

Nurse Anesthesia (MSN) Program

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- Master of Science in Nursing
- Post-Certificate Master of Science in Nursing
- Post-Master's Certificate*

*A Post-Master's Certificate may be earned for any NP or CNS option.

Admission Guidelines

The Role

The Master of Science (MSN) concentration in Nurse Anesthesia prepares graduates to function in a wide array of clinical settings. The nurse anesthesia concentration is comprehensive and blends a strong academic curriculum with extensive clinical practice experiences. Graduates are prepared to be expert advanced practice nurses, providing anesthesia care to patients across the lifespan at all levels of acuity, undergoing procedures of varying complexity. Applicants must have at least one year, preferably two, of recent adult critical care experience as an RN.

The Program

The MSN program is an academically-front loaded program with gradually increasing clinical experience during the first 12 months. Following successful completion of the didactic sequence, students begin a 15 month clinical residency. During this residency, students learn to provide anesthesia for every type of surgical patient including thoracic, cardiovascular, neurological, transplant, trauma, obstetrics and others. The time commitment throughout the program is extensive. The Post-Certificate MSN is an innovative distance learning program designed for the CRNA who wants to complete a master's degree.

The Faculty

Faculty are highly qualified and include College of Nursing CRNA members, CRNA clinical faculty and anesthesiologists. These faculty members are practitioners and teachers who are actively involved in consultation and clinical research projects in addition to teaching. Faculty are nationally known authors and speakers in their various areas of expertise and are actively involved in professional organizations.

Faculty contact for the Nurse Anesthesia Program

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Clinical Sites

Most student clinical experience occurs at Rush University Medical Center, where there are over 40 anesthetizing locations. Students also rotate to Rush-North Shore Medical Center in Skokie, Illinois; Holy Family Hospital in Des Plaines, Illinois; Rush-Oak Park Hospital, in Oak Park, Illinois; MacNeal Memorial Hospital in Berwyn, Illinois; John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County, Chicago, Illinois and the Rush Surgical Center. The Rush University Simulation Lab and its resources are used across the nurse anesthesia curriculum to provide valuable pre-clinical and crisis management skills.

Career Opportunities

The demand for nurse anesthetists is high and expected to remain strong due to changing workforce and population demographics. Ranked among the top nurse anesthesia programs in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*, Rush University nurse anesthesia graduates are highly recruited. Nurse anesthetists practice in tertiary

medical centers, community hospitals, rural areas, academic settings, as well as in private practice. There are many opportunities for nurse anesthesia educators nationally. Administrative and research positions are also viable options.

Certification and Accreditation

The program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs, and meets or exceeds its published clinical and academic requirements (www.aana.com/accreditation). Graduates of the program are eligible to take the National Certification Examination offered by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists.

To apply or for further information, please contact:

College Admission Services
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Chicago, IL 60612
Phone: (312) 942-7100
Fax: (312) 942-2219
E-mail: Rush_Admissions@rush.edu

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+ Prerequisite: Graduate level statistics equivalent to Rush University's NUR 577A Biostatistics I for Advanced Practice I.

++ NAN 600 is credited clinical residency. The course is supplemented with educational activities which include weekly lectures, clinical conferences and journal clubs.

Statistics Required for Nurse Anesthesia Applicants

It is required that three quarter hours or two semester hours of graduate level statistics be completed prior to matriculation at Rush University. The statistics course must be equivalent to Rush University's NUR 510 Biostatistics I. A course with a dual level designation will only be considered if there is transcript evidence that it was taken at the graduate level. A course taken as part of an undergraduate program or at the undergraduate level will not satisfy the requirement.

Post-Masters Certificate Nurse Anesthesia

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Compressed coursework and seminars are offered on weekends.
Courses are offered via the Internet.
Independent work with a CRNA faculty advisor.