



FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE PROGRAMS



DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE — NURSE ANESTHESIA

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Nurse Anesthesia concentration, offered in conjunction with Bridgeport Hospital and Bridgeport Anesthesia Associates, is a full-time, partially frontloaded program, designed to meet the practice doctorate standards set forth by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs. Students who complete the full-time, 36-month program earn a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Fairfield University and a certificate in Nurse Anesthesia from Bridgeport Hospital.

The program prepares students as expert clinicians for every stage and in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered to patients. Because nurse anesthetists are responsible for direct patient care, students gain hands-on experience in a variety of regional (neuraxial and peripheral blocks) and general anesthesia techniques under the supervision of CRNA and M.D. faculty. Nurse anesthesia students work not only on “routine” surgical cases, they enhance their preparation by participating in trauma, major burn, and high-risk obstetrical cases.

In addition to becoming expert clinicians, graduates of the DNP program will be healthcare leaders who will care for a cohort of patients within their specialty, while using a cross-population perspective to assess, manage and evaluate common problems. Graduates will apply knowledge about organizations, business management, information technology and policy-making to improve systems of healthcare delivery. They are prepared to assume a variety of leadership roles including executive positions in healthcare organizations, directors of clinical programs and university based faculty positions with a clinical focus.

COURSE OF STUDY

The Nurse Anesthesia program starts in May of each year and operates continuously, independent of the University’s academic calendar. After a year of academics, students begin their clinical orientation and clinical practica. They also continue to take required academic courses, including their DNP immersion, until the May graduation date. Upon graduation, students are eligible to sit for the certification examination administered by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists. Successful completion of this examination allows the new graduate to practice as a nurse anesthetist. Students are required to complete 75 credits for the DNP.

CURRICULUM

FOUNDATION CORE

- Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Research Methods for Evidence Based Practice
- Advanced Healthcare Policy
- Advanced Nursing Roles and Reflective Practice

ADVANCED PRACTICE CORE

- Advanced Health Assessment
- Advanced Pathophysiology for Anesthesia Practice
- Advanced Pharmacology

DNP CORE

- Clinical Prevention and Strategies for Change
- Research Translation for Clinical Practice
- Finance & Quality Management in Health Care Organizations
- Information Technology for Healthcare Improvement
- Leadership & Interprofessional Collaboration
- DNP Immersion
- DNP Seminar I & II

ADVANCED PRACTICE SPECIALTY I AND II: NURSE ANESTHETIST

- Human Anatomy & Physiology for Nurse Anesthetists
- Pharmacologic Strategies in Anesthesia Practice
- Principles of Nurse Anesthesia Practice I, II and III
- Chemistry & Physics for Nurse Anesthetists
- Regional Anesthesia & Pain Management in Clinical Practice
- Clinical Orientation/Specialty Rotations
- Clinical Practicum I
- Clinical Practicum II
- Clinical Practicum III
- Clinical Practicum IV
- Clinical Correlation Conference
- Clinical Practicum V

* A minimum of 2,000 clinical practice hours and 5 immersion credits are required for the DNP (1 credit=50 hours).



Fairfield University
EGAN

School of Nursing & Health Studies

PRACTICA

Nurse Anesthesia students spend 21 months in the clinical arena working side-by-side with staff CRNAs and anesthesiologists. As students progress through the clinical practicum experiences, they are given more autonomy in practice. By graduation, students are working one-on-one with attending physicians, participating in all aspects of anesthesia care as members of the anesthesia care team. Clinical requirements average 32-40 hours of operating room time per week and by graduation exceed the minimum clinical requirements set forth by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA).

PROFESSIONAL PATHWAYS

After several years of experience, some CRNAs choose to establish their own anesthesia groups and contract their services out to surgeons and office-based practice situations. CRNAs can become involved in education and research at all levels, including clinical and didactic instruction.

NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Nancy Moriber, Ph.D., CRNA, APRN

Phone: 203-254-4000, ext. 3445

E-mail: nmoriber@fairfield.edu

Bridgeport Hospital phone: 203-384-3054

Dr. Nancy Moriber serves as the faculty advisor for the Nurse Anesthetist program and is the appropriate person to contact with questions, or to learn more.

For a complete faculty listing, see www.fairfield.edu/sonfaculty.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the DNP must demonstrate the following:

- A bachelor's degree in nursing from a regionally accredited college or university (or the international equivalent).
- A quality point average of 3.0 or higher with a science GPA of 3.0.
- Two semesters of biology, at least one semester of chemistry, one semester of microbiology, and one semester of college math. Physics is strongly recommended.
- Registered Nurse license to practice in the United States at the time of application. A Connecticut RN license will be required upon admission.
- A minimum of one year's experience as a RN in a critical care setting (ER does not fulfill this criteria). Experience must be within the 5 years prior to application.
- Current AHA, BCLS, ACLS & PALS certification (must be maintained while in the program).
- Composite scores will be reviewed in relation to the overall application.

FORMAL ADMISSION PROCESS

This cohort program begins once each year in May.

Application deadline:

- Priority deadline September 1st
- Final deadline October 1st

Students seeking admission must submit the following online:

1. A completed application.
(Apply online at www.fairfield.edu/sonapp.)
2. A non-refundable \$60 application fee.
3. A professional résumé.

4. Official transcripts verifying completion of an undergraduate degree. All foreign transcripts must be evaluated by an approved evaluating service which can be found at www.fairfield.edu/eval.
5. Two (2) recommendations, including one from your current supervisor and another from an individual who can assess your clinical expertise in an acute care setting.
6. A three (3) page, double-spaced personal statement stating your career goals and future contributions to the profession of nurse anesthesia.
7. Copy of current RN license; licensure to practice in the state of Connecticut will be required upon admission.
8. All international students whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by taking either TOEFL or IELTS exams. For admission to the graduate school, a TOEFL composite score of 550 for the paper test, 213 for the computer-based test, 80 on the internet-based test or an IELTS score of 6.5 is strongly recommended. Scores must be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service (TOEFL) or www.IELTS.org. Fairfield's ETS code is 3390.

Submit transcripts and any other documents that cannot be uploaded to:

Fairfield University
Office of Graduate Admission
Kelley Center
1073 North Benson Road
Fairfield, CT 06824

INTERVIEW PROCESS

Applicants who meet the above criteria may be invited for an Admission interview.

MANDATORY IMMUNIZATIONS

Connecticut State law requires each full-time or matriculated student to provide proof of immunity or screening against measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chicken pox), meningitis and tuberculosis. Certain exemptions based on age and housing status apply. Matriculating students are defined as those enrolled in a degree seeking program. More detailed information and the required downloadable forms are available online at www.fairfield.edu/immunization. Completed forms should be submitted directly to the Student Health Center. Although this is not required to complete an application, you must provide proof of immunity/screening prior to course registration. Please consult your private health care provider to obtain the necessary immunizations. Questions may be directed to the Student Health Center: 203-254-4000 ext. 2241 or e-mail health@fairfield.edu.

TUITION/FINANCIAL AID

Academic Year 2016/2017

Tuition: \$1,000 per credit hour

Hospital/Lab Fee: \$1,350

Books: Approximately \$2,200

A graduate education can provide countless professional and personal rewards in the future. Many students need to look beyond their own financial resources or the resources of their employer for assistance. There are many ways to finance a graduate education, including graduate assistantships, federal direct loan programs and our Veterans Pride Program, which are all discussed at www.fairfield.edu/gradfa.

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

Advisors from the Office of Financial Aid are committed to helping students find the options that best suit each of their needs. We encourage all Fairfield University graduate students to contact the Financial Aid office with any questions or to make an appointment to speak with a counselor.

FINANCIAL AID CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 203-254-4125
Fax: 203-254-4008
E-mail: finaid@fairfield.edu

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE OPERATIONS

Days: Monday-Friday
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Location: Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J. Center

MORE INFORMATION

ADMISSION QUESTIONS

Questions about the application process should be directed to the **Office of Graduate Admission**.

Phone: 203-254-4184
Fax: 203-254-4073
E-mail: gradadmis@fairfield.edu

OFFICE OPERATIONS

Days: Monday-Friday
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Location: Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J. Center

SCHOOL OF NURSING WEBSITE

www.fairfield.edu/nursing

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE WEBSITE

www.fairfield.edu/dnp

ONLINE CATALOG

For detailed course descriptions and other University information, please refer to our online catalog www.fairfield.edu/catalogs.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

For a listing of the courses required, please refer to our course offerings for Nurse Anesthetist at www.fairfield.edu/dnpcourses.