



# Program Brochure

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## **Program Philosophy**

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The philosophy of the Hospital of Saint Raphael School of Nurse Anesthesia is to provide society with highly competent nurse anesthesia practitioners.

In order to fulfill this responsibility, the Hospital of Saint Raphael School of Nurse Anesthesia provides the students with a broad clinical and didactic experience, which is in keeping with the current standards and guidelines set by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

The members of our faculty show a deep commitment to the education of nurse anesthesia practitioners. The faculty consists of certified registered nurse anesthetists, physician anesthesiologists, and professors who openly share their expertise with our students.

We believe that our program of nurse anesthesia provides a tremendous educational stimulus for all of our faculty members, and the result of this can be seen in the quality of anesthesia care administered at our institution and the clinical and academic excellence shown by our graduates.

## **Program Objective**

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The overall objective is to provide the educational and clinical experience that will enable the student, after completion of the program, to provide safe anesthetic care to the wide variety of clinical situations that arise in the current practice of anesthesia.

## **Program Design**

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The Hospital of Saint Raphael School of Nurse Anesthesia is approved by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs and is open to men and women who are graduates of accredited schools of nursing. The program has been granted full accreditation status by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs/Schools for ten years with an expiration date of October, 2014.

The program begins annually in May and encompasses 29 months, with coursework offered at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain and at the Hospital of Saint Raphael in New Haven. During the didactic phase (12 months), the student is a full-time matriculated student at CCSU. The clinical phase (17 months) is offered at the Hospital of Saint Raphael as well as the program's clinical affiliation sites.

Upon satisfactory completion of all didactic and clinical work, candidates are awarded the Master of Science in Biology/Anesthesia from Central Connecticut State University. Graduates of the program receive a certificate from the Hospital of Saint Raphael School of Nurse Anesthesia. Successful completion of the program makes the graduate eligible to take the qualifying examination for certification as a registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA).

## **Facilities**

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The basic science didactic coursework is presented at Central Connecticut State University, New Britain. Students receive their clinical experience at the Hospital of Saint Raphael in both the operating rooms and other critical care areas. The school also utilizes four affiliation sites outside of the hospital for clinical experiences. The Hospital of Saint Raphael is a general hospital affiliated with the Yale University School of Medicine. The hospital contains some 450 beds and 27 anesthetizing areas. Anesthesia Associates of New Haven, P.C. is the professional corporation that provides all anesthesia services for the Hospital of Saint Raphael.

Approximately 30,000 anesthetics are administered annually in the hospital. Many different agents are used for anesthesia and involve varied techniques.

Resources are also available for in-hospital anesthesia coursework. The library of the department of anesthesiology as well as the medical library of the Hospital of Saint Raphael is utilized for the clinical coursework phase of the program.

## **Course Description**

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Students entering the Hospital of Saint Raphael School of Nurse Anesthesia are given the opportunity to receive a Master of Science Degree in Biology with a specialization in nurse anesthesia from Central Connecticut State University via an academic affiliation agreement. The program is 29 months in length with admissions annually in May to coincide with the summer session at CCSU. The first 12 months are spent at the CCSU campus with the student enrolled full-time (9 -12 credits) for three semesters. The remaining 17 months are spent in the clinical area at the Hospital of Saint Raphael and affiliates. The course sequence at CCSU is as follows:

## **CCSU Course Sequence**

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<b>Semester</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
Summer	Chemistry 550	3
	Biology 517	6
		9
Fall	Biology 500	2
	Biology 540	3
	Biology 528	4
	Biology 598	3
		12
Spring	Biology 518	3
	Education 511	3
	Biology 416	3
		9
Prior to Graduation	PLAN A	
	Biology 590 (Thesis overview)	
	Biology 511 (Thesis)	3
	<i>Or</i>	
	PLAN B	
	Biology 590 (Clinical Case Study)	
	Comprehensive Exam	
Total		31-33

## **HSR Course Sequence**

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<b>Semester</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
Spring	Basic Principles of Anesthesia	80
Summer	Physics	24
	Pharmacology of Anesthesia	30
Fall	Advanced Principles of Anesthesia	97
Spring	Professional Aspects	48
	Conference	48

During the clinical work (17 months) at the Hospital of Saint Raphael, 2-3 scheduled classes will be held per week and are given by staff anesthesiologists, certified registered nurse anesthetists and other physicians and allied health personnel. The lectures meet the criteria set by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs/Schools to complete the requirement for certification as a CRNA.

Additional lectures on related subjects are given by visiting specialists on the last Tuesday evening of every calendar month. Students are also required to attend the morbidity and mortality conference given once a month and to present a Grand Rounds to the department once during their clinical rotation. Students are also encouraged to participate in activities of the Connecticut Association of Nurse Anesthetists and the New England Assembly of Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists.

Clinical practicum is given primarily at the Hospital of Saint Raphael. There are several rotations to our affiliation sites for the purpose of expanding our regional, obstetric and pediatric experiences. Supervision is on a one to one basis by a CRNA with close supervision by an anesthesiologist. Cases are of a wide variety and clinical experience is always in excess of requirements needed for graduation. An open heart rotation will be given toward the end of the clinical practicum. The students will take call after a period of time has been spent in the clinical area.

The time commitment is great, approximately 50-60 hours per week, including clinical work, classroom work and classroom and clinical preparation. Clinical evaluations are given at three month intervals.

Due to the heavy demand on the student's time, employment is discouraged during the clinical phase of the program.

## **Benefits and Policies**

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During the didactic phase, students follow the calendar and policies of CCSU as stated in the graduate catalog. The students will observe all holidays and have vacations during semester breaks.

Tuition and fees will be paid by the student directly to Central Connecticut State University at the time of registration. The current graduate tuition and fees can be found on the CCSU web site:

[www.ccsu.edu/grad/tuition.htm](http://www.ccsu.edu/grad/tuition.htm)

CCSU Health services, located in Marcus White Annex, provides a variety of services to all full-time graduate students during the didactic phase. Sickness insurance is required unless waived. Students with their own insurance may waive this coverage.

The housing office, in Mildred Barrows Hall, maintains off campus residence listings for students during the 12-month period at CCSU.

During the clinical phase, students are entitled to eleven hospital holidays in the 17-month period. Additionally, students receive 3 weeks vacation, 8 sick days and 2 research days.

Benefits are received during the clinical phase of the Program. They include health and malpractice insurance.

Scrub uniforms for students are provided by the hospital at no additional cost. Housing, meals, transportation and parking are not provided.

Leave of absence and deferral of graduation are dealt with on an individual basis and are at the discretion of the directors and respective school faculty.

The Hospital of Saint Raphael School of Nurse Anesthesia is approved by the Connecticut State Department of Education for the education and training of veterans.

## **Loans**

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Guaranteed student loans are available through the financial aid office of CCSU during the didactic portion of the program.

Loans to students may also be granted by the AANA in the case of unexpected educational costs or financial problems. Students must be enrolled in the program for at least 12 months in order to qualify for consideration. The Educational Loan Fund Committee shall determine the amount of the loan. Information and assistance for securing loans or grants while at the University can be obtained at the Financial Aid Office at CCSU. A limited amount of federal grant money may also be available during the last 12 months of the program through the Student Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Grant.

## **Admission Requirements**

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To be eligible for admission to the program of anesthesia, an applicant must:

1. Be a graduate from an N.L.N. or A.A.C.N. accredited baccalaureate program in nursing or have another appropriate baccalaureate degree (biology, chemistry, etc.), from an accredited school, which must be completed at the time of application.
2. Have a current, valid, professional nursing license in one of the 50 states, which satisfies the requirements of the applicable state board(s) of nursing.
3. Have a minimum of one year of experience at the time of application in which the applicant has had the opportunity to develop independent decision making, demonstrate psychomotor skills and the ability to use and interpret advanced monitoring based on a knowledge of physiologic and pharmacologic principles. (i.e.: ICU, ER, PACU, NICU, CTICU)
4. Have a current certification in basic life support.
5. Have completed in their undergraduate preparation two 4-credit courses in chemistry (inorganic and organic / biochemistry) two 4-credit course in anatomy and physiology, and 1 course in Microbiology. A course in Pharmacology is encouraged as well. *Please note that science prerequisite courses must be less than 10 years old.*
6. Applicants with a GPA less than 3.5 must have completed the Graduate Record Examination(GRE). Applicants with a GPA of 3.5 or greater are not required to take the GRE.

Applicants with a grade point average of less than 3.0 in the core sciences than 3.0 in the core sciences may be asked to take the GRE subject tests in Biology and/or Chemistry.

Applicants for admission to the program are reviewed by the School of Nurse Anesthesia admissions committee. The final deadline for completion of the application process is **October 15**. Personal interviews are by invitation and must be scheduled before November 15. Appointments to the program are recommended by the admissions committee and approved by the Directors of the School of Nurse Anesthesia.

Factors considered in the selection process are academic achievement; (a minimum 3.00 grade point average is required with a strong performance in the Sciences), clinical experience, career motivation, character and other personal traits indicative of success in the program, and dedication to a career in nurse anesthesia. Acceptance is contingent upon satisfactory evidence of the above requirements as well as three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from the Office of the Dean or Director of your school of nursing and one from a current supervisor (forms are enclosed).

Early action may be considered by the admissions committee at the request of the applicant. Applicants for early action consideration must have a GPA of 3.5 or greater, a core science GPA of 3.0 or greater and a strong desire to attend the Hospital of Saint Raphael School of Nurse Anesthesia as their first choice school. Admissions notification will be no later than two weeks from the time of personal interview. Upon acceptance, the applicant will be required to pay the \$1,500.00 non-refundable commitment fee within one week of notification. If the admissions committee does not approve early action, the application will be reviewed at the regular admissions meeting.

International applicants are required to submit additional documentation. Please refer to the University graduate catalogue. A catalogue may be obtained by writing to the University at 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT, 06050, Telephone: (203) 827-7265, or visiting the University web site: [www.ccsu.edu](http://www.ccsu.edu)

A fifty dollar (\$50.00) application fee is required at the time of application submission.

Students are admitted during the academic year in May. It is the School's policy to select students on the basis of personal merit and capabilities without discrimination as to race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation or national origin. Transfer students are not accepted. Upon acceptance a \$1,500.00 (non-refundable) commitment fee is due. An additional

\$2000.00 clinical fee will be required at the start of the clinical rotations. This fee is used for the purchase of books, simulation lab visits, a board review course, medical malpractice insurance for rotation sites and other items necessary for the clinical aspect of the program.

Application forms for the program may be obtained by writing the Director, School of Nurse Anesthesia, Hospital of Saint Raphael, 1423 Chapel Street, New Haven, Connecticut, 06511.

A separate application needs to be made to Central Connecticut State University upon acceptance to the Hospital of Saint Raphael. Applications will be forwarded at the time of acceptance.

## **Hospital of Saint Raphael**

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Nurse Anesthesia students are a part of the Saint Raphael family of some 630 staff physicians, 110 residents, interns, and paramedical personnel.

Nurse anesthetists and various other personnel who work in the Department of Anesthesiology are employees of the Anesthesia Associates of New Haven, P.C., which is a private practice of anesthesiology developed in 1941. Since that time they have cared for more than a half million patients in our community.

In 1945 the School of Nurse Anesthesia opened and admitted its first student. Since that time, nurses from our program have graduated and become CRNA's providing anesthesia services in many areas of the country as well as overseas.

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