

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL  
SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA  
FOR NURSES  
Informational Brochure



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# St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses



Dear Applicant:

We would like to thank you for showing interest in our School of Anesthesia. It is recommended that the applicant read the brochure thoroughly since it contains pertinent information regarding admission requirements and application protocol.

It is required that your completed application be received by the School no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> in order to be considered for the class commencing in September of the subsequent year.

An interview is required of applicants meeting the admission prerequisites. Interviews will be scheduled only after the completed application and all supported documentation has been received.

The information in this brochure is subject to change without prior notice.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Tierney, CRNA, MSN, MA  
CRNA Program Director  
School of Anesthesia for Nurses

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses is a privately run program under the auspices of Associates in Anesthesia, Inc. The school was founded and received full accreditation from the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists in 1962. Up to this time nurses, for the most part, were employed at random to assist and/or administer anesthesia in our geographical location.

Associates in Anesthesia felt that the need for the formal education of Nurse Anesthetist was essential for the delivery of quality anesthesia care. This need gave impetus to the founding of our school of anesthesia. To date, we have enrolled over 350 students into our program. Although our school serves as a major supply for nurse anesthetists in the state, we have graduates in many parts of the country.

In 1990, St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses felt a need to move to a more progressive academic setting offering a program giving nurses an opportunity to become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists and earn a Masters Degree in Nurse Anesthesia from the University of New England, Biddeford, Maine.

The University of New England provides graduate level Science courses in Physiology, Pharmacology, Chemistry and Physics and the anesthesia courses are provided by the faculty of UNE and St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia.

St. Joseph Hospital is a merged 2 hospital complex with a total capacity of approximately 250 beds. In excess of 15,000 anesthetics are administered annually. Anesthesia is administered for all types of surgical procedures, excluding open heart, organ transplant and obstetrics.

St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses has an arrangement with five (5) affiliate sites ~ Rhode Island Hospital (Pediatrics, Neurosurgery and Cardiovascular); Veteran's Administration Medical Center (Regional Anesthesia and general anesthetics); St. Vincent's Hospital (Obstetrics, Thoracic); Metro Hospital-West Framingham, MA; West Roxbury VA, MA (Hearts, Neuro, Regional and general anesthetics).

## **PHILOSOPHY**

The curriculum of the St. Joseph Hospital School Of Anesthesia for Nurses evolves from the following statements of philosophy articulated by the faculty and staff:

Demands of a more health-orientated citizenry for expanding health care requires continuing assessment, evaluation, and updating of all aspects of health, including education of health care providers.

Administration of anesthesia is an advanced nursing specialty, which is an essential component of the health care team.

Knowledge, attitudes, and skills of select registered nurses can serve as the foundation for the preparation of competent, effective nurse anesthetists.

Qualified faculty and staff operating within an accredited comprehensive health agency contribute to the milieu for qualitative learning experiences for nurse anesthetists.

Learning is a life-long process and the continued development of each nurse anesthetist is an essential individual, moral, and professional responsibility.

## **MISSION**

St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses aims to enhance and expand the knowledge, attitude, and skills of the professional nurse in a graduate framework so that he/she as a nurse anesthetist can function safely and effectively in any setting with patients of all ages. This is accomplished through application of educational principles, methodology, theory, and practice in the range of activities related to anesthesia through optimum utilization of clinical and other learning resources, by giving you the tools/opportunities to graduate, pass the CCNA exam, and function as a safe Anesthetist at a basic level. This is guided by the values of respect, compassion, responsibility and teamwork.

## **ACCREDITATION STATUS**

Schools of Nurse Anesthesia are accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs. The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs granted full 10-year accreditation status to the St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses in March 2006. The next onsite review, per council on accreditation, will take place in the fall of 2016.

## **CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST (CRNA)**

Nurse anesthetists have been providing anesthesia care to patients in the United States for more than 125 years. The credential CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist) came into existence in 1956. CRNAs are anesthesia professionals who safely administer *approximately 30 million anesthetics* to patients each year in the United States, according to the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) 2006 Practice Profile Survey.

CRNAs are the primary anesthesia providers in rural America, enabling healthcare facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer obstetrical, surgical, and trauma stabilization services. In some states, CRNAs are the sole providers in nearly 100% of the rural hospitals.

According to a 1999 report from the Institute of Medicine, anesthesia care today is nearly 50 times safer than it was 20 years ago. Numerous outcomes studies have demonstrated that there is no difference in the quality of care provided by CRNAs and their physician counterparts.

CRNAs provide anesthesia in collaboration with surgeons, anesthesiologists, dentists, podiatrists, and other qualified healthcare professionals. When anesthesia is administered by a nurse anesthetist, it is recognized as the practice of nursing; when administered by an anesthesiologist, it is recognized as the practice of medicine. Regardless of whether their educational background is in nursing or medicine, all anesthesia professionals give anesthesia the same way.

As advanced practice nurses, CRNAs practice with a high degree of autonomy and professional respect. They carry a heavy load of responsibility and are compensated accordingly.

CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered: traditional hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms; critical access hospitals; ambulatory surgical centers; the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons, and pain management specialists; and U.S. military, Public Health Services, and Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities.

Nurse anesthetists have been the main providers of anesthesia care to U.S. military men and women on the front lines since WWI. Nurses first provided anesthesia to wounded soldiers during the Civil War.

Managed care plans recognize CRNAs for providing high-quality anesthesia care with reduced expense to patients and insurance companies. *The cost-efficiency of CRNAs helps control escalating healthcare costs.*

Across the country, nurse anesthetist professional liability premiums are 33% lower than 19 years ago (or 43% lower when adjusted for inflation).

Legislation passed by Congress in 1986 made nurse anesthetists the first nursing specialty to be accorded direct reimbursement rights under the Medicare program.

Approximately 42% of the nation's 37,000 nurse anesthetists and student nurse anesthetists are men, compared with about 8% in the nursing profession as a whole. More than 90% of U.S. nurse anesthetists are members of the AANA.

## **THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS (AANA)**

The American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) was founded in 1931. Today, AANA represents more than 36,000 CRNAs nationwide and is one of the nation's most dynamic health care professional organizations. In addition to offering educational workshops at its many conventions and regional meetings, AANA represents the interests of the CRNAs in Congress. A bill was signed into law in 1986 making nurse anesthetists the first nursing specialty to be accorded direct reimbursement rights under Medicare's prospective payment system, AANA's effectiveness as an organization is evident in the fact that more than 90% of nurse anesthetists in America today belong to AANA. Learn more about the American Association of Nurse Anesthetist at [AANA.com](http://AANA.com).

## **ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA / UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND MASTER OF SCIENCE NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAM**

Under the integrated MS-Nurse Anesthesia Program, the University of New England awards the Master of Science – Nurse Anesthesia Degree to students who satisfactorily complete a 54-credit schedule of classes offered over a 27-month period.

Our integrated curriculum incorporates both classroom and clinical components. The on-campus didactic portion consists of graduate courses taught by both the University of New England (UNE) Faculty and by the Clinical Faculty at both the UNE program and St. Joseph School of Anesthesia program. After completion of this phase, the students move on to the 19-month hospital-based clinical portion of the curriculum. In addition to clinical anesthesia training, this phase also includes continued lecture, seminar, and independent research courses taught by UNE and school faculty. Successful completion of the program qualifies the student to take the National Certification Examination.

### **Applicant Rights**

Applicants have the following rights:

- ✓ Applicants will be treated in a respectful manner.
- ✓ Applicants will be communicated with in a truthful and timely fashion.
- ✓ Applicants will have their application considered with the same degree of consideration as any other applicant.
- ✓ Applicants will be notified when their application is incomplete and what items they need to send in for completeness.

### **Applicants Responsibilities**

Applicants have the responsibility to:

- ✓ Inform the program of changes in contact information (address, e-mail, phone).
- ✓ Complete their application and send in all supporting documentation.
- ✓ Be truthful and complete on the application and in all aspects of their communication.
- ✓ Provide the program with the information necessary to make decisions about their qualifications for admission into the program.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT**

All applicants for the School of Anesthesia are treated without regard to race, marital status, religion, age, sex, national origin, color, handicap, or veteran status.

## **BEHAVIORAL OUTCOMES**

At the conclusion of the educational program in this school, it is expected that the student nurse anesthetist will:

- Perform a pre-anesthetic interview and physical assessment, to include:
  - ✓ Psychological preparation of the patient for anesthesia and surgery.
  - ✓ Obtain an accurate health history from the patient medical record and or family.
  - ✓ Evaluate the patient's physical and psychological status identifying abnormalities that will have implications on the anesthesia care plan including evaluation of all laboratory radiographic and other diagnostic test data.
  - ✓ Integrate and apply the knowledge learned in didactic studies to insure greater clinical competence in providing safe and effective patient care.
  - ✓ Formulate an appropriate anesthesia care plan.
  - ✓ Administer a physiologically sound anesthetic, using general and or regional techniques and procedures that are compatible with the physiological condition of the patient.
  - ✓ Interpret and integrate information from a variety of monitoring modalities including electrocardiography, pulse, oximetry, capnography, noninvasive and invasive arterial blood pressure monitoring, central venous pressure monitoring, pulmonary artery pressure monitoring etc.
  - ✓ Identify the need for and insert a variety of invasive monitoring devices including arterial, central venous and pulmonary artery catheters.
  - ✓ Develop and execute an effective plan for fluid and blood component administration.
  - ✓ Execute and maintain effective mechanical ventilation integrating available information.
  - ✓ Implement and supervise appropriate physical positioning of the patient to ensure safety for the patient and optimum working conditions for the surgical team.
  - ✓ Recognize indications of physiological stress demonstrated by patients and initiate appropriate interventions.
  - ✓ Implement indicated crisis interventions for the patient undergoing anesthesia and surgery to facilitate safe and effective patient care as well as efficient and harmonious function of the health care team.
  - ✓ Function as a team member and resource person in cardiopulmonary resuscitations.
  - ✓ Function as a resource person for the respiratory care of patients receiving mechanical ventilation.
  - ✓ Serve as a resource person in the training of paramedical personnel.

- ✓ Function as a consultant in acute and critical care areas as requested.
- ✓ Function within appropriate medicolegal parameters.
- ✓ Demonstrate professional presentation and clinical teaching skills necessary to effectively promote the education of nurse anesthetist and others involved in health care.
- ✓ Critically evaluate and apply research in preparation of an independent study or educational project.
- ✓ Function as a positive member of the health team and the role model for future health care providers.
- ✓ Assume total responsibility for one's own actions through continuous professional growth.

## **CURRICULUM DESIGN**

The curriculum is designed so that students are based primarily on campus for the first 7 months of the program. The majority of the basic science didactic courses are offered during this period. The remaining 20 months of the program are hospital-based, with an emphasis on advanced course work, clinical training and research.

All students in the combined program are required to complete the entire curriculum and clinical portion of the program with passing grades, they are to complete assigned research or teaching projects and submit a written report to the Program Director.  
(See Curriculum Design Insertion)

### Course Descriptions

#### **ANE 504: Pharmacology I**

3 credits

The objectives of this course are to increase knowledge of how drugs act in general on the human body, to produce their effects and to focus on certain drug classes and prototypic drugs of these classes, which may be particularly relevant to Nurse Anesthesia.

#### **ANE 507: Chemistry/Physics of Anesthesia**

4 credits

A study of the laws of chemistry and physics relating to anesthesia, Emphasis is placed on the gas laws, vaporization, pressures and flow, and chemical properties of anesthetic agents and drugs.

#### **ANE 510: Airway Management: Principles and Practice**

3 credits

This course will provide the student with a comprehensive study of airway management, principles and practices that are essential to anesthesia delivery. The course will provide both didactic instruction and simulated clinical scenarios to enhance student's knowledge base and clinical performance of various airway devices.

#### **ANE 601: Professional aspects of Anesthesia**

2 credits

This course introduces the student to the profession of Nurse Anesthesia and the issues that directly influence the profession. Special topics include: An historical perspective, the professional role of the CRNA, legal aspects, the functions of the Association of Nurse Anesthetist, substance abuse and quality assurance.

#### **ANE 602: Anesthesia Principles I**

4 credits

The course is designed to present the student with an overview of introductory principles of Nurse Anesthesia. Emphasis is placed on the anesthesia machine, airway management, positioning, monitoring, documentation, pre- and post-operative evaluation, fluid electrolyte balance and blood transfusion therapy. Human Patient simulation lab sessions are integrated to support core concepts and fluid management.

### **ANE 603: Physiology I**

3 credits

The course of study is based on the basic principles of human physiology with emphasis on membrane, cellular, and tissue mechanisms common to many organ systems. Comprehensive study of human physiology and pathophysiology with emphasis on the muscle, endocrine and cardiovascular systems.

### **ANE 604: Physiology II**

3 credits

This course of study involves a Comprehensive study of the anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of the respiratory renal and nervous system.

### **ANE 606 Pharmacology II**

4 credits

This course will provide the Student Nurse Anesthetist with detailed information regarding pharmacological agents that are applicable to clinical anesthesia practice. Specifically, the course will apply the knowledge from basic principles of pharmacology to anesthesia agents and adjuncts. Emphasis will be placed on the following drug classifications: inhalation anesthetics, IV induction agents, respiratory agents, antiemetics, antibiotics, antihistamines, anticoagulants, neuropsychiatric agents, chemotherapeutic agents, and cardiovascular agents.

### **ANE 609 Research methods Seminar**

3 credits

This course focuses on preparing students to critically analyze and develop research. Emphasis is placed on reading and interpretation, published research in terms of applicability to the health care professional. Discussion groups, class presentation and lectures use research articles to clarify and expand on the key research concepts of design, subject selection, measurement and data collection, Ethical principles of research, appropriateness of statistical test, validity and reliability

### **ANE 612 Physical Assessment**

2 credits

### **ANE 613 Research Practicum**

2 credits

This course consists of individual study and the preparation and formal presentation of a capstone project.

### **ANE 615 Pathophysiology I**

2 credits

### **ANE 616 Pathophysiology II**

2 credits

### **ANE 619 Special topics in Anesthesia**

2 credit

The course is comprised of seminars, which expose students to special clinical situations, such as the difficult airway and chronic pain management as well as timely professional issues. Lectures, small group discussions and human patient simulator lab session are included in the learning experience.

### **ANE 623 Anesthesia Principles II**

3 credits

Advanced anesthesia principles including special consideration for respiratory, cardiac, hepato renal, vascular, neuro, and endocrine are discussed in detail. Human simulation lab sessions are integrated to support core concepts.

### **ANE 624 Anesthesia Principles III**

3 credits

Continues presentation of Advanced Principles of Nurse Anesthesia. In this block of instruction the following topics will be discussed in detail: Regional anesthesia, geriatrics, conscious sedation, collagen disorders, trauma, burns, and obstetrics and musculoskeletal. Human patient simulation lab sessions are integrated to support core concept.

### **ANE 625 Anesthesia Principles IV**

4 credits

Continues presentation of Advanced Principles of Nurse Anesthesia. In this block of instruction the following topics will be discussed in detail: Regional anesthesia, geriatrics, conscious sedation, collagen disorders, trauma, burns, and obstetrics and musculoskeletal. Human patient simulation lab sessions are integrated to support core concept.

### **ANE 650 Clinical Practicum I** 1 credit

### **ANE 652 Clinical Practicum II** 1 credit

### **ANE 654 Clinical Practicum III** 1 credit

### **ANE 656 Clinical Practicum IV** 1 credit

### **ANE 658 Clinical Practicum V** 1 credit

## **SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR**

One class is accepted annually and is enrolled on the Tuesday after Labor Day in September and continues for 27 consecutive months.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION**

1. Graduation from an accredited baccalaureate or higher degree generic program in nursing or from an accredited associate degree/diploma program in nursing with an additional Bachelor of Science degree.
2. Proof of current licensure as a registered nurse. To comply with state laws, all students are required to be licensed in the State of Rhode Island. Reciprocity forms may be obtained from the Rhode Island State Board of Nursing, 3 Capitol Hill, Room 104, and Providence, Rhode Island, 02908. Due to rotations at Metro Hospital (West Framingham, MA), St. Vincent's (Worcester, MA) and West Roxbury VA (West Roxbury, MA), a license is required at the beginning of the program for Massachusetts as well.

3. Have a minimum of one year experience in an acute care setting with the opportunity to develop independent decision-making skills and ability to use and interpret advanced monitoring techniques.
4. Completion of official application material and all supporting documentation.
5. Personal interview with the members of the Admissions Committee.
6. GRE's are required and must be submitted to the University of New England Graduate Admissions Office. A copy of your scores should also be sent to St. Joseph School of Anesthesia. (taken within the last 5 years)
7. An Organic Chemistry/Bio Chemistry course is required (within the last 5 years).
8. ACLS & PALS certification is required.
9. A preferred undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or evidence of outstanding postgraduate academia achievement.
10. Skills and abilities applicants and students must demonstrate.
  - ✓ **Observation:** Candidates must have sufficient sensory capacity to observe in the lecture hall, the laboratory, the outpatient setting, and the patient's bedside. Sensory skills adequate to perform a physical examination. Functional hearing and tactile sensation must be adequate to observe a patient's condition and to elicit information from computerized monitors, and procedures regularly required in a physical examination, such as inspection, auscultation and palpation.
  - ✓ **Communication:** Candidates must be able to communicate effectively in both academic and health care settings. Candidates must show evidence of effective written and verbal communication skills and the ability to work in teams.
  - ✓ **Motor:** The ability to participate in basic, diagnostic and therapeutic maneuvers and procedures (e.g. palpation, auscultation, drawing blood, starting IV) is required. Candidates must have sufficient motor skills to execute movements reasonably required to provide care to patients, including the ability to help move or lift them. Candidates must be able to negotiate patient care environments and must be able to move between setting, such as clinic, classroom building, and hospital.
  - ✓ **Physical stamina:** Sufficient to complete the rigorous course of didactic and clinical study is required. Long periods of sitting, standing, or moving are required in classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences.
  - ✓ **Intellectual:** Candidates must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze and synthesize, both in quiet environments and in areas where distractions, noise and other stressors are present. Problem solving is a critical skill demanded of CRNA's. This requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition candidates should be able to comprehend graphics displays of physiologic data, distinguish artifact on monitor displays, understand three-dimensional relationships and the spatial relationships of structure. Candidates must be able to read and understand medical and nursing literature. In order to complete the degree

they must be able to demonstrate mastery of these skills and the ability to use them together in a timely and often critical fashion in problem solving and patient care.

- ✓ **Behavioral and Social Attributes:** Candidates must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment and the prompt completing of all academic and patient care responsibilities. The development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients and other members of the health care team is essential, The ability to effectively function in the face of uncertainties inherent in clinical practice, flexibility, compassion, integrity, motivation, interpersonal skills and concern for others are all required.

### **Environmental and Chemical Hazards**

- Select inhalation anesthetic agents are thought to be hepatotoxic and on occasion an anesthetist may develop a sensitivity to agents, which is reflected in abnormal liver function studies. In addition, studies performed in the past several years have suggested an association between sustained exposure to an anesthetic environment and an increase incidence in abortions, birth defects and certain types of malignancies for both male and female personnel. While no cause and effect relationship has been established, consideration should be given to these findings in choosing anesthesia as a specialty.
- Most hospitals have installed anesthetic gas exhaust systems for minimizing risk to operating room personnel. All of the clinical affiliates have scavenging systems for waste gases. It has not been established whether the risks to personnel are eliminated by these exhaust systems.
- Anesthesia caregivers are frequently exposed to blood products, body secretions and used syringes and needles. All students are expected to strictly adhere to universal precautions whenever involved in patient care that involves potential for contact with mucous membranes, secretions or open wounds. Gloves, protective eye wear and masks are available at each anesthetizing site and must be worn. Proper regard for and performance of aseptic technique is mandatory to protect both patients and anesthesia caregivers. All students should have been vaccinated against Hepatitis B prior to admission to the program.
- Anesthesia personnel are also frequently exposed to X rays during operative procedures. Lead aprons and thyroid shields are available at each anesthetizing site and must be worn during fluoroscopy or X ray procedures. Radiology dosimeters to monitor the level of x- ray exposure are also available.
- Responsibility for accepting risks associated with this specialty rests with the individual who choose to work within this environment, rather than the institutions who take reasonable precautions to minimize potential risk.
- Material Safety Data Sheets are kept on file in the Operating room and or the Human Resource Department.

- All students are required to follow OSHA policy. Failure to follow blood and body fluid precaution is a critical clinical weakness. This means that protective gear such as goggles/face shield masks must be worn whenever body fluid contact is likely. In the OR, this is on many occasions but certainly induction emergence, invasive procedures, trauma cases; and extensive blood loss with splashing from the surgical field etc.

### **Drug Free Workplace Policy**

- The educational program has a vital interest in maintaining a safe, healthy and efficient environment for its students and patients.
- Recognizing that chemical dependency is both a disease and a professional hazard the purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the prevention and management of substance abuse within the nurse anesthesia program.

### **Drug free Policy**

1. The policy is intended to provide a safe, fair working environment for all anesthesia practitioners and their patients. Nurse anesthesia students are expected to comply with the hospital policies at each clinical site. The school does not permit or condone the illicit or unauthorized possession, use, manufacturing, consumption, sale or distribution of illicit drugs and or alcohol on hospital property. Students are personally responsible for conforming their behavior to federal state and local laws and the hospital drug and alcohol policy. When violations of law and or policy come to the attention of the school, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

Violation of the policy will be subject to immediate disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the school, report to state licensing board, and complaint to local police authorities.

Curriculum will include topics covering substance abuse and chemical dependency. The school is responsible for identifying individuals with deteriorating academic performance, behavioral changes and excessive absenteeism but is not responsible for diagnosing the nature of the problem.

When the school has identified behavioral changes referral for assessment and treatment are recommended. The school utilizes the employee assistance program (Life Watch).

### **ADMISSIONS POLICY**

All admissions policies and procedures are subject to continuous review by the Admission Committee and may be changed without notice.

All credentials and supporting documents required by the Admissions Committee must be received in the School of Anesthesia and be adjudged complete and satisfactorily before any action can be initiated.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The earlier complete application files are available for review, the earlier one is able to be considered for an interview. This may also result in early admission to the program. Why? The school has a “rolling admissions” policy, which means several interview sessions are conducted by the program’s Admission Committee. During this process, several candidates are selected at each interview session and offered a seat in the upcoming class.

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTIONS

A student is selected for the School of Anesthesia on the basis of the following:

1. Personal interview.
2. References.
3. Previous experience in nursing and/or medically related field.
4. Achievement in Nursing School and/or College.
  - a. A Baccalaureate degree in Nursing or an appropriate Baccalaureate degree (considered by the program) is required for admission.
  - b. Preference will be given to those applicants possessing a cumulative index of 3.0 and above in the Sciences and Professional courses.

## TRANSFER ADMISSION

It is the policy of St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses not to accept transfer students.

## STUDENT WITHDRAWAL

Students have the right to resign from the program at any time. The resignation must be in writing and accepted by the Director of the School of Anesthesia.

## FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available through the UNE Graduate Financial Aid Office for students who qualify.

## TUITION

Tuition amount will depend on the current rate at the University of New England. The current tuition is \$1050.00 per credit hour. Payable to: University of New England (this is subject to change).

## ADDITIONAL FEES

### Tuition and Fees

#### University of New England

\$1050.00 per credit hour total of 54 credit hours.....	56,700.00
General Services Fee (per academic year).....	405.00
Non Refundable application fee.....	40.00
Miscellaneous.....	200.00
SEE Exam.....	125.00
Ear mold for precordial stethoscope.....	75.00

#### School of Anesthesia

Non-refundable application fee.....	30.00
Non-refundable seat deposit.....	350.00
(Due 15 days from date of acceptance letter)	
Text Books (approximately) .....	2000.00
Typhon Group (record keeping).....	approximately 150.00
Licensure for RI, MA. (Fees are different for each state)	

**Other Student Expenses:**

The student Nurse Anesthetist is responsible for purchasing earpiece, stethoscope, laboratory coat, goggles and shoes to be worn in the operating room.

Students must provide personal transportation to and from all affiliation sites and is responsible for all meals.

All students must maintain a current license as a Registered Nurse in RI, MA, ACLS and PALS recognition throughout the program and at the time of graduation. The cost of these is the student's responsibility.

**Certification Examination fees:** The fee for 2010 will be \$750.00. This fee for the Certification Examination will be paid in the form of a cashiers check or money order during the last semester of the program. No later than **October 30<sup>th</sup>**.

**SEE Exam:** This fee of \$125.00 is covered in the tuition fees for the University of New England. This exam is available from the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetist as an evaluation of the student's knowledge and to prepare the individual to take the National Certifying Examination. It is required that all students take this examination during the summer semester, second year of the program. The Council on Certification offers this examination throughout the year at the same testing centers that the National Certifying exam is offered.

**Professional Liability**

Professional Liability Insurance will be provided through Associates in Anesthesia.

**Please note: Tuition and fees are subject to change.**

Students should be prepared to meet the financial responsibility of the program. Assistance in securing loans or grants is provided by the financial aid office at UNE.

**HOUSING**

The student is responsible for acquiring his/her own transportation, housing and meals

**HEALTH**

A record of immunizations and/or communicable disease must be submitted.

Health insurance is required and is the responsibility of the individual student. Health plans are available to purchase through the University of New England (this is subject to change).

UNE Health plan:	Single plan	\$ 2,793.00	1-yr
	Spouse	\$ 6603.00	1-yr
	Children only	\$ 3961.00	1-yr
	Family plan	\$ 10,564.00	1-yr

**Physical Examination/ Immunization Requirements**

All students are required to submit a health summary from a physician. This health summary must be received prior to the student starting in the Program.

Documented immunity to communicable disease is also required prior to the student's involvement in hospital activities. Laboratory titers that are required include.

1. (2) MMRs within one's lifetime. Students with laboratory evidence of disease immunity (i.e., serologic test results indicating immunity) are counted as appropriately vaccinated.
2. Tetanus/Diphtheria vaccine within the last 10 years.

3. Hepatitis B-series of three injections; 2nd dose given one month (4 weeks) after the first dose; 3rd given six months (24 weeks) after the first dose. Titer required 6-8 weeks after third shot given. If no dates for Hep B series, you will need Surface Antibody to prove whether you had disease or were previously immunized. In the event of a negative titer, a booster will be given, with a follow up titer. If positive titer after booster, no further action is required. If a negative titer remains, the 2nd and 3rd shots will be given, then another titer - (6-8 weeks) after completion of the series.

4. Varicella - titer required or 2 dose vaccine. History of disease not acceptable. In the event of a negative titer, then the student must have a 2-dose vaccine 4-8 weeks apart. No additional titer is required.

5. Tuberculosis: a two-step PPD test; 2nd test administered one to three weeks after the first test. (in each case it must be read within 72 hours). Results should be both P or N and mm. In the event of a positive PPD, a chest x-ray is required (copy of Ilab is required). In the event of a positive chest x-ray (indicative of active TB) INH treatment is required.

Students will be required to maintain current immunizations throughout the program to maintain UNE requirements and the nurse anesthetist credentialing requirements at clinical affiliate sites.

Students are required to keep their immunization requirements up to date throughout the duration of the Program.

**Immunization requirements may change, subject to modifications in State law and or University/Hospital policies**

### **TIME COMMITMENT DURING THE CLINICAL ROTATION**

Students are required to be present during weekdays from 6:30 am until dismissal by their immediate supervisor. Dismissal time is usually at 3:30 pm but may vary according to clinical and didactic requirements.

Students are required to take a call day approximately once every seven to twelve days, excluding weekends and holidays. Students are also required to take a late day approximately once every 7<sup>th</sup> to 12 days depending on the number of students in the clinical area.

### **BENEFITS**

The following are paid for by the School of Anesthesia (Associates in Anesthesia, Inc.)  
Malpractice Insurance  
Associate membership in AANA

### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

If a leave of absence is requested, then the validity of the reason for the leave and the time to be satisfied will be judged on an individual basis by the CRNA Program Director.

## TIME OFF/HOLIDAYS

University of New England: Semester breaks and holidays will be scheduled by the UNE.

St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses: Students are given 25 days to be used at their discretion during the 20 months in clinical.

Students are granted the following holidays:

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. New Year's Day        | 6. Labor Day              |
| 2. Washington's Birthday | 7. Columbus Day           |
| 3. Memorial Day          | 8. Thanksgiving Day       |
| 4. Independence Day      | 9. Day after Thanksgiving |
| 5. Victory Day           | 10. Christmas Day         |

## ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend all classes and be present for all clinical hours assigned. If a student is out ill for any appreciable amount of time, he or she may be required to make up lost time, if standards of achievement deem this necessary. If students exceed the allotted 25 days off, the time will be made up at the end of the program.

## EMPLOYMENT

Students are encouraged to enter school debt free and with adequate financial resources due to the rigorous time commitment (up to sixty-six hours a week for didactic preparation, clinical practicum, and clinical preparation).

1. No student is allowed to receive compensation for Anesthesia Services or to be permitted to render anesthesia service while enrolled in this program. Non-adherence will be cause for immediate dismissal.
2. If work affects student performance in the program, the student will be asked to cease working.

## PROGRAM STANDARDS

### ***Satisfactory Academic Progress***

The School of Nurse Anesthesia is designed to integrate didactic and clinical learning experiences to optimize competency as an anesthesia provider. Therefore successful completion of every course is necessary to progress through the Program.

In order to meet the Council on Accreditation guidelines and to maintain our high standards, the School has established the following policy: Anyone who receives an **examination grade of 80% or below** must make an appointment to meet with their academic advisor. This is done to determine if there are any issues/problems with the student or course work, to provide appropriate counseling to the student, and to promote successful advancement through the program.

Students must successfully pass each clinical practicum course in order to advance to the next level. Student success will be measured against the clinical objectives designed for each clinical practicum experience. Grades will take into account clinical performance, clinical preceptor feedback, student self-evaluations and faculty insights.

## **PROBATION/DISMISSAL**

Successful completion of all courses will allow the student to continue in the Program. However, any student receiving a grade less than 80% on any examination will meet with his/her advisor within two weeks of receipt of the grade to discuss the student's academic performance. At the University of New England, the Student Affairs Committee (SAC) will immediately review the academic performance of any student who fails two (2) exams in one semester. The student will be asked to appear before the SAC at this time and will be placed on Probation Status until the end of the semester. The student may have an advisor with him/her at the meeting but may not have an attorney present. Saint Joseph's students will be evaluated by this committee while they are at UNE for their first two semesters. After that, they will be evaluated by the Saint Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurse's processes. Students who pass all courses will advance to the next phase of the program. A student who fails to meet the minimum requirement of a B- (80%) in any class will receive a failing grade and be dismissed from the program. The SAC or Program Director may make modifications to the process described above because of extenuating circumstances.

### *Appeals*

Decisions made by the SAC, which a student believes to be unfair, may be appealed to the Program Director. The Program Director may overturn any findings of the Committee.

Appeals that are not resolved to the student's satisfaction at the Program level may be appealed to the Dean of the College of Health Professions. To do so, the student should follow the review process set forth in the UNE Student Handbook.

## **ETHICAL AND BEHAVIORAL STANDARDS**

Failure to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct section of the University of New England Handbook or the Rules of Conduct may result in a disciplinary sanction. Under these circumstances, the student will go before the SAC. The SAC may do any or all of the following:

1. Recommend issuing a letter of concern or reprimand.
2. Recommend disciplinary probation, which could result in a clinical probation as well.
3. Recommend dismissal from the Program.

The SAC may consider any other behaviors in reaching a decision to make a recommendation to the Program Director for adverse actions. This includes actions outside the classroom or in the clinical rotation, which do not reflect well on the Program, profession or individuals.

### ***Rules of Conduct while on Affiliation at Clinical Sites***

Success in the Nurse Anesthesia Profession requires certain behavioral attributes including but not limited to empathy, discipline, honesty, integrity, personal regard for others, the ability to work effectively with others in a team environment, and the ability to address a crisis or emergency situation in a composed manner. Adherence to these attributes requires high level of maturity and self-control, even in highly stressful

situations. During the clinical phase, students must conduct themselves in a highly professional manner consistent with the patient care responsibilities with which they will be entrusted. Failure to adhere to these standards (noted below) will result in a disciplinary action ranging from a written warning to discharge from the Program (depending upon the violation and the circumstances surrounding the offense).

1. Creating or contributing to situations that jeopardize patient safety.
2. Students are expected to follow all policies of the St. Joseph School of Anesthesia. Unethical behavior such as academic dishonesty, falsifying logs or medical records is considered a violation of the Program's standards of conduct.
3. Respect the confidentiality of patients and fellow students. One is not permitted to discuss any patients by name outside the clinical encounter situation. Students should not discuss other students with preceptors. For academic presentations, all identifying data, including name, initials, date of birth and facility where seen will be omitted.
4. Unauthorized possession, use, copying, or distribution of hospital records or disclosure of information contained in such records to unauthorized persons.
5. Use, distribution, or unauthorized possession of intoxicating beverages or drugs on hospital premises or reporting to work under the influence of intoxicants.
6. Unauthorized absence from the Anesthesia Department during regularly scheduled clinical hours.
7. Failure or refusal to follow instructions of a duly assigned preceptor including refusal to accept clinical assignments.
8. Use of vile, intemperate or abusive language, or acting in a disrespectful manner to any employee, supervisor, patient, or visitor.
9. Any disorderly conduct on hospital premises.
10. Creating or contributing to unsanitary conditions.
11. Theft, fraud, or unauthorized use of property belonging to the hospital, patient, or visitor.
12. Cheating.

## **CLINICAL PRACTICUM COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

To successfully complete each clinical practicum course, students must achieve a grade of "pass". Details regarding clinical practicum expectations will be detailed in the Student Handbook students receive prior to the clinical phase of the program. Briefly speaking, clinical progression will be monitored during each clinical practicum. If students are not meeting clinical objectives, they will be placed on Probation.

The student is placed on a 30-day Probationary Status. During this time the student will continue with the clinical objectives scheduled for that level. Students will communicate with program faculty and clinical faculty to develop a remediation plan based on their clinical evaluations, clinical faculty feedback and/or program faculty findings. The plan will include strategies for improvement of clinical performance.

At the end of the 30-day Probation Status the student’s performance will be re-evaluated by the program faculty. If they are successful, they will resume their clinical practicum at the same level as their peers are at. If progress continues to be unsatisfactory, the student will receive an “F” for the course and be dismissed from the Program.

Students may be placed on a second 30-day probation period for additional (newly identified) performance issues. The process described above would apply for this as well. Students are granted two (2) probationary periods not to exceed 60 days total. If additional (newly identified) performance issues continue to occur after a student has been granted (2) probationary periods, the student would be immediately dismissed.

### **ACADEMIC GRADING POLICY**

The following system is in effect:

Percentage	Grade	Quality Points
93-100	A	4.00
90-92	A-	3.75
87-89	B+	3.50
83-86	B	3.00
80-82	B-	2.75
<80	F	0

#### Other grade designations

- P “Pass-Fail” Courses
- NP “Pass-Fail” Courses
- PASC “Pass-Advanced Standing Credit”
- W Withdrawn Early in Course
- WP Withdrawn Late, Passing
- WF Withdrawn Late, Failing
- I “Incomplete” Excused Absence (Time Limit One Semester)

An incomplete (I) grade is given to a student who is doing passing work in a course, but who makes arrangements with the instructor if, for reasons beyond his/her control, he/she is not able to complete the work on time. The (I) incomplete grade must be changed within the time limit determined by the instructor and can never extend beyond the end of the following semester. Failure to complete the work before the limitation date, or within the time imposed by the instructor, results in the assignment of an administrative F (fail) grade for the course.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order for a student to graduate, the following criteria must be met:

1. Satisfactory completion of all didactic material.
2. Satisfactory completion of clinical experience as required by the school and the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.
3. Satisfactory completion of stated behavioral objectives.
4. Completion of twenty-seven actual months in program, exclusive of allotted vacation and reasonable sick leave.
5. All time commitments in the didactic and clinical areas must be satisfied.
6. Evaluations must be completed and signed.
7. All clinical records must be completed and submitted to the Anesthesia School Administrative staff.
8. Completion of the capstone project.
9. All fees must be paid in full.
10. All library books must be returned.
11. A current RN license and ACLS and PALS Certifications must be on file.

## **GRADUATION**

Upon completing the prescribed 27 months, the student will be awarded a diploma from the St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia and a Master of Science Degree in Nurse Anesthesia from the University of New England. Each graduate will be eligible to sit for the National Certification examination.

Upon passing the examination, the person shall be known as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

In the event of a student not meeting the educational requirements, graduation may be deferred to a later date and the student's course time extended with faculty approval.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Housing
2. Transportation
3. Scissors, pens, notebooks
4. Any additional book fee

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Various textbooks are available on loan to students, as well as a full library of Audio Digest anesthesiology tapes/CDs
2. All students are invited and expected to attend the Rhode Island Association of Nurse Anesthetists meetings (approximately 2 a year). All seniors are encouraged to attend National meetings if they are able to do so.
3. Information in this brochure is subject to change at the school's discretion.

## ADMISSION PROCEDURE

1. Candidates must submit the following information:
  - a. Completed application form.
  - b. Application processing fee. (\$30.00 – non-refundable)
  - c. Personal statement ***in your own handwriting***, summarizing your career and reasons for wanting to enter the St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses Program.
  - d. A recent professional resume or curriculum vitae.
  - e. Proof of current licensure (photo copy).
  - f. Proof of current ACLS and PALS certification (photo copy)
2. The following information must be submitted by those individuals/institutions completing the information, directly to the school:
  - a. Official college and nursing transcripts.
  - b. Letters of reference (3): one from immediate supervisor, and two from other professionals who have observed applicants' work.
  - c. GRE scores – sent to both UNE (code 3751) and St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses.

**\*ANY INFORMATION IN THIS BOOKLET IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL  
SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA FOR NURSES  
200 High Service Avenue  
North Providence, Rhode Island 02904  
(401) 456-3638 (401) 456-3639  
Fax (401) 752-8140**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The items marked below are required before your application for admission to the St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses can be considered. All documents should be submitted to the office of the Director as promptly as possible. \*Additional items may be requested later.

- \_\_\_ 1. Application form. Please type of print using ink.
- \_\_\_ 2. Personal letter. In your own handwriting, summarize your career to date and state your reason for wanting to enter The School of Anesthesia.
- \_\_\_ 3. Transcripts from all colleges and schools attended.
- \_\_\_ 4. Current Nursing License.
- \_\_\_ 5. References. Please supply us with letters of reference from your supervisor and two other professionals who have observed your work.
- \_\_\_ 6. Personal Interview. An interview with the Admissions Committee is required. Please call or write the School to make an appointment for this interview after items 1-5 is completed.
- \_\_\_ 7. Thirty dollars (\$30.00) application fee.  
Check payable to: St. Joseph Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses.
- \_\_\_ 8. GRE Scores
- \_\_\_ 9. ACLS and PALS Certification

**ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL  
SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA FOR NURSES**  
200 High Service Avenue  
North Providence, Rhode Island 02904  
(401) 456-3638 (401) 456-3639

**APPLICATION**

Please use typewriter or print with ink:

Name in full \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME

Present Address \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER & STREET CITY & STATE ZIP CODE

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(home) (cell)

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

Name of person to  
Notify in case of emergency \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever attended another School of Anesthesia? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_ Why did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_

Registration for current year \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. Number \_\_\_\_\_

Has your nursing license ever been denied, surrendered, suspended, or revoked? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If answer is yes, please attach a detailed explanation.

Have you ever been convicted of any type of substance abuse? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Educational Background**

Please give below a complete statement of nursing school and colleges attended: Provide transcripts from each.

Name of school	City and State	Date of Entrance	Date of Leaving	Diploma Received

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**WORK EXPERIENCE SINCE GRADUATION**

Date	Institution	Location	Position or Title

**REFERENCES**

Please send written request to your supervisor and two other professionals who have observed your work and ask them to send a letter of recommendation to the Director of the school.

FULL NAME	POSITION
ADDRESS	CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE
EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE #

FULL NAME	POSITION
ADDRESS	CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE
EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE #

FULL NAME	POSITION
ADDRESS	CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE
EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE #

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

On the following pages please write a short resume about yourself, including reasons for choosing Anesthesia.