

7 IMMEDIATE STEPS FOR DNP PROJECTS



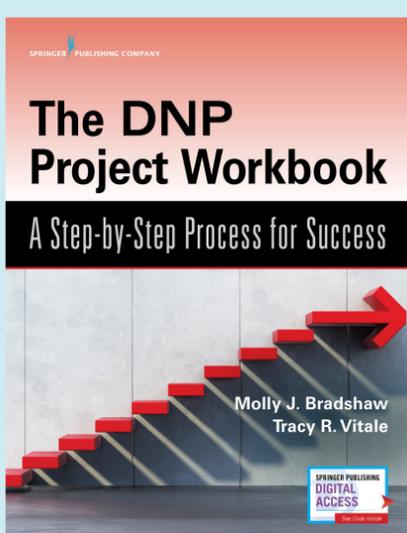
AMID COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) educators to take immediate action to stabilize and manage projects. Adaptation of DNP Project expectations is inevitable during the current and upcoming academic year.

For students with projects in progress, data collection and dissemination may be impacted.

Students in the planning phase of the project may be forced to completely terminate their current project and seek alternate topics.

The purpose of this infographic is to offer seven immediate steps DNP faculty can take to stabilize DNP Projects in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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7 Steps for In-Progress Projects:



1.

Consider **immediate end to data collection** and writing results with collected data.

Emphasize safety

of both the student and population.

2.

Expand on the reporting of COVID-19

as a **project limitation if data collection is impacted.**

Language about the current healthcare environment could further support the rationale.

3.

Recognize that support for data analysis **may be limited.**

To supplement learning

offer videos, examples, and guidance

on both analysis and display of data.

4.

Plan for **alternate ways to present** the final academic presentation of the project.

Provide a set of short instructions giving an

overview of expectations.

5.

Create a supplement

to your DNP Project guidelines/handbook outlining instructions for collecting the final academic paper.

Students may be **unable to bind papers or submit hard copies** due to closures of businesses.

6.

Develop alternatives for dissemination beyond academia

via podcasts, **social media**, video screen grabs, etc.

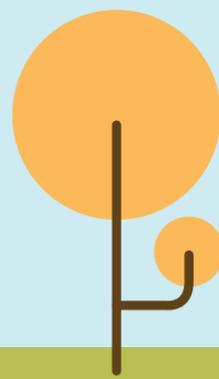
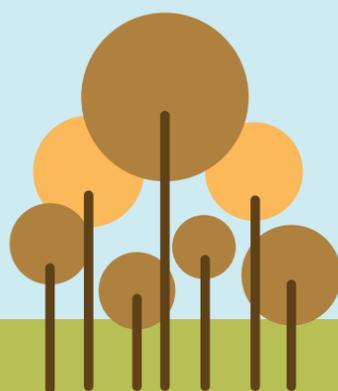
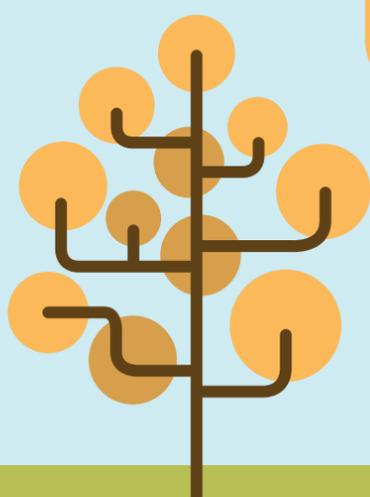
7.

Ensure that **logs of the DNP experience/clinical time** are collected.

Use of a

centralized drop-box

may help streamline the process.



7 Steps for Projects being Planned:

1.

Assess the status of the partnering organization. Will students be allowed in the organization?

What are the

current needs

of the organization?

2.

Meet with students

to determine if the current project being planned can **stay “intact”** or if modifications will be necessary.

3.

Determine if approving bodies (**site research councils or institutional review boards**) are

changing process or protocols

for DNP Project approvals.

4.

Assist the student with determining if modifications are necessary to

comply with social/physical distancing

and **potential impact** on recruitment, implementation, ability to collect data, etc.

5.

Create a document

with guidance for creation, structuring, or **restructuring of the DNP Team**. If members need to change, what is the process for that?

6.

Consider possibilities of modifying project methodology. Recognize the possibility of requiring a

complete overhaul

approach to the project.

Alternate project ideas could include:

- **Program evaluations**
- Development of a policy brief
- **Systematic review with measured impact of dissemination of findings**
- Data analysis with development of guidelines
- **Development of health literate resources**

7.

Accept that the **DNP Project is an opportunity** to apply skills obtained in DNP coursework.

Create clear standards to communicate

minimum expectations.

