CRNA Education and Training

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) are highly educated, advanced practice registered nurses who deliver anesthesia to patients in exactly the same ways, for the same types of procedures and just as safely as physician anesthesiologists.

CRNAs have a minimum of 7 to 8 years of education and training specific to nursing and anesthesiology before they are licensed to practice anesthesia.

- Baccalaureate prepared RN
- Critical care nursing experience
- Classroom and clinical education and training

By 2025, all anesthesia program graduates will earn doctoral degrees

CRNAs must pass a National Certification Examination for entry into practice and be recertified every 4 years so they are current on the latest anesthesia techniques and technologies. They must also pass a Continued Professional Certification exam every 8 years. Anesthesiologists are recertified every 10 years.

- Minimum 1 Year
- 24 – 36 Months
- Master’s or Doctoral Degree from a COA-accredited nurse anesthesia educational program

CRNAs are qualified to administer every type of anesthesia in any healthcare setting, including pain management for acute or chronic pain.

- Manage difficult cases
- Use advanced monitoring equipment
- Interpret diagnostic information
- Respond appropriately in any emergency situation

Constant Learners

Research shows that CRNAs are less costly to educate and train than anesthesiologists.

CRNAs obtain an average of 3.5 years of critical care nursing experience before entering a nurse anesthesia program. They are the only anesthesia professionals with this level of critical care experience prior to entering an educational program.

As the demand for healthcare continues to grow, increasing the number of CRNAs will be key to containing costs while maintaining quality care.

For more information, visit www.future-of-anesthesia-care-today.com

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1. Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs