

# NURSING PRACTICE, SPECIALIZATION IN NURSE ANESTHESIA (DNP)

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The Nurse Anesthesia program is a specialized track of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree offered by the School of Nursing at the University of Louisville. The program is committed to fostering expertise in the art and science of anesthesia, excellence in leadership, and a commitment to the future of the Nurse Anesthesia profession. Completion of the specialty curriculum prepares students to take the National Certification Examination (NCE) offered by the National Boards of Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) (<https://www.nbcrna.com/>).

## Nurse Anesthesia Program Outcomes

At the completion of the Nurse Anesthesia DNP Program, the graduate must demonstrate the ability to:

### Patient Safety

- Be vigilant in the delivery of patient care.
- Refrain from engaging in extraneous activities that abandon or minimize vigilance while providing direct patient care.
- Conduct a comprehensive equipment check.
- Protect patients from iatrogenic complications.

### Perianesthesia

- Provide individualized care throughout the perianesthesia continuum.
- Deliver culturally competent perianesthesia care.
- Provide anesthesia services to all patients across the lifespan.
- Perform a comprehensive history and physical assessment.
- Administer general anesthesia to patients with a variety of physical conditions.
- Administer general anesthesia for a variety of surgical and medically related procedures.
- Administer and manage a variety of regional anesthetics.
- Maintain current certification in ACLS and PALS.

### Critical Thinking

- Apply knowledge to practice in decision making and problem solving
- Provide nurse anesthesia services based on evidence-based principles.
- Perform a preanesthetic assessment before providing anesthesia services.
- Assume responsibility and accountability for diagnosis.
- Formulate an anesthesia plan of care before providing anesthesia services.
- 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, evaluate, and manage the physiological responses coincident to the provision of anesthesia services.

- Recognize and appropriately manage complications that occur during the provision of anesthesia services.
- Use science-based theories and concepts to analyze new practice approaches.
- Pass the National Certification Examination (NCE) administered by the NBCRNA.

### Communication

- Utilize interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients and their families.
- Utilize interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective interprofessional exchange of information and collaboration with other healthcare professionals.
- Respect the dignity and privacy of patients while maintaining confidentiality in the delivery of interprofessional care.
- Maintain comprehensive, timely, accurate, and legible healthcare records.
- Transfer the responsibility for care of the patient to other qualified providers in a manner that assures continuity of care and patient safety.
- Teach others.

### Leadership

- Integrate critical and reflective thinking in his or her leadership approach.
- Provide leadership that facilitates intraprofessional and interprofessional collaboration.

### Professional Role

- Adhere to the Code of Ethics for the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.
- Interact on a professional level with integrity.
- Apply ethically sound decision-making processes.
- Function within legal and regulatory requirements.
- Accept responsibility and accountability for his or her practice.
- Provide anesthesia services to patients in a cost-effective manner.
- Demonstrate knowledge of wellness and substance use disorder in the anesthesia profession through completion of content in wellness and substance use disorder.
- Inform the public of the role and practice of the CRNA.
- Evaluate how public policy making strategies impact the financing and delivery of healthcare.
- Advocate for health policy change to improve patient care.
- Advocate for health policy change to advance the specialty of nurse anesthesia.
- Analyze strategies to improve patient outcomes and quality of care.
- Analyze health outcomes in a variety of populations.
- Analyze health outcomes in a variety of clinical settings.
- Analyze health outcomes in a variety of systems.
- Disseminate scholarly work.
- Use information systems/technology to support and improve patient care.
- Use information systems/technology to support and improve healthcare systems.



NURS 752	DNP Project III: Project Evaluation, Analysis and Dissemination (84 Clinical Hours) <sup>1</sup>	3
NURS 791	Applied Statistics for Evidence Based Practice	3
Students who do not complete the DNP project within the DNP coursework will be required to enroll in the DOC 600 completion course until degree requirements are met.		
A minimum of 2000 clinical hours is required for the DNP-NA degree.		
<b>Minimum Total Hours</b>		<b>42</b>

[Boards of Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists \(NBCRNA\).](#)

More information about certification or licensure is available at the following website: <https://louisville.edu/about/departments/academic-planning-accountability/disclosures/professional-licensure> (<https://louisville.edu/about/departments/academic-planning-accountability/disclosures/professional-licensure/>).

**Nurse Anesthesia Requirements**

Academic Plan Code: NURSDNPNAN

Code	Title	Hours
NURS 809	Advanced Anatomy and Physiology for Anesthesia I	3
NURS 810	Advanced Anatomy & Physiology for Anesthesia II	3
NURS 811	Chemistry and Physics for Anesthesia	3
NURS 812	Advanced Pharmacology for Anesthesia	3
NURS 813	Business & Leadership in the Nurse Anesthesia Role	3
NURS 814	Intro to Anesthesia	3
NURS 815	Foundational Principles of Anesthesia I	3
NURS 816	Foundational Principles of Anesthesia II	3
NURS 817	Advanced Principles and Practice of Anesthesia I	3
NURS 818	Advanced Principles and Practice of Anesthesia II	3
NURS 819	Advanced Principles and Practice of Anesthesia III	3
NURS 821	Clinical Practicum for NA I (180 Clinical Hours) <sup>2</sup>	2
NURS 822	Clinical Practicum for NA II (360 Clinical Hours) <sup>2</sup>	4
NURS 823	Clinical Practicum for NA III (450 Clinical Hours) <sup>2</sup>	5
NURS 824	Clinical Practicum for NA IV (450 Clinical Hours) <sup>2</sup>	5
NURS 825	Clinical Practicum for NA V (540 Clinical Hours) <sup>2</sup>	6
NURS 826	Clinical Practicum for NA VI (450 Clinical Hours) <sup>2</sup>	5
NURS 827	Clinical Practicum for NA VII (450 Clinical Hours) <sup>2</sup>	5
NURS 828	Nurse Anesthesia Seminar I	2
NURS 829	Nurse Anesthesia Seminar II	1
NURS 830	Nurse Anesthesia Seminar III	2
<b>Minimum Total Hours</b>		<b>70</b>

<sup>1</sup> This course contains clinical hours specific to the DNP project development. Clinical hours in this course should not be counted as direct patient care hours.

<sup>2</sup> This course contains patient care focused clinical hours. Clinical hours in this course are counted as direct patient care hours. 1 credit hour = 84 clinical hours.

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