

Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) with an Emphasis in Health Administration

This program is offered by the College of Science and Health and is only available at the St. Louis main 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 their 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 involves assessment, planning, implementation, directing and evaluating the care process. The practice of nurse anesthesia is founded in a long tradition with numerous activities of the nurse anesthesia profession 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 three 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.
- Proposed, developed, completed and defended 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 Unit (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 clinical experiences may include SSM Health DePaul Hospital, SSM Health St. Clare Hospital, Des Peres Hospital, Christian Hospital, Mercy Hospital Jefferson, Mercy Hospital South, Missouri Baptist Sullivan, Missouri Delta Medical Center, Phelps Health, St. Luke's Hospital, St. Peter's Hospital, University of Missouri Hospital Center, and Veteran's Affairs Medical Center Hospital.

Nurse anesthesia residents may obtain clinical experiences at the intermediate and advanced levels at any of our affiliated institutions listed above and also: SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital, SSM Health St. Joseph's Hospital West, SSM Health Saint Louis University Anheuser Busch Institute Surgery Center, Baptist Health Paducah, Blessing Hospital, Boone Hospital Center, Hedrick Medical Center, Lake Regional Hospital, Mercy Health Lourdes Hospital, Mercy Hospital St. Louis, Missouri Baptist Medical Center, Mercy Springfield, Perry County Health System, Southeast Health, and St. Francis Medical Center.

Program Curriculum

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

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Required Science Courses

- CHEM 7500 Biochemistry (3 hours)
- PHYS 7500 Physics for Anesthesia (2 hours)
- BIOL 7200 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology I (3 hours)
- BIOL 7201 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology I lab (1 hour)
- BIOL 8000 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology II (3 hours)
- BIOL 8001 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology II lab (1 hour)
- BIOL 8100 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology III (3 hours)
- BIOL 8101 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology III lab (1 hour)
- AHP 7510 Biostatistics for Health Sciences (3 hours)
- BIOL 7600 Cell Biology (3 hours)
- BIOL 7700 Genetics (1 hour)
- DNAP 8700 Pharmacogenomics (2 hours)
- BIOL 8150 Immunology (3 hours)
- DNAP 6400 Population Health and Epidemiology (2 hours)
- AHP 8400 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 hours)
- DNAP 7900 Pharmacology I (3 hours)
- DNAP 8000 Advanced Pharmacology II (3 hours)
- DNAP 8010 Advanced Pharmacology III (3 hours)
- DNAP 8020 Advanced Pharmacology IV (3 hours)

Required Nurse Anesthesia Courses

- DNAP 7000 Advanced Health Assessment (4 hours)
- DNAP 7100 Introduction to Anesthesia (3 hours)
- DNAP 7200 Basics of Anesthesia (3 hours)
- DNAP 7300 Principles of Anesthesia I (3 hours)
- DNAP 7400 Principles of Anesthesia II (3 hours)
- DNAP 8100 Anesthesia Concepts I (3 hours)
- DNAP 8200 Anesthesia Concepts II (3 hours)
- DNAP 8300 Anesthesia Concepts III (3 hours)
- DNAP 8400 Anesthesia Concepts IV (3 hours)
- DNAP 8410 Anesthesia and Coexisting Diseases (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)
- AHP 7500 Translational Research (2 hours)
- HLTH 5000 Organization and Management in Health Administration (3 hours)
- HLTH 5050 Financial Management in Health Administration (3 hours)
- DNAP 8240 Health Care Policy Analysis and Advocacy (3 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)

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 (2 hours)

Required Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Courses

Beginning Level

- DNAP 7550 Introduction to Clinical Experience (2 hour)
- 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 Thesis Courses

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

Total required: 141 credit 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.

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

See the Admission section of this catalog for general admission requirements. Students interested in applying must submit their application online at www.webster.edu/ apply. Transcripts should be sent from your institution electronically to transcripts@webster.edu. If this service is not available, send transcripts to:

Office of Admission
Webster University
470 E. Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63119

Additional Requirements

Requirements for admission to the nurse anesthesia program include:

- Current RN license. Out-of-state applicants must obtain a Missouri, Illinois and Kentucky Nursing License once admitted into the program.

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- Bachelor's degree in nursing or related field from a fully accredited institution.
- Prerequisite courses in organic chemistry (3 credit hrs.) OR biochemistry (3 credit hrs.) and physics (algebra-based, 3 credit hrs.), 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 cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for undergraduate studies or evidence of outstanding post-graduation academic achievement.
- A minimum of one year of experience in a critical care setting as a professional registered nurse (two years preferred in an adult intensive care unit (ICU) setting)
- Current ACLS, BLS, and CCRN certification. (PALS certification is not required for admission, but is required by the end of the calendar year upon starting the program).
- A personal interview.

Application Process

All applications should be submitted via the NursingCAS Portal, which can be accessed here:

[NursingCAS | Applicant Login Page Section](#)

Among the documentation you will be asked to submit are the following:

1. A non-refundable application fee
2. Official transcripts from all universities, colleges, and professional schools
3. 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
4. A current resume
5. Current copies of certification - BLS, ACLS, and CCRN (PALS if you have one)
6. Three letters of reference that provide an assessment of professional performance, continuing education, character traits, and knowledge of nurse anesthesia practice
7. One verification of shadowing from a CRNA
8. One assessment from an immediate supervisor
9. One assessment from a professional
10. Any additional supporting information you wish to include, such as copies of certification, awards, honors, and/or publications within the past 2 years
11. A copy of your green card if you are a U.S. permanent resident
12. Submission of a Federal Criminal Background check

Completed application files will be reviewed by the Department of Advanced Clinical Sciences.

*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 in 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 provides the master's prepared practicing CRNA with the opportunity to bridge their degree to the practice doctorate. The degree is offered in a 100% online, primarily

asynchronous, platform to accommodate the complicated work schedules of practicing CRNAs. Two of the courses, HLTH 5000 and HLTH 5050, do have a required synchronous activity one evening per week. Consistent with the AACN guidelines and approval by the Council on Accreditation (COA) of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs, the DNAP focuses on equipping the CRNA with content areas that emphasize the clinical practice-oriented leadership through evidence-based research, health administration, 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

- AHP 7500 Translational Research (2 hours)
- DNAP 8240 Health Care Policy Analysis and Advocacy (3 hours)
- HLTH 5000 Organization & Management in Health Administration (3 hours)
- HLTH 5050 Financial Management in Health Administration (3 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)

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 required: 32 credit 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.

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Continuous Enrollment

Graduate students enrolled in the DNAP CRNA completion program must maintain continuous enrollment or requires special permission from the Program Director.

Webster University
470 East Lockwood Ave
St. Louis, MO 63119

Admission

See the Admission section of this catalog for general admission requirements. Students interested in applying must submit their application online at www.webster.edu/apply. Transcripts should be sent from your institution electronically to transcripts@webster.edu. If this service is not available, send transcripts to:

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Webster University
470 E. Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63119

Additional Requirements

Requirements for admission to the doctor of nurse anesthesia practice (CRNA completion) program include:

- Master's degree in nurse anesthesia from an accredited institution.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Official transcripts from **all** universities, colleges and professional schools.
- A minimum of one year of practice as a CRNA or verification of a 4-credit hour Advanced Health Assessment course.
- Proof of current CRNA license from NURSYS.com*; report should include all licenses and expirations.
- A current résumé.*
- A letter of reference from a supervisor that can attest to CRNA practice. References are requested through the application.

***These required materials must be electronically uploaded to the application account.**

Application Process

Please visit the Webster University Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice webpage for the Application Deadline date: <https://www.webster.edu/science-health/nurse-anesthesia/nurse-anesthesia.php>.

Submit all the following documents to the Office of Admissions; address is below.

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

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.

Send all admission materials to:
Office of Admission