

19CORE COURSES:	CR
561 Advanced Phys. Concepts-Health Care I	3
562 Advanced Phys. Concepts-Health Care II	3
603 Theoretical Basis	3
606 Information Management in Nursing	3
607 Policy Issues	2
619 Principles of Evidence-Based Practice	3
Total	17

NURSING ANESTHESIA (NA)

642 Anesthesia Techniques, Procedures and Simulation Lab	4
640 Scientific Components of NA	3
643 Advanced Health Assess. & Prin. of NA I	4
645 Advanced Health Assess. & Prin. of NA II	4
641 Advanced Pharmacology for NA I	3
644 Advanced Pharmacology for NA II	3
647 Professional Role Seminar	2
637 NA Residency I	4
646 NA Residency II	4
648 NA Residency III	4
649 NA Residency IV	4
609 Advanced Pathophysiology for NA	3
Total	42

Total credit hours for
Nurse Anesthesia Program 59
Prerequisite: Graduate level statistics course

Within the School of Nursing, up to a maximum of 20 credits can be transferred to The University of Akron as a degree-granting institution.

Post MSN Option: For RNs holding the MSN degree, there is a post-MSN certificate option that allows completion of the anesthesia program while only needing to take two physiology courses. Other master's level core courses are not required. The 27-month post-MSN sequence requires approximately 48 credits of graduate level course work in the nurse anesthesia tract and includes 24 months of clinical experience.

Accreditation: The program is fully accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Program, and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Employment: Limited student employment of one day per week as an RN is allowed in the first 12 months as long as progress is satisfactory in the program. Employment for the last 15 months of residency is discouraged due to both academic and clinical responsibilities. Students are **not allowed** to work at any time as an anesthesia provider.

Student Financial Aid Loans, stipends, grants and scholarships are available on a limited basis.

Non-discrimination Statement: The program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, nationality, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or any factor protected by law.

ANESTHESIA PROGRAM MISSION

The primary purpose of the Nurse Anesthesia Program at The University of Akron is to educate registered nurses in the science and art of anesthesia so that they will become efficient and skilled in using various techniques of anesthesia in an intelligent, scientific, and safe manner. Faculty is committed to provide a dynamic, progressive educational program that facilitates students' professional and personal growth.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information in this brochure is subject to change.
Call program office for additional information at
330-972-3387

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Nurse Anesthesia Program
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Useful Web Sites:

[The University of Akron Nurse Anesthesia Program](#)

[COA Accredited Programs](#)

[AANA Become a CRNA](#)

[NBCRNA \(Public\)](#)



SCHOOL OF NURSING



NURSE
ANESTHESIA
PROGRAM

ANESTHESIA PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The University of Akron Nurse Anesthesia Program recognizes the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist as a vital contributor to the anesthesia health care services provided to the community. Of prime concern is the welfare of all patients for whom our graduates will administer anesthesia in the future. The spirit within our program is developed from a loyalty to the education of our students; respect for our program, faculty, and students; pride in the University and the affiliate Departments of Anesthesia. In addition, there is the general belief that all people within this consortium are striving for the same goal: the comfort and care of humankind.

It is our belief that the education of the nurse anesthetist will include thorough instruction in the sciences related to anesthesia, a broad-based foundation in health care delivery, and ample opportunity to become adept in the technical skills necessary to administer physiologically sound anesthesia care. To provide this education to student nurse anesthetists, university educators and anesthesia practitioners strive to create and preserve an atmosphere that is student oriented. Anesthesiologists, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, residents and student nurse anesthetists function as an anesthesia care team in the clinical setting, each giving his/her highest level of expertise for the benefit of the patient and the development of the ongoing educational process.

ANESTHESIA PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Nurse Anesthesia Program prepares Registered Nurses to become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Students are given the opportunity to integrate classroom content with direct application of state-of-the-art techniques in the provision of anesthesia care to patients in all risk categories. Graduates are prepared to administer perioperative anesthesia care to patients of all ages in a variety of health care settings. The Nurse Anesthesia Program is based on a continuum of perioperative anesthesia nursing care. This care includes preoperative assessment, formulating an anesthesia management plan, the administration of anesthetic agents and adjunct therapeutics, and the provision of appropriate consultation during the postoperative period.

A concentrated program of theory and clinical study prepares the student to be a qualified, caring professional,

practicing in an advanced nursing specialty providing anesthesia services in a variety of settings as a member of a multidisciplinary health care team. The curriculum includes advanced study in nursing, professional role issues, and research methodology combined with a broad foundation in biophysical sciences, pharmacology and principles of anesthesia. Graduates are responsible and accountable for their individual professional practice. They are capable of exercising independent judgment within their scope of competence and accepting the responsibility for rendering professional services and evaluating the probable effect of those services upon the patient.

Students rotate through a variety of clinical sites that offer experience in a wide variety of clinical settings with diverse patient populations. Students become proficient in utilizing a variety of anesthetic techniques, providing clinical management, and participating in the life support for these patient populations. Each student administers approximately 800-1200 anesthetics and provides approximately 1400-2100 hours of direct anesthetic management of cases. Program enrichment is provided by specialty rotations in neurosurgical, cardiothoracic, pediatric, and obstetric anesthesia. Throughout the program students learn to collaborate with other qualified health care professionals. The culminating nurse anesthesia practicum encourages students to bring their expertise in critical care nursing, as well as other competencies, to their practice. Advanced practice nursing role preparation and anesthesia nursing research are integrated into the preparation of nurse anesthesia care providers, teachers, and leaders who will influence the nursing profession and health care.

Courses are taught by Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (graduate anesthesia courses) and other UA School of Nursing faculty (graduate nursing courses). Experts in related fields frequently act as guest lecturers and enhance the interrelationship of the numerous health care providers involved in patient care. The curriculum is consistently being evaluated by both faculty and students and undergoes revisions as needed to stay current and applicable to contemporary nurse anesthesia practice. The program meets or exceeds all standards and recommendations of the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs and has demonstrated full accreditation status. Successful completion of the program requirements leads to a Masters of Science in Nursing degree and graduates are eligible to take the certifying examination of the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Prior to graduation each student will have acquired knowledge, skills and competencies in patient safety, perianesthetic management, critical thinking, communication, and the professional role.

A. Patient safety is demonstrated by the ability of the student to:

- Be vigilant in the delivery of patient care.
- Refrain from engaging in extraneous activities that abandon or minimize vigilance while providing direct patient care (e.g., texting, reading, e-mailing)
- Protect patients from iatrogenic complications.
- Participate in the positioning of patients to prevent injury.
- Conduct a comprehensive and appropriate equipment check
- Utilize standard precautions and appropriate infection control measures

B. Individualized perianesthetic management is demonstrated by the ability of the student to:

- Provide care throughout the perianesthetic continuum
- Use a variety of current anesthesia techniques, agents, adjunctive drugs, and equipment while providing anesthesia
- Administer general anesthesia to patients of all ages and physical conditions for a variety of surgical and medically related procedures
- Provide anesthesia services to all patients, including trauma and emergency cases
- Administer and manage a variety of regional anesthetics
- Function as a resource person for airway and ventilatory management of patients.
- Possess current advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) recognition
- Possess current pediatric advanced life support (PALS) recognition upon graduation
- Deliver culturally competent perianesthetic care throughout the anesthesia experience
- Perform a comprehensive history and a physical assessment

C. Critical thinking is demonstrated by the student's ability to:

- Apply theory to practice in decision-making and problem solving
- Provide nurse anesthesia care based on sound principles and research evidence
- Perform a preanesthetic assessment and formulate an anesthesia care plan for patients to whom they are assigned to administer anesthesia
- Identify and take appropriate action when confronted with anesthetic equipment-related malfunctions
- Interpret and utilize data obtained from noninvasive and invasive monitoring modalities.
- Calculate, initiate, and manage fluid and blood component therapy
- Recognize and appropriately respond to anesthetic complications that occur during the perianesthetic period.
- Pass the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists' (CRNA) certification examination in accordance with NBCRNA policies and procedures

D. Communication skills are demonstrated by the student's ability to:

- Effectively communicate with all individuals influencing patient care.
- Utilize appropriate verbal, nonverbal, and written communication in the delivery of perianesthetic care.

E. Professional role is demonstrated by the student's ability to:

- Participate in activities that improve anesthesia care
- Function within appropriate legal requirements as a registered professional nurse, accepting responsibility and accountability for his or her practice
- Interact on a professional level with integrity
- Teach others
- Participate in continuing education activities to acquire new knowledge and improve his or her practice.
- Demonstrate knowledge of wellness and chemical dependency in the anesthesia profession through completion of content in wellness and chemical dependency.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Individuals intending to enroll in the Nurse Anesthesia Program must have:

- Current Ohio State license as a registered nurse
- Graduate of a CCNE or NLN accredited baccalaureate nursing program
- BSN degree (must include min. of 3 hrs. of chemistry, 6 hours of anatomy & physiology and 3 hrs. of microbiology)
- Transcripts of all undergraduate coursework. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent) for **all** nursing degrees and science grades are required for admission
- Critical Care Registered Nurse certification (CCRN)
- Current ACLS certification
- A minimum of one year of professional nursing experience at the time of interview in an **adult** critical care setting; e.g., ICU, CCU, SICU, MICU
- Shadow a CRNA for a minimum of 16 hours
- Three references from individuals who can accurately evaluate the applicant's clinical skills, experience, and ability to pursue graduate study.
- A 300-word essay detailing professional goals and why they want to become a CRNA

Applicants meeting requirements will be considered for an interview with members of the Nurse Anesthesia Program Admissions Committee.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS RELATED TO ADMISSION

- Applications for admission must be completed by the first business day in August prior to the interview.
- Interviews are held in mid-October. Specific dates are announced yearly.
- Start of the program is in June of the year following acceptance in October.

RIGHTS OF APPLICANT

- Expect honesty from the program and the program's publications.

- Expect fair and equal evaluation and consideration when applying for a position in the program.