

NURSE ANESTHESIA

- MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING: NURSE ANESTHESIA
- POST-MASTER'S GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSE ANESTHESIA

Accreditation

The Master of Science in Nursing degree program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The nurse anesthesia program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

Master's Program Description

The plan of study for the Nurse Anesthesia (NA) program prepares nurses as specialists in anesthesia care. As advanced practice registered nurses, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) practice with a high degree of autonomy and professional respect. Nursing courses and clinical internships provide the opportunity for students to gain experience in nurse anesthesia practice in all specialty areas. Students study advanced physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology and gross anatomical dissection in cognate courses. The graduate applies nursing theory, principles of nurse anesthesia practice and research in the delivery of anesthesia care. After 28 months of full-time study, nurse anesthesia graduates are prepared to take the certification examination offered by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, leading to the designation CRNA.

Degree Requirements

The program of study for nurse anesthesia is **58 credits** and requires **28 months** of full-time study, commencing in September. Extensive time is required in the clinical setting, beginning gradually in the first term and concluding with 40 or more hours a week during the final internship. Clinical requirements by the accrediting body require a minimum of 600 cases, in all specialty areas, with at least 2000 hours of anesthesia time.

Graduate Certificate Program Description

The Post-Master's Graduate Certificate: Nurse Anesthesia is a program of full-time study that prepares nurses as specialists in anesthesia care. As advanced practice registered nurses, CRNAs practice with a high degree of autonomy and professional respect. Clinical core and specialty courses, including clinical internships, are the same as the MSN nurse anesthesia program. These courses, along with the clinical internships, provide the opportunity for students to gain experience in nurse anesthesia practice in all specialty areas. Students study advanced physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology and gross anatomical dissection in cognate courses. Upon completion of the 42-credit, 28-month, post-master's graduate certificate program, the nurse is prepared to take the certification exam offered by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists, leading to the designation CRNA.

Certificate Requirements

The program of study for nurse anesthesia is **42 credits** and requires **28 months** of full-time study, commencing in September. Extensive time is required in the clinical setting, beginning gradually in the first term and concluding with 40 or more hours a week during the final internship. Clinical requirements by the accrediting body require a minimum of 600 cases, in all specialty areas, with at least 2000 hours of anesthesia time.

MASTER'S PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Building on the foundation of the undergraduate program, the master's program will prepare the graduate student for advancement in nursing practice. The master's graduate will:

1. Integrate theories and research findings from nursing and the related sciences to translate evidence into practice.
2. Integrate professional practice standards and guidelines in the provision of nursing practice in the student's specialty area.
3. Demonstrate the foundational competencies necessary for successful completion of the certification examination in the student's specialty area.
4. Demonstrate the foundational competencies necessary for continued study at the doctoral level.

ADMISSION TERMS AND APPLICATION DEADLINES

The admission terms and application deadline are the same for both the Master's of Science in Nursing program *and* the Post-Master's Graduate Certificate program:

September 15 for the following fall semester.

Before an applicant's file can be reviewed for full program admission, all application documents must be received in the department of graduate study and lifelong learning by the deadlines. Incomplete applications will not be sent to departments for admission review.

*International applications are reviewed for fall admission only. To ensure adequate time for review, international applications must be completed at least six months before the desired date of intended enrollment in the university. All international application materials must be submitted by **May 1** for fall admission.*

Admission Review and Assessment

Admission to graduate study at Oakland University is selective. In making admission recommendations to the department of graduate study and lifelong learning, the School of Nursing assesses the potential of applicants for success in the program by examining their undergraduate records, goal statement, letters of recommendation, prerequisite courses and any other admission requirements established by the academic department.

Application Requirements

To be considered for graduate admission, applicants must submit all of the following university and program application documents by the published application deadlines.

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

University Graduate Application Requirements must be completed by both Master's Program applicants *and* Post-Master's Graduate Certificate applicants.

- Online application for admission to graduate study.
- Official transcripts providing evidence of an earned baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. institution, or a degree equivalent to a four-year U.S. baccalaureate degree from a college or university of government-recognized standing.
- Official transcripts for all post-secondary educational institutions from which the applicant earned a degree (beginning with the first baccalaureate) and for all enrollment in graduate-level coursework beyond the bachelor's degree. International university transcripts must be evaluated by a professional credential evaluation service.
As part of the admission requirements, graduate programs may require official transcripts from post-secondary educational institutions from which the applicant earned an associate's degree and all enrollment in coursework both pre- and post-bachelor's degree.
- Two official and original recommendation forms for graduate admission. *Note: Some programs require more than two recommendation forms. Refer to the **program application requirements** listed below for the total number of recommendations and specific requirements for the recommendations.*
- Proof of English language proficiency.
- International supplemental application and supporting documentation must be submitted before international applicants can be issued the Certification of Eligibility (I-20). This certificate is required to apply for a student visa from the U.S. embassy or consulate.

PROGRAM APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

MSN *and* Certification Programs:

- Two School of Nursing supplemental application forms, one for the School of Nursing and one for the Nurse Anesthesia program.
- Requirements for completion of recommendation forms: Recommendations **must be from healthcare professionals** (letters from nurses in leadership/education are preferred) who are able to attest to the applicant's nursing skills and/or abilities. Program applicants must have one recommendation from their current nurse manager.
- Professional statement of 500 to 1,000 words. The professional statement should focus on the applicant's career goals after completion of the program, how recent clinical experiences have prepared them for advanced practice role, and plans for professional development. The professional statement will be evaluated on content and appropriate use of grammar, style, spelling and rhetoric.
- Proof of BLS, ACLS, PALS and CCRN certification.
- Proof of current unrestricted Registered Nurse License in the United States or its territories.

- Applicants must have completed an undergraduate physical assessment course.
- Undergraduate physiology and pathophysiology courses must be taken within seven years of applying to the program. Undergraduate anatomy, pharmacology and either organic chemistry or biochemistry must be taken within 10 years of applying to the program. Grades in each of these courses must be at or above a 3.0.
- A minimum of one year of experience must be obtained in a critical care area within the United States, its territories or a U.S. military hospital outside the United States. During this experience, the registered professional nurse is to have developed critical decision-making and psychomotor skills, competency in patient assessment, and the ability to use and interpret advanced monitoring techniques. A critical care area is defined as one where, on a routine basis, the registered professional nurse manages one or more of the following: invasive hemodynamic monitors (such as pulmonary artery catheter, CVP, arterial), cardiac assist devices, mechanical ventilation, and vasoactive drips. The critical care area includes intensive care units. Intensive Care Unit (ICU) experience must have occurred within two years of the application deadline. Emergency room, recovery room and step-down units typically do not satisfy the ICU requirement. This experience must be completed by the time of application.

Master's of Science in Nursing Program only:

- Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) results for those applicants whose overall undergraduate GPA is less than 3.5. *Satisfactory achievement on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) V > 400, Q > 400, A > 3.0 for tests taken prior to August 2011 V > 146, Q > 140, A > 3.0 for tests after August 2011*
- For applicants with an undergraduate GPA of 3.5 or greater, the GRE is not required.
- Applicants for admission to the Master of Science in Nursing program must have completed a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree with an overall undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above from an institution accredited by the National League for Nursing or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Post-Master's Graduate Certification Program only:

- Applicants for admission to the Post-Master's Graduate Certificate: Nurse Anesthesia program must have completed a Master of Science in Nursing degree with an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above from an institution accredited by the National League for Nursing or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Qualified applicants will be selected to attend an interview and complete a brief evaluation of their critical care nursing knowledge and skills.

Course Requirements

Foundation Courses are required *only* for the Master of Science in Nursing: Nurse Anesthesia program. The Clinical Core Courses and Specialty Courses are required by *both* the MSN and Post-Master's Graduate Certification programs.

FOUNDATION COURSES (16 CREDITS)

Foundation courses address critical content needed by all graduate nursing students. These courses include content on nursing theory, diversity, research, ethics, health policy and roles of advanced practice nursing.

- **NRS 500** - Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)
- **NRS 521** - Diversity and Social Issues (2 credits)
- **NRS 531** - Research Topics in Advanced Nursing Practice (4 credits)
- **NRS 610** - Health Policy and Finance (3 credits)
- **NRS 643** - Interprofessional Role Development Leadership and Ethics in Advanced Nursing Practice (3 credits)
- **NRS 687** - Graduate Research: Project (1 credit)

CLINICAL CORE COURSES (18 CREDITS)

The clinical core courses provide graduate students with advanced clinical knowledge and skills in pharmacology, assessment, anatomy and physiology, pathophysiology and advanced nursing interventions.

- **NRS 605** - Advanced Pharmacology for Nurse Anesthesia Practice I (3 credits)
- **NRS 651** - Advanced Pharmacology for Nurse Anesthesia Practice II (3 credits)
- **NRS 652** - Advanced Pharmacology for Nurse Anesthesia Practice III (3 credits)
- **NRS 602** - Advanced Health Assessment I (1 credit)
- **NRS 622** - Advanced Health Assessment II (1 credit)
- **BIO 501** - Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology I (3 credits)
- **BIO 502** - Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology II (3 credits)
- **BIO 503** - Gross Anatomical Dissection (3 credits)

SPECIALTY COURSES (22 CREDITS)

The specialty courses are comprised of didactic and clinical courses that prepare students for the advanced practice. The specialty courses build upon nursing knowledge and skills learned at the undergraduate level and during foundation and clinical core courses.

- **NRS 607** - Introduction to Nurse Anesthesia Practice and Clinical Internship I (3 credits)
- **NRS 615** - Nurse Anesthesia Practice II (4 credits)
- **NRS 617** - Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Internship II (1 credit)
- **NRS 618** - Biophysics for Nurse Anesthesia (2 credits)
- **NRS 625** - Nurse Anesthesia Practice III (4 credits)
- **NRS 627** - Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Internship III (1 credit)
- **NRS 635** - Regional Anesthesia and Pain Management (3 credits)
- **NRS 637** - Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Internship IV (1 credit)
- **NRS 647** - Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Internship V (1 credit)
- **NRS 657** - Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Internship VI (1 credit)
- **NRS 667** - Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Internship VII (1 credit)

All data in this document reflects information, as it was available on the publication date. School of Nursing and Oakland University reserve the right to revise all information contained in this publication at its discretion and to make reasonable changes in requirements to improve or upgrade academic and non-academic programs. Oakland University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution.

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