Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP)

This program is offered by the College of Arts & Sciences, and is only available at the St. Louis home campus.

Entry into Practice

Program Description

The doctor of nurse anesthesia practice (DNAP) degree prepares students for expertise in the art and science of anesthesia. Nurse anesthesia is an evolving profession, sensitive to the needs of society and the profession. Individuals develop this expertise through a holistic and complex integration of affective, cognitive and psychomotor skills. The philosophy of Webster University's nurse anesthesia program is that graduate education is fundamental in preparation for practicing as a certified registered nurse anesthetist. Webster University also believes that the profession of anesthesia requires a scientific and dynamic approach to assist in the return to health. The professional nurse anesthetist provides a variety of health services to individual patients and underserved communities using a variety of theories. The practice of anesthesia is founded in a long tradition with numerous activities directed toward disease prevention, health maintenance, restoration and rehabilitation. Strong moral, ethical and legal codes are fundamental to the practice of nurse anesthesia. These codes are reflected in internal, external, independent and interdependent behaviors.

Education at the graduate level is an expansion of the knowledge attained from undergraduate studies. Graduate education at Webster University encourages the development of advanced skills, theoretical knowledge and critical thinking skills to practice the art and science of anesthesia. The art and science of anesthesia are dynamic and require continued educational endeavors to stay abreast of current theory. Therefore, the nurse anesthetist must recognize the need to enhance one's knowledge and improve one's skills as a lifelong endeavor in the discipline of nurse anesthesia.

The curriculum spans 3 years of continuous enrollment.

Quality Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students should be able to:

- Professional:
  - Discuss and define the Scope of Practice of the CRNA.
  - Discuss current issues pertaining to the practice of nurse anesthesia.
  - Demonstrate professional attributes through attendance and participation in local, state and national professional organizational meetings and events.
  - Demonstrate strong ethics and personal integrity in all professional pursuits to include the delivery of quality and safe anesthesia to the community we serve.
  - Maintain AANA Associate membership until certification is obtained.
  - Demonstrate professional behaviors in the classroom, clinical settings and organizational activities.
  - Discuss role of Advanced Practice Nurse in leadership and healthcare.
  - Contribute to organizational and systems leadership to improve health care delivery.
- Didactic:
  - Develop a strong and comprehensive knowledge base necessary for the safe and effective delivery of anesthesia evidenced by academic progression with a B or better average.
  - Demonstrate requisite knowledge of content learned as evidenced by biannual Self Evaluation Examination (SEE) scores at or above median range or year in program.
  - Propose, develop, complete and defend a research thesis demonstrating a thorough understanding of the research and scientific method.
  - Pass the National Board Certifying Exam for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.
- Clinical:
  - Advocate for patient safety at all times.
  - Perform a thorough preanesthetic assessment and physical examination.
  - Develop an anesthesia care plan based on reported patient health conditions and physical exam.
  - Perform relevant patient and family teaching.
  - Obtain informed consent for anesthesia services.
  - Administer and manage a variety of anesthetic techniques, to include MAC, regional and general anesthetic techniques.
  - Provide advanced airway management skills.
  - Safely emerge patient from the anesthetic and transport to the Post Anesthesia Care Unity (PACU).
  - Demonstrate mastery in the understanding of co-morbidities and the delivery of anesthesia.
  - Transfer care to PACU staff.
  - Recognize and manage any post anesthetic conditions in PACU.
  - Maintain accurate record keeping of anesthetic experience.
  - Interpret and contribute to the development of health care policy.
  - Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the role of politics and economics in health care delivery.
  - Demonstrate an understanding of laws pertaining to health care delivery, patient rights, workers rights, etc.
  - Implement the technology of health care informatics into health care delivery.

Clinical Education Partners

Sites for beginning level (first year) clinical experiences may include DePaul Health Center, Des Peres Hospital, St. Clare, and the Veteran's Affairs Medical Center Hospital.

Nurse anesthesia residents may obtain clinical experiences at the intermediate (second year) and advanced (third year) levels at any of our affiliated institutions. They include DePaul Health Center, Des Peres Hospital, St. Clare Hospital, Veteran's Affairs Medical Center, Phelps County Regional Medical Center, Missouri Baptist Hospital, St. Anthony's Medical Center, Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, Arkansas Children's Hospital, Hedrick Medical Center, Southeast Health, St. Francis Hospital, St. Genevieve Hospital, Jefferson Mercy Hospital, Lake Regional Hospital, St. Louis University Hospital, University of Missouri, Missouri Delta Medical Center, Freeman Hospital West, Alton Memorial, and Christian Northeast Hospital.

Program Curriculum

Enrollment requires admission to the nurse anesthesia program or special permission of the Program Director.

Required Science Courses

- CHEM 7500 Biochemistry (3 hours)
- PHYS 7500 Physics for Anesthesia (2 hours)
- BIOL 7500 Immunology (3 hours)
- BIOL 7200 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology I (4 hours)
- BIOL 8000 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology II (4 hours)
### Required Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Simulation Courses

- DNAP 7150 Clinical Simulation Experience I (2 hours)
- DNAP 7250 Clinical Simulation Experience II (2 hours)
- DNAP 7350 Clinical Simulation Experience III (4 hours)
- DNAP 7450 Clinical Simulation Experience IV (4 hours)

### Required Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Courses

#### Beginning Level
- DNAP 7650 Clinical Experience I (2 hours)
- DNAP 7750 Clinical Experience II (2 hours)
- DNAP 7850 Clinical Experience III (2 hours)

#### Intermediate Level
- DNAP 8050 Clinical Experience IV (2 hours)
- DNAP 8150 Clinical Experience V (2 hours)
- DNAP 8250 Clinical Experience VI (2 hours)
- DNAP 8350 Clinical Experience VII (2 hours)
- DNAP 8450 Clinical Experience VIII (2 hours)

#### Advanced Level
- DNAP 8550 Clinical Experience IX (2 hours)
- DNAP 8650 Clinical Experience X (2 hours)

### Required Translational Independent Study Courses

- DNAP 7501, DNAP 7502, DNAP 7503, DNAP 7504, DNAP 7505, DNAP 7506, DNAP 7507, DNAP 7508 Translational Research Project I-VIII (8 hours)

**Total number of required hours: 143 hours**

### Requirements

#### Academic Performance

Students must earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 during the course of study and are permitted only one course grade of C.

#### General Requirements

Enrollment in all nurse anesthesia courses requires admission to the nurse anesthesia program. Completion of the courses will occur in the sequence prescribed by the program for the cohort group in which enrolled; deviations from this sequence, or enrollment without admission to the program require special permission of the Program Director.

Students in the program are subject to the policies and procedures for graduate studies for Webster University and the nurse anesthesia program.

#### Continuous Enrollment

Graduate students enrolled in the nurse anesthesia program must maintain continuous enrollment, or request special permission from the Program Director. The Webster University nurse anesthesia program is a cohort program which requires continuous enrollment with courses completed in the prescribed succession.

### Admission

Students who are interested in applying to this degree program should see the Admission section of this catalog for general requirements.

#### Admission Requirements

Requirements for admission to the nurse anesthesia program include:

- Current RN license. Out-of-state applicants must obtain a Missouri and Illinois Nursing License once admitted into the program.
- Bachelor's degree in nursing or a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing program from a fully accredited college plus a nursing degree.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for undergraduate studies or evidence of outstanding post-graduation academic achievement.
- Prerequisite courses: organic chemistry (3 hours) or biochemistry (3 hours) and physics (3 hours), taken within the last 5 years. Labs are not required with these courses. All prerequisite courses should be completed, with grades received, prior to the application deadline.
- A minimum of one year of experience in an acute care setting as a professional registered nurse. (Two years preferred in an adult ICU setting.)
- Proof of current ACLS, BLS and PALS certifications and CCRN score sheet.
- A personal interview. Applicants offered an interview must submit a criminal background check prior to the interview.
- Accepted applicants must provide a clean drug screen.
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Application Process
The application deadline date is September 1 for enrollment in the following Summer term. Submit all of the following documents to the Office of Admission; address is below:

• A completed nurse anesthesia program application, submitted online.
• A non-refundable application fee.
• Official transcripts from all universities, colleges and professional schools.
• A one-page cover letter explaining why you have chosen to pursue the nurse anesthesia field, including any relevant information you would like the Admissions Committee to consider regarding your qualifications as an applicant.
• A syllabus and/or course description for prerequisite coursework taken through an online program.
• Prerequisite Review Worksheet.
• A current résumé with detailed ICU experience, i.e. years, location and specific ICU title.
• Proof of nursing license from NURSYS.com; report should include all licenses and expirations.
• Proof of current certifications: ACLS, BLS and PALS certifications and CCRN score sheet.
• Two letters of reference that provide an assessment of professional performance, continuing education and character traits. Request one assessment from an immediate supervisor and one from a professional.
• One CRNA Shadow Verification form.
• Any additional supporting information you wish to include, such as copies of certifications, awards, honors and/or publications within the past 2 years.
• A copy of your green card if you are a U.S. permanent resident.

Send all admissions materials to:
Office of Admission
Webster University
470 E. Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63119

Completed application files will be reviewed by the Nurse Anesthesia Department.

• Selected students will be invited on campus for a personal interview.
• Offers of admission will be extended to 24 students for entry into the degree program for the Summer term.
• Students are required to submit a deposit to secure their position in the class.

CRNA Completion Degree
Program Description
The doctor of nurse anesthesia practice (DNAP) CRNA completion degree assists the masters prepared practicing CRNA with the opportunity to bridge their degree to the practice doctorate. The degree is offered in a 100% online platform to accommodate the complicated work schedules of practicing CRNAs. Consistent with the AACN guidelines and approval by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs, the DNAP focuses on equipping the nurse anesthetist with content areas that emphasize the clinical practice-oriented leadership through evidence-based research, quality improvement, intradepartmental collaboration and systems leadership.

Quality Outcomes
Upon completion of the program the graduates should be able to:

• Apply physiological, safety and organizational theories to promote patient safety, enhance quality care and improve nurse anesthesia practice.
• Critically appraise scientific literature and apply results to improve culturally sensitive nurse anesthesia practice and patient care outcomes.
• Effectively collaborate with other health professionals to provide the most appropriate, effective treatment.
• Effectively communicate with patients and family members.
• Demonstrate leadership skills to meet the growing challenges of complex healthcare systems.
• Understand that quality healthcare is steeped in ethics.
• Contribute to ongoing education and training to all members of the healthcare team, families, students in training, etc.
• Demonstrate nurse anesthesia scholarship through a commitment to lifelong learning, leadership activities and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Program Curriculum

• DNAP 7500 Translational Research (2 hours)
• DNAP 8220 Health Care Informatics (2 hours)
• DNAP 8420 Organizational and Systems Leadership in Health Care (3 hours)
• DNAP 8240 Health Care Policy Analysis and Advocacy (2 hours)
• DNAP 6400 Population Health and Epidemiology (2 hours)
• DNAP 8430 Health Administration Law and Ethics (3 hours)
• DNAP 8440 Advanced Practice Nurse Role in Leadership and Health Care (3 hours)
• DNAP 8230 Politics and Economics of Health Care (3 hours)
• DNAP 8500 Current Topics in Anesthesia I (1 hour)
• DNAP 8510 Current Topics in Anesthesia II (1 hour)
• DNAP 8520 Current Topics in Anesthesia III (1 hour)
• DNAP 8530 Current Topics in Anesthesia IV (1 hour)
• DNAP 8221 Health Care Informatics (2 hours)
• DNAP 8231 Politics and Economics of Health Care (3 hours)
• DNAP 8241 Health Care Policy Analysis and Advocacy (2 hours)
• DNAP 8441 Advanced Practice Nurse Role in Leadership and Health Care (3 hours)
• DNAP 8501 Current Topics in Anesthesia I (1 hour)
• DNAP 8511 Current Topics in Anesthesia II (1 hour)
• DNAP 8521 Current Topics in Anesthesia III (1 hour)
• DNAP 8531 Current Topics in Anesthesia IV (1 hour)

Required Translational Independent Study Courses
DNAP 7501, DNAP 7502, DNAP 7503, DNAP 7504, DNAP 7505, DNAP 7506 Translational Research Project I-VI (6 hours)

Total number of required hours: 31 hours

Requirements

Academic Performance
Students must earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 during the course of graduate study and are permitted only one course grade of C.

Continuous Enrollment
Graduate students enrolled in the nurse anesthesia program must maintain continuous enrollment, or request special permission from the Program Director. The Webster University nurse anesthesia program is a cohort program which requires continuous enrollment with courses completed in the prescribed succession.

Admission
Students who are interested in applying to this degree program should see the Admission section of this catalog for general requirements.
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Admission Requirements
Requirements for admission to the nurse anesthesia completion degree program include:

- Master's degree in nurse anesthesia from an accredited institution.
- Evidence of CRNA credential.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- A minimum of one year of practice as a CRNA or verification of a 4 credit hour Advanced Health Assessment course.

Application Process
The application deadline date is April 15 for enrollment in the following Summer term. Submit all of the following documents to the Office of Admission; address is below.

- A completed DNAP CRNA Completion degree online application.
- A non-refundable application fee.
- Official transcripts from professional program.
- A current résumé.
- Current copy of CRNA credential.
- A letter of reference from a supervisor that can attest to CRNA practice.

Send all admissions materials to:
Office of Admission
Webster University
470 E. Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63119

Completed application files will be reviewed by the Nurse Anesthesia Department.

Transfer Credits
Transfer credits are considered on an individual basis up to 6 credit hours.