9,158 onlin dnp program help nurs practic highest level nurs help angela owen depart chair dnp program purdu global discuss dnp expect dnp degre dnp benefit nurs ’ career dnp degre lay groundwork nurs leader improv patient outcom latest new techniqu nurs dnp sought leadership clinic applic consid key player futur health care howev owen say dnp degre holder nurs practition “ nurs educ also hold dnp well nurs leadership posit nurs informaticist nurs health care polici 's wide rang area nurs dnp appli skill ” say “ dnp prepar nurs lead chang system level ultim goal improv patient outcom patient may individu may commun ” owen say “ degre help nurs leader take closer look 's go environ see encourag chang partner make happen ” dnp intend broaden career opportun nurs degre nurs possess knowledg influenc health care outcom level organiz leadership health polici implement direct patient care “ person feel like sky 's limit ” owen say read doctor nurs practic degre import dnp grow 2018 nation organ nurs practition faculti said dnp new entry-level prepar nurs practition 2025 dnp attract termin degre nurs apex practice-bas train nurs “ nurs doctor practic ” owen say “ dnp-prepar nurs take happen research pull applic 's translat research 're take studi found work put practic ” owen say dnp nurs look best solut issu within health care say ’ chose get dnp