



NBCRNA
National Board of Certification
& Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2017: SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 – AUGUST 31, 2017






NBCRNA
is recognized as
the leader in
advanced practice
nurse credentialing

The National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) promotes patient safety through credentialing programs that support lifelong learning. The rigorous and demanding initial education and training, followed by the ongoing continued certification, places nurse anesthetists at the forefront of a growing movement to ensure continuing competency in health care practitioners.

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About the NBCRNA



**Nurse anesthetists
can take justifiable
pride in the history
and success of their
profession.**

The National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to promoting patient safety by enhancing provider quality in the field of nurse anesthesia. The NBCRNA is focused on excellence in credentialing and is responsible for the credentialing functions for nurse anesthetists. We accomplish our mission through the development and implementation of credentialing programs that support lifelong learning among nurse anesthetists.

NBCRNA credentialing provides assurances to the public that CRNAs have met objective, predetermined qualifications for providing nurse anesthesia services. 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 clinical nursing specialty.

The primary goal of the NBCRNA is to protect the well-being of the public by seeking to ensure that nurse anesthetists 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. In so doing, we also protect the value of the CRNA credential.

Mission

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

Vision

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

Responsibility

The NBCRNA is responsible for ensuring that the credentialing standards of nurse anesthetists meet nursing specialty accreditation standards and support competency among nurse anesthesia providers.

Accreditation

Enhancing the Value of the Credential 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). ABSNC accreditation means 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. In August 2017, the NBCRNA's Non-Surgical Pain Management (NSPM) certification program was also granted accreditation by the ABSNC. 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.

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.

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 the standard for demonstrating equivalency. It has been recognized in state nurse practice acts and state rules and regulations.





Letter from the President

Steve Wooden, DNP, CRNA, NSPM-C
2016-2017 NBCRNA President

Planning. Research. Securing the credential's future. This past year focused on these key activities, along with our ongoing credentialing work, to further strengthen our profession.

Planning for the future was kept front-of-mind for the NBCRNA to address the ever-changing landscape of health care and our wonderful profession. With legislative threats, encroachment by other health care providers, and insurance and other restrictions, ensuring that the nurse anesthesia credential is as strong as it can possibly be, and best positioning what that credential means to patients, will only work to bolster our profession going forward.

As of July 2017, all of the nearly 50,000 certified registered nurse anesthetists entered the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program: the first half entered in 2016, and the rest entered in 2017. The CPC Program embodies the professionalism, rigor of our education, and commitment to lifelong learning.

This year we've had many achievements which have contributed to our continued credentialing successes.

The CPC Program outreach, for example, is an exemplary model of how we have significantly increased our outreach through webinars, state presentations, CE vendor meetings, and other venues to provide information about the CPC Program to certificants. In FY 2017, we made a total of 58 live presentations in 32 states, reaching more than 7,000 certificants in-person.

Our credentialing and testing expertise was shared at various industry meetings and conferences. These included having featured speakers at the 2017 Association of Test Publishers (ATP) conference, participating on various panels and virtual Town Halls, and presenting two posters at the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) conference.

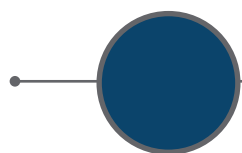
We've worked closely with the AANA, COA, and AANA Foundation leadership and committees on organizational and operational initiatives aligned with our joint strategic plan goals to keep our profession strong and prepared for the future. Leadership from both organizations meet regularly, staff committees, and have a liaison on each other's Boards of Directors.

I want to thank this year's outstanding NBCRNA Board for their diligence and commitment, volunteering an average of 300 hours to fulfill their Board position work commitment. I also recognize the countless contributions made by CEO Dr. Karen Plaus, NBCRNA's excellent staff, and the many CRNA volunteers who have so generously given of their time to the betterment of the profession and the preparation for a strong future.

Through our strong credential and all that it stands for in the health care environment, our profession continues to grow stronger, positioning nurse anesthetists well for the future.

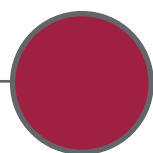
Contributions

In FY 2017, the NBCRNA was pleased to have made the following contributions in support of the nurse anesthesia profession:



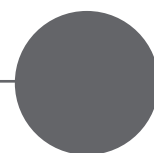
\$2,500

LSUHSC Foundation
(In honor of Dr. Stan Hall)



\$5,212

Support of Military personnel to
attend Assembly of School Faculty



\$42,500

AANA Annual Congress Student
Luncheon Sponsorship

A message from the CEO

Karen Plaus, PhD, CRNA, FAAN, CAE
NBCRNA Chief Executive Officer



Though our credentialing work has always been year-round, the NBCRNA has had an exceptionally busy and robust year with many achievements. Forming stronger relationships with our affiliate organizations including the AANA, COA, and the AANA Foundation, rolling out new programs, and continuing our work to strengthen the credential and thus our profession, have been forefront in our efforts.

This year, the NBCRNA received reaccreditation by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification, Inc. (ABSNC). Additionally, in August 2017, the NBCRNA was pleased to be granted accreditation for our Nonsurgical Pain Management (NSPM) program by the ABSNC through August 2022.

The NBCRNA and the AANA worked together on several initiatives this year including the development and rollout of SRNA DualEnroll, a website that allows nurse anesthesia programs to enroll students with AANA and NBCRNA at the same time—on one site and with one login to streamline the enrollment process. We also collaborated on joint messaging to certificants on important issues, such as the CPC Program, as well to produce student videos to educate our students on what the AANA, NBCRNA, COA, and AANA Foundation do and how each will interact with them over the years.

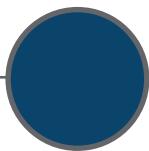
Throughout this year, the NBCRNA has networked with numerous other credentialing, credentialing-related, testing,

consumer, and health care organizations, discussing processes and plans, and presenting on and providing resources and information on credentialing best practices and those processes. This included collaboration with groups like the Citizen Advisory Center for the public perspective, and the Right to Safe Care Coalition to help educate the public on the importance of continued certification.

The NBCRNA staff works hard to maintain a strong credential and credentialing programs, as well as supporting our certificants. In FY 2017, these included activities such as sending more than 12,990 state board of nursing verifications, as well as over 500 transcripts. In FY 2017, NBCRNA customer service staff received 8,308 total certificant calls and 6,970 total certificant emails.

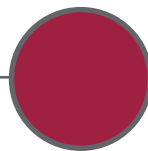
The NBCRNA staff also undertook the enormous task of certifying and recertifying nurse anesthetists, which included administering 4,126 total exams: 3,399 Self-Evaluation Examinations, 2,911 National Certification Examinations and 7 Nonsurgical Pain Management Examinations. More than 22,800 CRNAs were approved for recertification in FY 2017, along with nearly 2,300 new CRNAs who were tested and certified.

We look forward to a productive year and continuing our work to support and strengthen our wonderful profession through research, data accumulation and review, as well as staying at the forefront in advanced practice nurse credentialing.



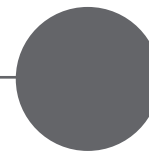
\$50,000

Right to Safe Care Coalition



\$100,000

Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia
Mentorship Program



\$200,212

Total NBCRNA Contributions/
Sponsorships

NBCRNA Board of Directors



PRESIDENT

**Robert Hawkins, PhD, DNP,
MS, MBA, CRNA**

Bob is a nurse anesthesia educator and has served in various roles including clinical instructor, assistant program director, and program director. He is a graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina (BSN), Webster University (MBA), Georgetown University (MS), and Rush University (DNP and PhD).



VICE PRESIDENT

Terry Wicks, MHS, CRNA

Terry is currently a staff nurse anesthetist at Catawba Valley Medical Center in Hickory, NC. In addition, Terry is currently enrolled in the Masters to DNP Program at the University of Iowa. Terry has also served as President of the Hawaii Association of Nurse Anesthetists, as well as president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists 2006-2007.



SECRETARY-TREASURER

**Mary Wojnakowski, PhD,
CRNA**

Mary is an actively practicing anesthesia provider, educator, and researcher. She provides anesthesia services at Maricopa Medical Center, a Level 1 trauma hospital and regional burn center, and Mayo Clinic Hospital. Mary is also on faculty at Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine in Glendale, Arizona.



DIRECTOR

**Pamela Chambers, MSN,
EJD, CRNA**

Pamela graduated from the U.S. Army Graduate program in anesthesia nursing in 2000 with an MSN degree. Pamela has practiced in five of the seven AANA regions during her career, and lectures on topics related to law, nursing jurisprudence, and provides expert witness consultation and review on nurse anesthesia standard of care.



DIRECTOR

David Coffman, DO, PhD

David is the surgeon member of the NBCRNA board, and is Chief in Surgery at the Northern Maine Medical Center. He obtained his DO from Des Moines University School of Medicine, did his fellowship in Trauma/Surgical Critical Care at Yale University, and obtained his PhD in Clinical Psychology from Capella University.



DIRECTOR

**Kevin Driscoll, DNP, MSN,
CRNA**

Kevin is a staff anesthetist at the National Institutes of Health, Clinical Center. Previously, he was at 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 recently achieved his DNP through Yale University.



DIRECTOR

**Stephen Klinkhammer, DNP,
CRNA, CHSE, APNP, APN**

Stephen received his Master of Nurse Anesthesia from the Mayo School of Health Sciences, Rochester, MN, and his Doctor of Nursing Practice from Rush University, Chicago, IL. He has provided anesthesia care in multiple settings including military, government, academic, and private practice. Stephen was on the faculty of the Nurse Anesthesia Program at Rosalind Franklin University School of Medicine and Science from 2009-2017, is a nationally Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator, and lectures on a regional and national level on various anesthesia-related topics.

**DIRECTOR****Cormac O'Sullivan, PhD,
CRNA, ARNP**

Cormac 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. His areas of research interest focus on quality and safety in surgical patients, and provider and patient preferences for health care services.

**DIRECTOR****Dennis Spence, PhD, MS,
CRNA**

Dennis practices anesthesia, is a clinical researcher, nurse anesthesia educator, and Institutional Review Board Chair at an academic medical

center in Southern California. He is a graduate of Rush University (PhD 2008), Georgetown University/Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia Program (MS 2001), and the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio (BSN 1994).

**DIRECTOR****Edward Susank**

Ed is the public member of the NBCRNA Board. Ed spent 25 years as a Principal with William M. Mercer, Inc., a benefits and human resource consulting firm,

and is a Public Member on the American Board of Imaging Informatics and the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education at the University of Minnesota.

**DIRECTOR****Mark Zahniser, MD**

Mark serves as the anesthesiologist representative on the NBCRNA board. He currently works in the Department of Cardiac Anesthesia at Cleveland Clinic and is an

Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine.

**EMERGING LEADER FELLOW****Christopher Gill, MS, CRNA**

Chris is a Clinical Coordinator/Staff CRNA at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. He is a graduate of the Wayne State University Nurse Anesthesia

Program in Detroit, Michigan where he obtained his Master of Science in Anesthesia. His professional interests include pharmacology and health policy.

**EMERGING LEADER FELLOW****Rishelle Zhou, MS, LLB, CRNA**

Rishelle has been a Staff CRNA and Clinical Instructor at the VA Portland Health Care System in Portland, OR, since 2014. She earned a BSN from the Oregon Health and

Science University in 2008 and her master degree from Kaiser Permanente School of Anesthesia/California State University Fullerton in 2012.

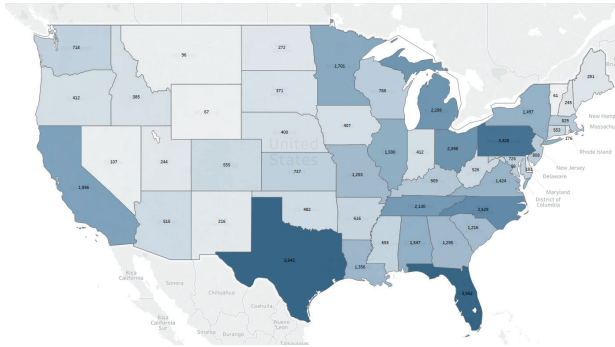
Find us online

WWW.NBCRNA.COM

CRNA Demographics

FY 2017: SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 - AUGUST 31, 2017

Number of CRNAs by State



TOP 5 STATES

1. Texas (3,947)

2. Florida (3,945)

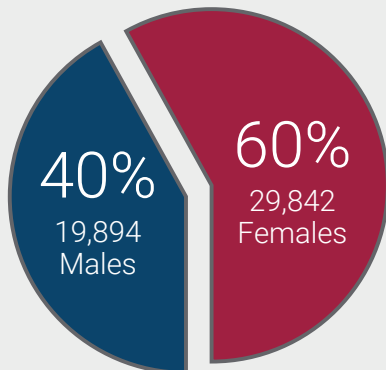
3. Pennsylvania (3,452)

4. North Carolina (2,645)

5. Ohio (2,378)

49,736

CRNA Demographics



47.40 yrs

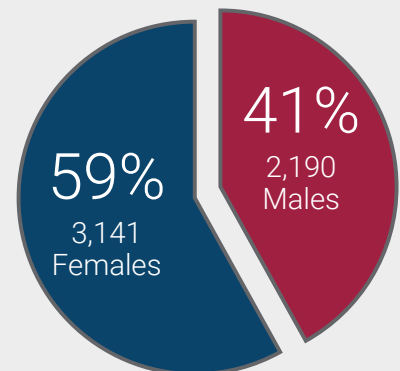
CRNA Overall
Average Age

32.76 yrs

Average Age
At Start Of Career

5,331

Total Students



of Students Enrolled for Each Fiscal Year

2013 2,446

2014 2,432

2015 2,435

2016 2,456

2017 2,347

Election



In July 2017, NBCRNA President Steve Wooden greeted incoming (FY 2018) NBCRNA Board members at the New Board Orientation.

Pictured here from left: Stephen Klinkhammer; Steve Wooden; Dennis Spence; and Emerging Leader Fellow Rishelle Zhou.

The NBCRNA Board of Directors is composed of nurse anesthetists who hold the NBCRNA-issued CRNA credential and who are actively engaged in clinical practice or in research, teaching, or administration at a nurse anesthesia educational program; a board-certified surgeon and a board-certified anesthesiologist, both of whom have a current working relationship with nurse anesthetists; and a representative of the public at large.

During FY 2017, the NBCRNA held elections for two open positions on the NBCRNA Board of Directors. The process began in October 2016 with application submissions. All applications were first reviewed by both the AANA and NBCRNA Boards, followed by interviews with representatives from the NBCRNA Board and the AANA Board liaison. Following the review, interview, and recommendation process, Stephen Klinkhammer, DNP, MNA, MBA, CRNA, and Dennis Spence, PhD, MS, CRNA, were elected as new NBCRNA Board members with terms beginning in August 2017.

In March 2017, the NBCRNA also held a call for nominations for a new Emerging Leader Fellow. After application review and interviews with representatives from the NBCRNA Board of Directors, Rishelle Zhou, MS, LLB, CRNA, was elected as the new Emerging Leader Fellow with a term beginning in August 2017.

Certification: Advancing the Profession

Certification

Certifying new nurse anesthetists speaks to the heart of the NBCRNA mission, to promote patient safety through credentialing programs that support lifelong learning. Each year, candidates in the 120 nurse anesthesia programs throughout the United States sit for the National Certification Examination (NCE) to become certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs). A list of the newly certified CRNAs by state of residence is published monthly on the NBCRNA website. Since the NBCRNA changed the passing standard January 1, 2014, there have been **8,615** first-time examinees. More information on NCE and SEE performance and transcript data for FY 2017 is also available on the NBCRNA website.

CPCE Practice

The NBCRNA launched an online, interactive practice exam, CPCE Practice, in February 2017 to engage nurse anesthetists and to:

- help nurse anesthetists become familiar with types of questions that will appear on the CPC Examination (CPCE);
- provide examples of how the CPCE content outline maps onto points of clinical practice knowledge;
- identify points of knowledge on the CPCE content outline that may require additional study;
- provide practice taking a computerized, multiple-choice/multi-select online exam.

CPCE Practice takes the CRNA through 40 questions covering the four core domains of anesthesia practice*—different from those of the NCE and SEE—and can be taken up to three times over the course of a year. Up to two Class A credits can be earned and participants receive personalized feedback, including a standard score report with results by domain, percentage correct, and correct answer rationales when finished.

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

WWW.NBCRNA.COM/CPCEPRACTICE



Quick20 and Question of the Week

The NBCRNA also provides the Quick20, a free, 20-question sample exam that allows CRNAs to test drive the full CPCE Practice while still receiving instant answer feedback. To promote CPCE Practice, the NBCRNA launched a Question of the Week (QOTW) series on Facebook and Twitter. Each week a question from the Quick20 is posted to social media with a link to the QOTW webpage on the NBCRNA website where CRNAs can view the answer and rationale for that week's question.

Question of the Week

A mainstem intubation is MORE likely to occur with: (Select 2.)

- A. neck extension.
- B. neck flexion.
- C. supine position.
- D. Trendelenburg position.



For answers and rationale visit
www.nbcna.com/QOTW

By the Numbers

SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 - AUGUST 31, 2017

NCE

The NBCRNA administers the National Certification Exam (NCE) to measure the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for entry-level nurse anesthesia practitioners. The NCE is a variable-length computerized adaptive test for entry into nurse anesthesia practice.

National Certification Exam (NCE)

The NBCRNA administers the **National Certification Exam (NCE)** to measure the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for entry-level nurse anesthesia practitioners. The NCE is a variable-length computerized adaptive test for entry into nurse anesthesia practice.



3,120

Exams Administered

82.6%

First-time Pass Rate

78.1%

Overall Pass Rate



- of NCE candidates agreed or strongly agreed that the **NCE application process was easy**.
- of NCE candidates reported being **satisfied with their testing experience**.

Exam Information

3,120

of NCE FY 2017

Exam Information

3,846

of SEE FY 2017

A new exam tutorial provides examinees with an idea of how questions will appear on the NCE and Self-Evaluation Exam (SEE) examinations. The tutorial contains a total of 20 sample items that depict generally how the questions will look in the exam administration software, as well as basic instructions for responding to each question type.

NSPM

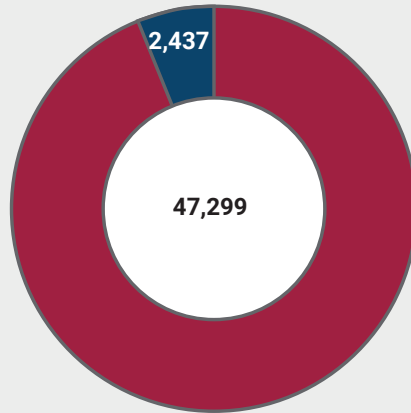
In 2015, the NBCRNA launched the voluntary subspecialty certification for nurse anesthetists in Nonsurgical Pain Management (NSPM-C), which measures the knowledge, skills, and abilities of CRNAs for practice in the field of nonsurgical pain management. Since inception, through July 2017, 20 CRNAs now hold the NSPM-C credential, with a total of 23 exam attempts. During FY 2015, FY 2016, and FY 2017-to-date*, 20 CRNAs have passed the NSPM exam and three failed, for a pass rate of 87%.

*Through July 27, 2017.

CPC/Recertification

CRNAs
FY 2017:
49,736

■ Newly Certified
■ CPC Compliant
(Recertified)



Recertification

The NBCRNA recertified 23,015 nurse anesthetists in FY 2017, who then entered the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program. It is the goal of the NBCRNA to make the recertification process as smooth as possible. During the recertification period (March-August 2017), staff answered more than 8,308 recertification-related calls and 6,970 emails, as well as processed more than 500 transcript requests to assist nurse anesthetists through the process.

CPC Program

The CPC Program, which replaces the credentialing process formerly called "recertification," focuses on lifelong learning and was developed in response to changing accreditation requirements, changing needs within the health care environment, the increasing role of CRNAs in the health care arena, and changes in technology.

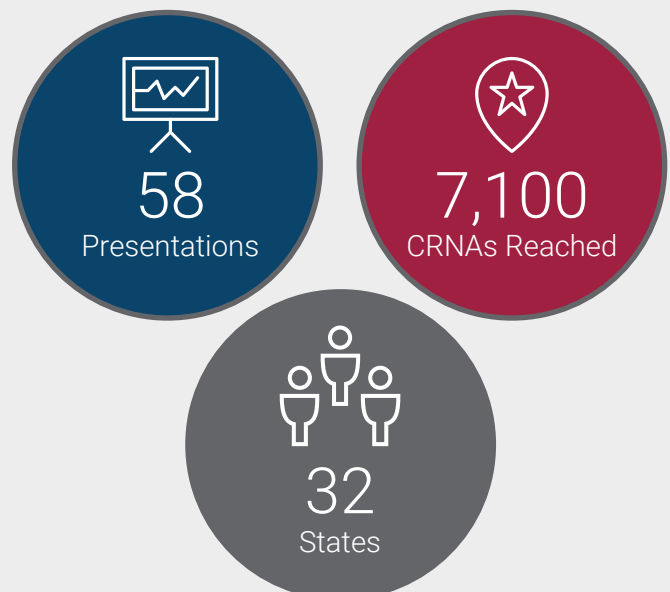
The CPC Program officially launched on August 1, 2016 with 23,450 CRNAs entering the new program following their recertification. As of August 1, 2017, essentially all of the nearly 50,000 certified registered nurse anesthetists have entered the CPC Program. The NBCRNA website provides information, videos, materials, and other resources on the CPC Program: www.NBCRNA.com/CPC.



Nationwide Outreach on the CPC Program

In FY 2017, the NBCRNA continued its initiative to provide information on the CPC Program to CRNAs across the country. The CPC Program educational outreach delivered real-time information to CRNAs through live speakers and webinars in 32 states at more than 58 state, vendor, and facility meetings across the country. The addition of live webinars allowed for presentations to smaller groups, as well. Additional outreach included informative articles for state association and AANA publications, social media information dissemination, videos, and more.

WWW.NBCRNA.COM/CPC



CPC Program Core Modules

Core Modules are an important component of the CPC Program, providing a consistent way for nurse anesthetists to stay abreast of evolving evidence-based knowledge. In FY 2017, seven AANA prior-approved Core Modules from three providers were made available. The modules use a standard set of performance objectives to address the four domains of anesthesia care: airway management; applied clinical pharmacology; human physiology and pathophysiology; and anesthesia equipment and technology. Each module is linked to the content outline of the CPC examination and will include a formal assessment, such as multiple-choice questions.

NBCRNA Established Pediatric Subspecialty Certification Workgroup

In spring of 2017, the NBCRNA Board approved the creation of a Pediatric Subspecialty Certification Workgroup whose charge is to identify the knowledge and skill set one must possess to be eligible to obtain the pediatric subspecialty credential. The group's work also includes developing criteria for traditional, as well as alternative, paths for subspecialty credential achievement. The AANA Board appointed its Board member Heather Rankin, DNP, CRNA, to serve on the Workgroup for the coming fiscal year.

Top Nurse Anesthesia Programs in Top Two States**

State	Program	# of Students
Florida	University of South Florida	130
	Barry University Master of Science Program in Anesthesiology	128
	Wolford College Nurse Anesthesia Program	105
Texas	US Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia Nursing in Anesthesia Nursing	109
	Texas Wesleyan University Graduate Programs of Nurse Anesthesia	107
	Texas Christian University School of Nurse Anesthesia	68

** This count represents only students, not those that may have been students August 31, but have since certified.

Reference Survey, CPCE Practice

The NBCRNA was pleased to have two posters accepted for the 2017 American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) conference held in Chicago. The NBCRNA was the first nursing organization to have two poster presentations accepted for this meeting. NBCRNA Board member Kevin Driscoll, DNP, MSN, CRNA and Staff Matt Ferris were on hand to discuss the posters, one on the CPCE Practice (practice exam) and the other on the Reference Survey, during the poster sessions.



Self-Evaluation Examination (SEE)

The NBCRNA Self-Evaluation Examination (SEE) helps prepare students for the National Certification Examination (NCE) experience and provides them with information about their progress in the nurse anesthesia educational program. In FY 2017, the NBCRNA administered 3,846 SEE examinations.

3,846
SEE Examinations



Supporting Our Colleagues



Support for Military CRNAs

The NBCRNA greatly respects our military CRNAs and their service to our country. For the fourth year in a row, the NBCRNA has offered support to military CRNA educators to attend the AANA Assembly of School Faculty, this year in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.



Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia Mentorship Program

The NBCRNA is a proud sponsor of the Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia Mentorship Program, whose mission is to inform, empower, and mentor underserved diverse populations with information to prepare for a successful career in Nurse Anesthesia. In 2017, the NBCRNA proudly supported the Diversity CRNA Information Session & Airway Simulation Lab Workshop at Samuel Merritt University in San Francisco and the Diversity Advanced Practice Nurse Symposium held at Howard University.

“As a result of the NBCRNA grant, the Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia Mentorship Program has been able to expand to offer essential initiatives that will impact a new generation of future, diverse nurse anesthesia community. We were able to add more Diversity CRNA Information Sessions & Airway Simulation Lab Workshops for diverse critical care nurses who want to successfully matriculate into graduate nurse anesthesia programs. In the future, these events will increase the number of racial and ethnic nurse anesthesia workforce and faculty positions.

The NBCRNA grant also extended the educational pipeline to historical black colleges and universities and Hispanic-serving institution schools of nursing. Diverse CRNAs arrived on campuses and spoke to first-generation nursing students about academic and clinical excellence, as well as hands-on airway simulation experience. Hopefully, this will propel serious consideration for a career in nurse anesthesia to those who never had exposure to Advance Practice Nurses, particularly CRNAs, from a visit to their campus.

Lastly, we were able to address the lack of diversity in doctoral programs by nurses of color. So we launched a Diversity Advance Practice Nurse Doctorate Symposium at Howard University. The panel consisted of diverse CRNAs, nurse practitioners, and certified nurse midwives with earned doctorates (PhD, EdD, DNP and DNAP). Nurses from across the country traveled to learn about the doctoral journey, rigors of a program, research opportunities and interests, dissertation process, capstone project formation, career trajectory and impact in outcomes, health disparities, and cultural competence.

All of this could not have been done had it not been for the NBCRNA grant to the Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia Mentorship Program. We are extremely thankful and will never forget the NBCRNA commitment to the nurse anesthesia profession and direct impact towards diversity and inclusion.”

Wallena Gould, EdD, CRNA, FAAN

Founder, Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia Mentorship Program
www.DiversityCRNA.org

NBCRNA and AANA: Working Together



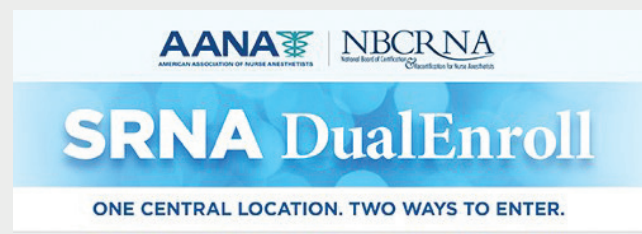
NBCRNA Looking at Alternatives to Testing

The NBCRNA and the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) worked together on numerous initiatives in FY 2017. AANA and NBCRNA staff coordinate periodic joint communications from the presidents of both organizations, and continue joint work in continuing education-related areas. In February 2017, the AANA and NBCRNA issued a joint statement that the two organizations were working together as the NBCRNA reviews alternatives to the CPC Program exam component. The statement was posted in the February 15, 2017, issue of AANA Anesthesia E-ssential. A video and statement were also created and posted on the NBCRNA website.



Evaluating Testing Alternatives

NBCRNA BOD and staff attended the 2017 Innovations in Testing conference sponsored by the Association of Test Publishers (ATP) and recorded their takeaways from the event. The NBCRNA continues to evaluate alternatives to testing.



SRNA DualEnroll

The NBCRNA and AANA collaborated on the successful development and launch of the new SRNA DualEnroll program in FY 2017, allowing nurse anesthesia programs to register their students with both organizations through a single portal. The NBCRNA and AANA are pleased to offer program administrators this new, easy enrollment site to streamline the enrollment process.

NBCRNA: Looking Ahead



Student Education Videos

A joint student education project was initiated through the NBCRNA Communications Committee. The project brings together the NBCRNA, AANA, AANA Foundation, and the COA to produce a video about each of the four organizations. It was identified that students, and in many cases, Program Administrators, had limited knowledge about each of the four organizations:

- what each does
- how they interact with the CRNA
- how the student/future CRNA will likely interact with each as they proceed in their career.

Professional Practice Analysis for the NCE

A Professional Practice Analysis (PPA) survey was conducted for the National Certification Exam (NCE), which concluded in June 2016. The PPA study looks at the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for entry-level practice as a nurse anesthetist. The purpose of the practice analysis is to maintain a logical, practice-related, and research-based content framework for the NCE. The updated content outline was then provided for public comment in fall 2016, with the results presented at the AANA Assembly of School Faculty (ASF) in February 2017. The video and executive summary were posted to the NBCRNA website.

NCE Professional Practice Analysis (PPA) Presentation to ASF

February 24, 2017

Timothy J. Muckle, Ph.D.
Jeremy Heiner, CRNA, Ed.D.

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NBCRNA Joins Nursys Database

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) announced in a press release that the NBCRNA is the first advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) credentialing association to use Nursys to electronically provide primary source certification information to the state boards of nursing (BONs).

This new service is especially valuable to BONs as they now have real-time access to current certification credentials as part of the licensure process for certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs). This is also of great benefit to CRNAs for whom continual certification is a requirement for licensure/state recognition.

“The NBCRNA and the NCSBN have worked hard on this important data-sharing initiative that will streamline and benefit all nurse anesthetists. This project will enable the NBCRNA to receive automatic, near ‘real-time’ data updates on RN licensure from all states that participate in Nursys; a considerable improvement over our current manual, self-report method of RN licensure data collection.”

Karen Plaus, PhD, CRNA, FAAN, CAE
NBCRNA CEO

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**The NBCRNA
appreciates the vast
contributions of
its many volunteers.**

Listed are volunteers who have served
on NBCRNA Committees, Subcommittee,
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*(Not listed are standing committees,
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8725 W. Higgins Road, Suite 525, Chicago, IL 60631 | (855) 285-4658

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