



NBCRNA
National Board of Certification & Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists

**A N N U A L
R E P O R T
2021**



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ABOUT THE NBCRNA

PATIENT-CENTERED - SUPPORTING LIFELONG LEARNING

The National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) is the nation's certifying body for initial, continued, and subspecialty board certification of the more than 56,000 Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Our mission is to guard the well-being of the public—our patients—by seeking to ensure that those who secure the CRNA credential have the necessary knowledge and skills to practice safely and effectively. We accomplish our mission through the development and implementation of credentialing programs that support lifelong learning among nurse anesthetists. We are a nonprofit organization and our CRNA and Nonsurgical Pain Management (NSPM-C) credential programs

are accredited by both the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC).

NBCRNA credentialing provides assurances to the public that CRNAs have met objective, predetermined qualifications for providing nurse anesthesia services. A rigorous national entry process helps ensure that those who secure the CRNA credential enter the profession with the knowledge and demonstrated skills necessary to practice—however this is only the first step. Those who earn the credential dedicate themselves to lifelong learning. And while state licensure provides the legal credential for the practice of professional nursing, private, voluntary certification indicates compliance with the professional standards for practice in this vital clinical nursing specialty.

PROMOTING PATIENT SAFETY BY ENHANCING PROVIDER QUALITY

MISSION

The mission of the NBCRNA is to promote patient safety through credentialing programs that support lifelong learning.

VISION

The vision is to be recognized as the leader in advanced practice nurse credentialing.

RESPECT

The NBCRNA is highly respected for our programs, innovation and commitment to lifelong learning and safety.

CORE VALUES

TRUST

The NBCRNA has a long and established track record of regulatory excellence and keeping our promises to the public as the basis of our trust.

RECOGNITION

Because of our earned respect and trust, the NBCRNA's credential programs are universally recognized and respected, throughout the entire United States.

PROTECTION

The protection and the faith the public has in us is our sole reason for existing and determines everything we do.

NBCRNA ACCREDITATION

SUPPORTING LIFELONG LEARNING THROUGH NATIONALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS

The credentialing programs of the NBCRNA are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification, Inc. (ABSNC). NCCA accreditation means that the NBCRNA credentialing programs meet the highest national voluntary standards for private certification. NCCA accreditation validates the credential against the accepted standards across all credentialed professions. The NBCRNA received its initial accreditation from the NCCA in June 1984.

ABSNC accreditation signifies that the NBCRNA credentialing programs meet the standards of the only accreditation program for nursing specialties. It promotes the highest quality of specialty nursing practice through the establishment of standards of professional specialty nursing certification. When the NBCRNA received its initial accreditation from the ABSNC in August 1992, it was one of the first national certification bodies to be recognized and approved by the ABSNC.

In 2018, the NCCA and ABSNC approved the reaccreditation of the NBCRNA certification program and the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program through July 2022. The NBCRNA's NSPM-C subspecialty certification program was granted accreditation by the ABSNC in August 2017, and in 2018 was granted accreditation by the NCCA.

Together, NCCA and ABSNC accreditation provides a strong and widely accepted standard for the nurse anesthetist credential that has been institutionalized in many position descriptions as a practice requirement or as a standard for demonstrating equivalency. It has been recognized in state nurse practice acts and state rules and regulations.



Learn more about NBCRNA accreditation and recognition by visiting WWW.NBCRNA.COM/ACCREDITATION

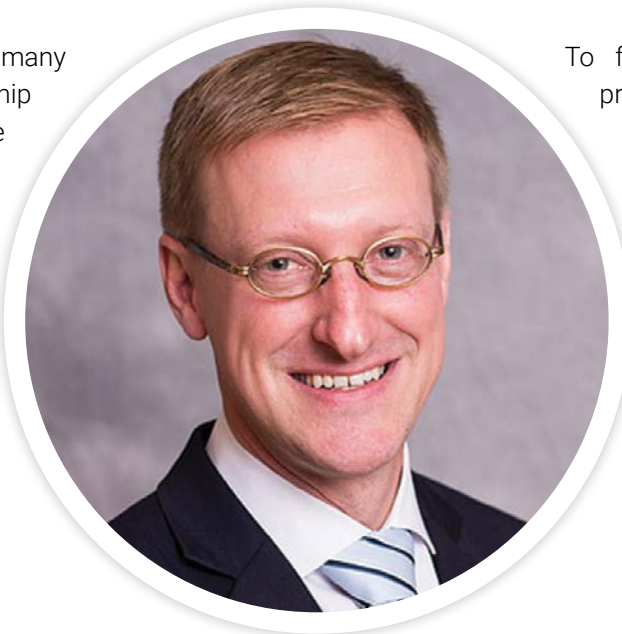


LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This past year brought many positive changes in leadership to the NBCRNA. While change is a constant, the mission, vision and core values of the NBCRNA ensure that nurse anesthetists have the necessary knowledge and skills to practice safely and effectively. These foundational elements have remained stronger than ever in 2021.

After the announcement of Karen Plaus' retirement as CEO in 2020, a nationwide search was conducted with the support of an executive search firm and Dr. John Preston was named NBCRNA CEO as of April 15, 2021. John brings more than 36 years of experience in nursing and advanced practice nursing, of which 25 were spent leading nurse anesthesia education and professional development. His most recent role before being named CEO was Chief Credentialing Officer of the NBCRNA since 2015.

John's wealth of regulatory, credentialing, accreditation, education and practice experience has helped solidify the NBCRNA's strong reputation. Speaking on behalf of the entire NBCRNA Board of Directors, we look forward to the future under John's leadership as he guides our respected portfolio of credentialing programs for the nurse anesthesia profession.



KEVIN DRISCOLL, DNP, MSN, CRNA

To fill the vacancy from John's promotion, Dr. Christopher (Chris) Gill was named NBCRNA Chief Credentialing Officer and joined the organization in August 2021, following his relocation from Boston. Chris has had progressive leadership experience in the nursing profession, including a two-year term as an Emerging Leader Fellow on the NBCRNA Board of Directors. Prior to joining the NBCRNA, he served as a Regional Director for the New England and Northwell territories at North American Partners in Anesthesia.

In addition to those leadership changes, the NBCRNA recently named a new Chief Assessment Officer, Dr. Timothy (Tim) Muckle. Tim is rejoining the NBCRNA in this new role, as he previously served as the NBCRNA Senior Director of Testing from 2008 through 2017 and assumed leadership oversight of NBCRNA's Testing and Research department in July 2021.

These changes to the NBCRNA leadership team in 2021 are very exciting, and I know that all the NBCRNA staff is committed to the ongoing development and implementation of credentialing programs that support lifelong learning among nurse anesthetists.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Throughout my anesthesia career, the mission of the NBCRNA to promote patient safety through credentialing programs that support lifelong learning has always been top of mind. Being named the NBCRNA CEO in 2021 is a great honor and I look forward to leading the NBCRNA forward in advanced practice nursing credentialing.

The NBCRNA has developed and implemented a set of four core values: Respect, Trust, Recognition & Protection. These values are foundational to everything the organization does. For further information on what these core values mean to the NBCRNA, and what we want them to mean to everyone who seeks and holds our certifications, please visit our website at <https://www.nbcna.com/about-us/mission-vision>.

Primary to my new role has been the evaluation of the entire organization, department by department, coupled with the goal of optimizing each of the separate divisions. In tandem, I have worked to provide the functional units with an infusion of talent and resources necessary to move a solid and very good organization to great.



JOHN C. PRESTON, DNSc, CRNA, FAANA, FNAP, APRN

Many positive changes for the NBCRNA have occurred in 2021, but one thing is for certain - I could not have succeeded with any of them were it not for the unbelievably talented and dedicated staff of the NBCRNA. I am so fortunate to have the opportunity to work along-side each of our staff members in the execution of my duties. To have this opportunity is not only a pleasure, but also my distinct privilege. In short order, we have developed a 5-year strategic plan that is designed to push the NBCRNA into the future and we've already begun exploring what the future

of NBCRNA Continued Certification might look like. One thing is for sure – the future is bright!

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the talented and supportive Board of Directors, with whom I am honored to work. I could not envision a better or more supportive group and it is their guidance that underpins all the work the NBCRNA does.

NBCRNA 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The NBCRNA is managed by a Board of Directors who are recognized as leaders in nurse anesthesia and related fields. The members of the Board are comprised of certified registered nurse anesthetists, as well as a board-certified surgeon and anesthesiologist, both of whom have a current working relationship with nurse anesthetists, and a representative of the public at large. Members of the Board are elected to serve staggered three-year terms.

PRESIDENT

KEVIN DRISCOLL, DNP, MSN, CRNA

Kevin Driscoll is a Staff Anesthetist at the National Institutes of Health*, Clinical Center. This is the world's largest research-only dedicated hospital where they take on medically complex cases to gain greater insights into future diagnosing, treating and curing patients. Prior to that he was at the Johns Hopkins Hospital where he helped lead the first Collaborative Unit Based Safety Program in the Department of Surgery as well as co-chaired a Johns Hopkins Medicine Clinical Community. He received his DNP from Yale University where his focus was on the geo-spatial analysis of the positive correlates for veteran suicide in the post-9/11 veteran communities.

*Kevin is serving in a personal capacity.

VICE PRESIDENT

CORMAC O'SULLIVAN, PHD, CRNA, ARNP

Cormac O'Sullivan is an Associate Clinical Professor and the Director of the DNP program in Nurse Anesthesia at the University of Iowa. He has worked as a CRNA at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics for 20 years. He completed his CRNA education at DePaul University and Ravenswood Hospital in Chicago, IL. He received his PhD in Health Services with a focus on Health Economics from the University of Iowa. His areas of research interest focus on quality and safety in surgical patients, and provider and patient preferences for health care services.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

LORI ANDERSON, DNP, MSN, CRNA

Lori Anderson is an Associate Professor, and the Chair/Program Director for the Department of Nurse Anesthesia at Rosalind Franklin University, North Chicago, IL. Lori earned her BSN and MSN from Northern Illinois University, and her DNP from Rush University. She was a past president of the Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists and a member of the Illinois Board of Nursing.



DIRECTORS

GARRY BRYDGES, PHD, DNP, MBA, CRNA, ACNP-BC, FAAN

Garry Brydges is the Chief Nurse Anesthetist and Director of Anesthesia Quality & Outcomes at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, overseeing a group of over 110 CRNAs. He is also adjunct faculty at University of Texas and Baylor College of Medicine Nurse Anesthesia Programs. Garry graduated from the University of Texas Nurse Anesthesia Program and was the recipient of the Agatha Hodgins Outstanding Graduate Award. He has an extensive academic background, also graduating from the University of Texas Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program before nurse anesthesia training, concentrating in cardiovascular surgery. He completed his DNP at Texas Christian University in 2011, focusing research on Preoperative Considerations for the Heart Failure Patient with Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy. Other degrees include an Executive MBA, as well as a PhD in Financial Management and Economics in Healthcare Delivery, at Texas Woman's University. He was inducted in 2018 as a Fellow into American Academy of Nursing for his work in Opioid-Sparing Strategies.



PAMELA CHAMBERS, DNP, EJD, MSN, CRNA

Pamela Chambers is a member of a private practice anesthesia group in north Texas. She also has a health law consulting firm assisting attorneys, healthcare providers, hospitals and insurers in matters related to standards of care, resource utilization and negligence claims. Pamela was on active duty for 18 years in the US Army Nurse Corps, achieving the rank of Major before separating from the Army to attend law school. Pamela has practiced independently all over the country as well as in several locations overseas. In addition to clinical practice, Pamela has authored several articles covering topics in anesthesia clinical practice as well as professional practice matters. She was a past online instructor for the legal nurse consulting program with Kaplan University. Before joining the board of directors, Pamela served on several volunteer panels for the NBCRNA including the SEE committee and as an item writer. Pamela's DNP project topic was Implementing a Quality Measures Trigger Tool in a Private Practice Anesthesia Workgroup.



DAVID COFFMAN, DO, PHD

David Coffman is the surgeon member of the NBCRNA Board. He obtained his DO from Des Moines University School of Medicine and did his fellowship in trauma/surgical critical care, including burn and burn surgery training, from Yale University. He earned his PhD in Clinical Psychology from Capella University. He is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Surgery at Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine-California (TUCOM), Vallejo, CA and a trauma surgeon with the Acute Care Surgicalist Management Group in Sacramento, CA.



SARA C. GONZALEZ, MD, DABA

Sara Gonzalez is the anesthesiologist member of the NBCRNA Board. Dr. Gonzalez received her medical degree from Wake Forest University School of Medicine and completed her residency training at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) and obstetric anesthesiology fellowship at Cedars Sinai Medical Center. She serves as a Commander in the United States Navy at NMCS D where she is a staff obstetric anesthesiologist and the Residency Program Director. She deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan in 2013 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. She is an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. She enjoys teaching residents and students. Her academic interests include provider wellbeing, operational medicine, and maternal patient safety.



ROBERT T. LAIRD, BSN, CRNA

Robert Laird is an anesthetist in private practice in the Abilene, Texas area. Robert has served in many capacities with the Texas Association of Nurse Anesthetists, including four terms as President. He graduated from Texas Christian University with a BSN before being accepted into the anesthesia residency program at Wichita General Hospital in Wichita Falls, Texas. While there, he developed an air transport system for sick babies, served as field triage nurse during the Wichita Falls tornado of 1979 and helped develop policies for the use of CRNAs in the Emergency Department. After graduation, Robert was recruited by a private hospital in Abilene where he became the pediatric specialist for the center. Robert worked with both State and National organizations to lobby for rules allowing CRNAs to be accepted by Medicare as independent practitioners. Robert has continued to practice full time, managing a four- CRNA group and serving as Chief of Anesthesia for four ASCs and one rural hospital. Robert has served as a testifying expert in several cases involving CRNAs and continues to provide research and opinions concerning standard of care.



SUSAN MCMULLAN, PHD, MSN, CRNA, CNE, CHSE

Susan McMullan is an Associate Professor and Nurse Anesthesia Specialty Track Coordinator at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing. She earned her BSN from University of Michigan, her MSN in Nurse Anesthesia from Rush University, and her PhD from Rutgers, the State College of New Jersey. Prior to her move to Birmingham, she worked full time as a clinical CRNA in Chicago. She has previous academic experience at Rush University Graduate College of Nursing and at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. In her current role Susan manages day-to-day operations of the Nurse Anesthesia program. She also developed a new doctoral curriculum, and transitioned the Nurse Anesthesia Specialty Track from the Masters to Doctor of Nursing Practice outcome degree. Susan maintains a clinical faculty practice at UAB Callahan Hospital. Susan is a 2017 American Association of Nurse Anesthetist Post-Doctoral Fellow and 2016 UAB School of Nursing Dean's Scholar Award recipient for her research on CRNA workload and patient safety.



LISA M. RIEDEL, DNP, MS, CRNA

Lisa Riedel is the director for the University of Tulsa Doctoral Program of Nurse Anesthesia. She earned her BSN from the University of Michigan, her MS in nurse anesthesiology from the University of Detroit Mercy and her DNP from Robert Morris University. She has served on the Diversity and Inclusion committee for the AANA, is a poster and scholarship reviewer for the AANA Foundation and a former item writer for the NBCRNA. Lisa was the keynote Dorothy Brangman speaker for the 2019 AANA Annual Congress and has been published in the *AANA Journal*.



EDWARD J. SUSANK

Ed Susank is the Public Member of the NBCRNA Board. He previously served as a Public Member on the American Board of Imaging Informatics, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, and the Foreign Credentialing Commission of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. Ed spent 25 years as a Principal with William M. Mercer, Inc., a benefits and human resource consulting firm. During that time Ed spent 13 years on the governing board of Downey (CA) Regional Medical Center and chaired their board for four years. He has also served on boards or committees for the Hospital Council of Southern California, the California Hospital Association, the American Board of Medical Specialties, AARP, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the City of Alexandria, the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education at the University of Minnesota. Ed has been a speaker on programs dealing with employee benefit and health care topics for such organizations as the Federation of State Medical Boards, The Conference Board, and the Society of Enrolled Actuaries.



TERRY WICKS, DNP, MHS, CRNA

Terry Wicks is currently serving as an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. He is a graduate of the DNP Program at the University of Iowa. Prior to leaving the military in 1992, Terry served as Assistant Program Director at the clinical site for U.S. Army's Course for Nurse Anesthetists at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colorado. After graduating from the U.S. Army Anesthesia Course for Nurse Corps Officers in 1986, Terry served as a staff anesthetist at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. Terry has also served as President of the Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists, and for the North Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthetists, as well as president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists 2006-07. He was most recently president of the NBCRNA Board of Directors in 2019-2020.

EMERGING LEADER FELLOWS

MICHAEL RUCKER, DNP, CRNA, LCDR, NC, USN

Michael Rucker is a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy and is a CRNA practicing as Assistant Clinical Site Director for the Uniformed Services University Nurse Anesthesia Program clinical site at Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, VA (NMCP). He also serves as a staff CRNA for the NMCP Anesthesia Department, which includes providing general, regional and neuraxial anesthesia. He holds a DNP from the Uniformed Services University and serves as the Chairperson of the Command Procedural Sedation Committee and the education coordinator for the Command Procedural Sedation Monitors course.



SARA MYERS, DNP, CRNA

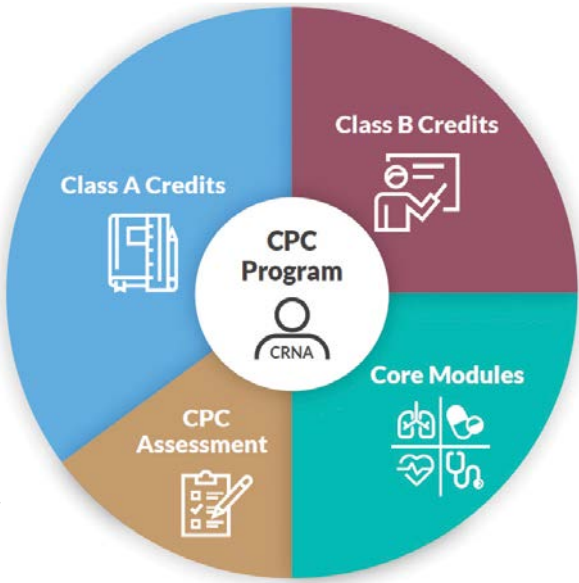
Sara Myers practices anesthesia at Truman Medical Centers in Kansas City, Missouri. She is a clinical instructor and Professor for the Truman Medical Center School of Nurse Anesthesia. Sara earned a BA from the University of Kansas, a BSN from Creighton University, and her DNP from the University of Missouri Kansas City. She has volunteered on a variety of national committees and panels, including the AANA Practice Committee (2017-2020) and NBCRNA CPCA Item Writing Committee (2019-2020). Sara enjoys participating in at least one medical mission trip annually.



CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION
CPC PROGRAM

The CPC Program supports lifelong learning and the strong CRNA credential, protecting your ability to continue practicing as a CRNA. It is designed to meet the APRN regulatory requirements of every state Board of Nursing.

The program also reinforces the validity and value of your



CRNA credential, demonstrating to your patients, their families and your employer that you meet the credentialing requirements designed to promote lifelong learning, help you maintain current anesthesia knowledge, and encourage patient safety— even as the health care environment constantly changes.

THE CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION ASSESSMENT (CPCA)





CRNAs began taking the CPCA, a performance standard assessment, in 2021. The 150-question assessment covers knowledge in the four core domains of nurse anesthesia practice, has a three-hour time limit and may be taken at a testing center or at home under remote-proctor conditions. The CPCA is not a pass/fail exam, but rather can be used as a self-assessment.

In 2021, 750 CPC assessments were delivered.

We encourage all CRNAs to complete their CPCA as soon as they are ready.

The CPCA assesses knowledge in the four core domains of nurse anesthesia practice:

- Airway Management
- Applied Clinical Pharmacology
- Human Physiology and Pathophysiology
- Anesthesia Equipment and Technology

 Airway Management	 Applied Clinical Pharmacology
 Human Physiology and Pathophysiology	 Anesthesia Equipment and Technology

Learn more about the CPC Assessment at WWW.NBCRNA.COM/CPCA

CREDENTIALING RESEARCH

LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT RESEARCH STUDY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The NBCRNA is committed to the evaluation of our assessment processes on a regular basis, which includes elements of the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) program. In 2021, the NBCRNA Board of Directors approved a new research study to explore the potential of longitudinal assessment. Longitudinal assessment, as compared to a single large test, processes the ability to spread shorter assessments of specific content over a long period of time to help build understanding, knowledge and confidence.

The study is scheduled to begin in April 2022, ending in March 2023. After the study has concluded, NBCRNA Research will conduct a thorough review and analysis.

After the analysis is complete, NBCRNA will assess the future viability of the longitudinal assessment approach. The CPC assessment will continue to be a requirement for CRNA renewal through at least 2024/2025 regardless of the outcome of this research study.

Continuing education with assessment supports lifelong learning and enhances our professional standing by providing important external validation of the expertise CRNAs possess to patients, regulators and employers. The NBCRNA is committed to always employing the best tools to support these critical goals.

WHAT IS LONGITUDINAL ASSESSMENT?

Longitudinal Assessment delivers shorter, ongoing assessments, with immediate feedback and rationales to increase understanding and reinforce knowledge.

PUBLISHED STUDY CONFIRMS VALIDITY OF CPC ASSESSMENT

In January, the *Journal of Nursing Regulation* published the paper "Validity Evidence for the Continued Professional Certification Assessment: Professional Practice Analysis of the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists."

This article describes the process and results of the 2019 professional practice analysis conducted by the NBCRNA. The objective was to update the content outline for the CPCA.

A representative sample of CRNA subject matter experts developed 40 knowledge statements which were then evaluated for level of importance through a survey sent to over 52,000 CRNA credential holders. Over 8,000 CRNAs responded, and their results confirmed that these 40 knowledge statements represented core knowledge needed by their peer nurse anesthetists in clinical practice.

BENCHMARKING STUDY RESULTS PUBLISHED

In July, the NBCRNA Board members and research staff published "Benchmarking Study on Continuing Certification in Healthcare and Allied Health Fields: Program Variables, Commonalities, and Trends" in the *Journal of Nursing Regulation*.

Findings indicated that the CPC Program requirements are consistent with other APRN and American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) boards continuing certification programs. A majority of ABMS member boards have transitioned away from the 10-year high stakes recertification examination to longitudinal assessments to assess the knowledge, judgment and skills of their diplomates.


The NBCRNA was able to use elements of the data collected to evaluate components of the CPC program and make refinements based on best practices utilized by other certifying organizations, such as removal of the pass/fail requirement from the NBCRNA's CPC Assessment in 2019 and is currently exploring the use of longitudinal assessments as an alternative to the CPC Assessment.




COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

In August 2021, NBCRNA teamed up with Jascula Terman Strategic Communications to assess our communications initiatives and programs. As a result, we invited all NBCRNA certificants to participate in an online survey focused specifically on communications. Nearly 2,000 CRNAs responded from all geographic and demographic sectors.


Based on the feedback received, here are some key findings and actions we are taking:




CRNAs want pertinent information about the credentialing process in simple, concise and clear communications.



Personal email and e-newsletters are the preferred channels for needed communications.



NBCRNA web-presence needs a refresh.



Increase personalized information about credentialing beyond what is currently available on the CRNA Portal.

We greatly appreciate those who took the time to respond. CRNAs will see some important changes to NBCRNA’s communications in the future based on the valuable input provided.

CRNAS BY THE NUMBERS

56,000

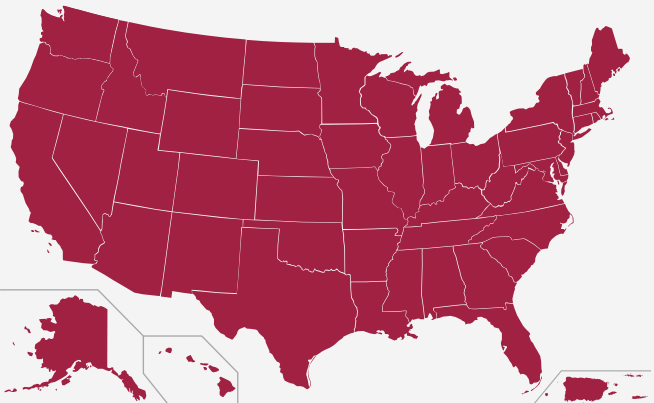
There are more than 56,000 nurse anesthesia professionals who hold the CRNA Credential.

2,628

2,628 newly certified CRNAs entered the profession in 2021

50 Million

CRNAs safely administer approximately 50 million anesthetics to patients each year in the United States, according to the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA).



CRNAs practice in every U.S. state and province and in every practice setting requiring anesthesia, safely administering anesthetics to patients across the United States each year.

CRNA DEMOGRAPHICS

60%

Female

40%

Male

46.2

CRNA Overall Average Age: 46.2 years

32.4

Average Age at Start of Career: 32.4

STUDENT REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST’S (SRNAs) & AND GRADUATES

8,500

More than 8,500 Students & and Graduates are working hard to prepare to be leaders and competent care providers in the dynamic nurse anesthesia profession.

128

There are 128 Accredited Nurse Anesthesia Programs throughout the United States.

SRNA DEMOGRAPHICS

62%

Female

38%

Male

3,300*

Number of Newly Enrolled Students During 2021: Approximately 3,300*

*Partial year; enrollment numbers for this period will increase as submissions are reported from Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs

NBCRNA ELECTIONS

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

During 2021, NBCRNA welcomed three newly elected CRNAs to its Board of Directors, and a new Emerging Leader Fellow, for 2021. The new directors began their three-year terms in October 2021. The NBCRNA looks forward to their contributions to the Board of Directors as it relates to the mission of the NBCRNA on behalf of the profession.

BECKY LEBUHN

Rebecca (Becky) LeBuhn is a co-founder and Chair of the Board of Citizen Advocacy Center, and is responsible for research, policy development, and publications. She has coordinated public participation on regulatory boards, specialty certifying bodies, federal regulatory proceedings, private sector decision-making and technical standards development in such diverse fields as healthcare, medical devices, solar energy conversion and indoor air quality. A professional writer, Ms. LeBuhn is the author of numerous publications and newsletters on various subjects including health professional licensure, specialty certification and recertification, continuing professional development, consumer-business relations, regulatory and healthcare policy and financial services. Active in the public interest community, Becky has been the President of the National Consumers League and of the Continental Association of Funeral and Memorial Societies. She currently serves as a public member of the American Board of Medical Specialties Stakeholder Council and in the past served as the public member on the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), and on the boards of directors of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (I.C.E.), the American Board of Radiology Foundation (ABRF), and ASTM International. She received the 2020 Mary Macomber Service Award from I.C.E. Ms. LeBuhn earned her B.A. in Economics and Government at Wells College and her M.A. in Soviet Studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.



ELLEN REYNOLDS, MD, FACS

Ellen Reynolds is a fellowship-trained pediatric surgeon with over 20 years of experience of general pediatric and trauma surgery at St. Luke's Children's Hospital in Boise, Idaho. Her particular interest is the management and treatment of chest wall deformities. Dr. Reynolds has helped to pioneer techniques used in the surgical correction of pectus excavatum and carinatum deformities. Dr. Reynolds earned her bachelor's degree at Pomona College and attended medical school at Washington University in St. Louis where she graduated first in her class. She completed her general surgery residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, and a fellowship in pediatric surgery at Children's Hospital of Michigan. Dr. Reynolds volunteers her time with IPSAC organization, serving as an educator for Danang Children's Hospital in Vietnam.



SARAH E. GIRON, PHD, CRNA

Sarah Giron is a full-time Academic and Clinical Instructor for the Kaiser Permanente School of Anesthesia (KPSA) in Pasadena, California and Adjunct Professor at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) School of Nursing. She is lead faculty for the DNP scholarly project process at KPSA and operationalized research agreements and dialogue between KPSA and CSUF, serving as lead faculty for the KPSA IRB processes and consulting on project methodology and feasibility for all DNP projects. As full-time faculty, Dr. Giron is also responsible for running simulation-based learning scenarios and clinical education in the operating room. She practices part-time at the Kaiser Permanente South Bay hospital in Harbor City, California. Her clinical interests include neurosurgical cases, organ transplants, general, ophthalmic, vascular and off-site anesthesia.



EMERGING LEADER FELLOW: UNIQUE LAYLOR, MSN, CRNA

Unique Laylor is currently a CRNA at Baylor, Scott & White Health in Temple, TX, where she also serves on the hospital Nurse Research Council. She began her term as an Emerging Leader Fellow in October 2021. While at the University of California, San Francisco, Unique was a member of the departmental Quality Improvement Committee, Orientation Committee, and participated in the annual Students Capturing the Operating Room Experience (SCORE) event speaking with underrepresented minorities in health care. Prior to relocating to Texas, Unique was a simulation fellow at the San Francisco Veteran's Affairs Medical Center

ADVANCING THE PROFESSION INITIAL CERTIFICATION

Each year, the NBCRNA administers various examinations including the Self-Evaluation Examination (SEE) for nurse anesthesia students, the National Certification Examination (NCE) to enter the profession, and the subspecialty Nonsurgical Pain Management Certification (NSPM-C) Examination.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

Candidates in the 128-nurse anesthesia educational programs throughout the United States sit for the NCE, which requires a passing score to become a CRNA. The NBCRNA administers the NCE to measure the knowledge necessary for entry-level nurse anesthesia practitioners.

From January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, a total of 3,259 NCE's were administered; 2,636 candidates were first-time takers with a pass rate of 84.1%. There was a total of 623 repeat administrations of the exam with an overall pass rate of 61.2%. A list of newly certified CRNAs by state of residence is published monthly on the NBCRNA website.

NCE EXIT SURVEY RESULTS

The NBCRNA strives to uphold our customer service commitment to excellence. Overall satisfaction remains high.

NCE EXIT SURVEY RESULTS

From January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021:

97% 97% of NCE candidates were satisfied with the NBCRNA testing experience.

NSPM EXAM STATISTICS

From January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021:

130

130 CRNAs now hold the NSPM-C credential.

25

25 CRNAs earned the NSPM-C credential during 2021.

87.8%

The NSPM-C has an 87.8% pass rate.

The NSPM credential program is accredited by the NCCA and the ABSNC. Find out more about the NSPM-C Program by visiting the NBCRNA website at WWW.NBCRNA.COM/NSPM.

SUBSPECIALTY CERTIFICATION: NONSURGICAL PAIN MANAGEMENT CONTINUES GROWTH IN 2021

Since inception of the NSPM Program through December 31, 2021, 130 CRNAs now hold the NSPM-C credential, 25 of which were achieved in 2021. The NBCRNA's NSPM program was initially developed in 2015 in response to challenges continually faced by nurse anesthetists who practice nonsurgical pain management. The NBCRNA

subspecialty certification for nurse anesthetists measures the knowledge, skills and abilities of CRNAs for practice in the field of nonsurgical pain management. A list of new CRNA NSPM-Certificants is published on the NBCRNA website following each exam testing window.

SELF-EVALUATION EXAMINATION

The SEE is an important part of the preparatory process to become a CRNA. The SEE is a voluntary examination with three objectives: to provide information to students about their progress in the nurse anesthesia educational program; to provide information to program administrators on how well their programs are preparing students with the knowledge they need for anesthesia practice; and to prepare students for NCE experience. From January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, a total of 5,823 candidates took the SEEs.

SEE PREDICTABILITY

The NBCRNA strives to support SRNAs in their journey to become a CRNA. During their education program, students are eligible to take the SEE, which provides insights into their preparedness for the NCE to enter the profession. Each year, a predictability study is conducted on the SEE to gauge predictability in projected performance on the NCE.

- According to the SEE survey, 81.4% of individuals who took the SEE agreed that it helped prepare them to take the NCE.
- An analysis of 2021 SEE and NCE performance showed that, similar to previous years, a clear, positive

correspondence exists between the SEE scores and the NCE scores. This information is especially important for nurse anesthesia educational programs to identify how their program is preparing students for the NCE, the examination required to enter the profession.

View the NCE and SEE Annual Report which provides a summary of NCE and SEE Performance and Clinical Experience at WWW.NBCRNA.COM/INITIAL-CERTIFICATION

SUPPORTING OUR COLLEAGUES

CONTRIBUTIONS/SPONSORSHIPS

Throughout the year, the NBCRNA proudly sponsors and supports colleagues across the nurse anesthesia profession, as well as the advancement of the credentialing industry, to support program development, credentialing research, the nursing community, and nurse anesthesia students with grants and sponsorships.

During 2021, the NCBRNA contributed to the following programs and organizations to support the CRNA profession and credentialing:

Leadership
Excel and
Achievement
Program (LEAP)

Diversity In
Nurse Anesthesia
Mentorship Program
(DNAMP)

Institute for
Credentialing
Excellence

American Board
of Nursing
Specialties

AANA (Virtual
Student Attendance
at the Annual
Congress)



NBCRNA VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES

The work of the NBCRNA is dependent on the expertise provided by the dedicated CRNAs who volunteer their time each year. During 2021, more than 250+ volunteers served on various NBCRNA committees, subcommittees, and panels throughout the year. The NBCRNA would like to thank these individuals for their important work and contributions to their profession. The NBCRNA also thanks the many CRNA ambassadors who provide CPC Program presentations to their colleagues across the nation.

2021 COMMITTEES, SUBCOMMITTEES AND PANELS

EVALUATION AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ERAC)	CHAIR Mary Wojnakowski	Natalie Meyers
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	Israel Akpadiaha	Kay K. Sanders
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	Nicole Hymel	Edward Waters
	Sarah Jingying Zhang	Bryan Wilbanks
	Rory McCorkle	Kenneth Wofford
	Susan McMullan	Rishelle Zhou

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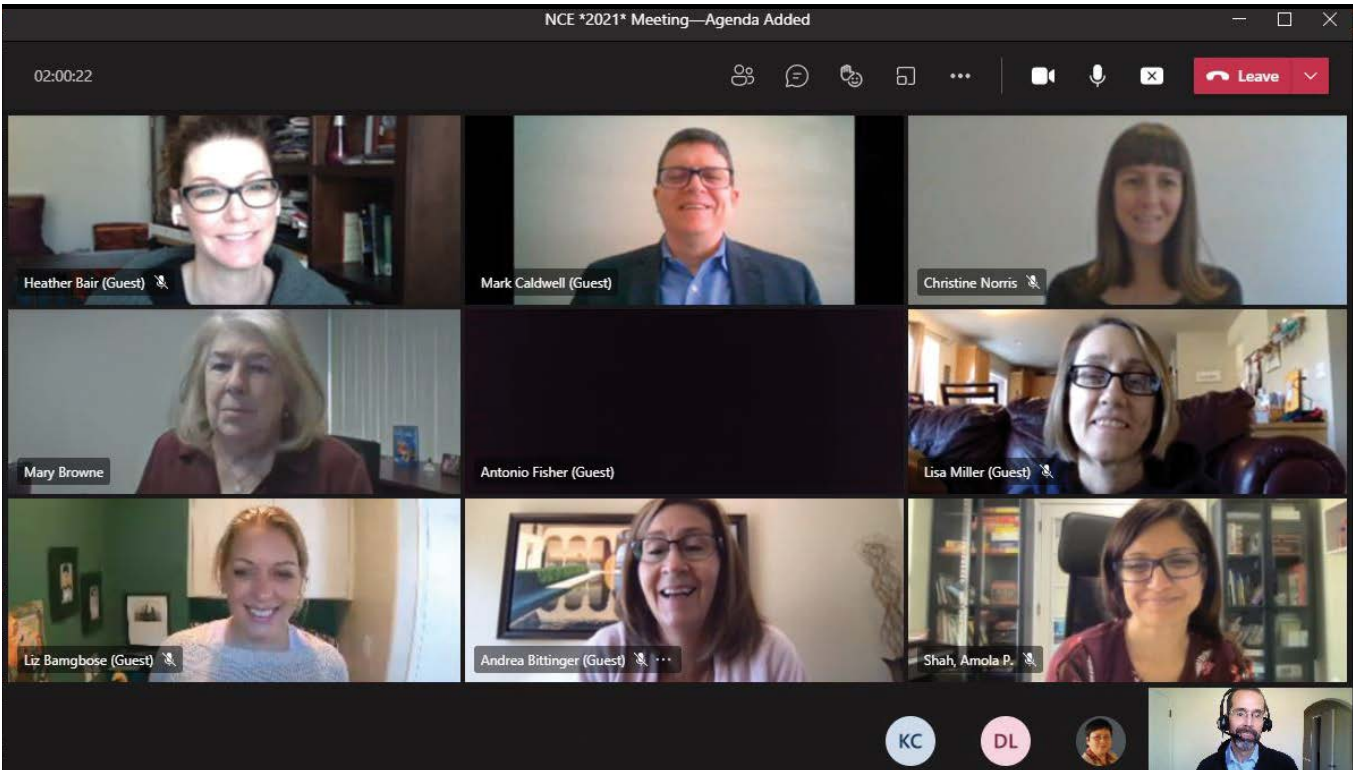
Thank you to our amazing group of volunteers for your service. We appreciate all that you contribute to the success of the CRNA credential, the CRNA Profession, and the NBCRNA.

-John C. Preston, DNSc, CRNA, FAANA, FNAP, APRN
Chief Executive Officer, NBCRNA

EVALUATION AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ERAC) - SIMULATION SUBCOMMITTEE (SIM)	CO-CHAIR (Virginia) Chris Simmons CO-CHAIR Jeffery Groom Michelle Aebersold Gaige Flewelling Richard Flowers Allison Foust Kristin Henderson Catherine Horvath	Pamela Jeffries Suzan Kardong-Edgren Stephen Klinkhammer Susan McMullan Jocelyn Sammons Kristen Southwick John Wickett Anthony Zara
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