



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Intent to Plan for a New Program

UNIVERSITY:	USD
DEGREE(S) AND TITLE OF PROGRAM:	Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	Summer 2023

Please check this box to confirm that:

- The individual preparing this request has read [AAC Guideline 2.4](#), which pertains to new intent to plan requests for new programs, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this intent to plan, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

President of the University

Date

Note: In the responses below, references to external sources, including data sources, should be documented with a footnote (including web addresses where applicable).

1. What is the general nature/purpose of the proposed program? Please include a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the academic field in this program.

The purpose of the Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice post baccalaureate program is to prepare registered nurses to become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA) who will have the educational background and skill to provide anesthesia care that is founded in innovative evidence-based practice and use of advanced technologies. Furthermore, graduates of the program will be able to assume leadership roles in a variety of healthcare settings and improve healthcare delivery. The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational programs (COA) has mandated that “all students accepted into an accredited program on January 1st, 2022, thereafter, will be required to graduate with doctoral degrees.”¹ The reason is to elevate the quality of care in the emerging healthcare systems and to strengthen the CRNA leadership skills.

2. What is the need for the proposed program (e.g., Regental system need, institutional need, workforce need, etc.)? What is the expected demand for graduates nationally and in South Dakota (provide data and examples; data sources may include but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc.)? Please cite any sources in a footnote.

Nurse Anesthetists work in a variety of settings where they administer anesthesia and provide care before, during, and after surgical, therapeutic, diagnostic, and obstetrical procedures. They also

¹ Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia programs Policies and Procedures Manual Published in 2012 and Revised in 2018

provide pain management and some emergency services. Nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners, also referred to as *advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs)*, coordinate patient care and may provide primary and specialty healthcare. The scope of practice varies from state to state.

Nurse Anesthetists are the sole provider of anesthesia care in 83% of South Dakota counties. Overall employment of nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners is projected to grow 45% from 2019 to 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations. Growth will occur primarily because of an increased emphasis on preventive care and demand for healthcare services from an aging population. See Table below²:

Employment projections for CRNAs

Employment projections data for nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners, 2019-29

Occupational Title	SOC Code	Employment, 2019	Projected Employment, 2029	Change, 2019-29		Employment by Industry
				Percent	Numeric	
Nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners	—	263,400	381,100	45	117,700	—
Nurse anesthetists	29-1151	44,900	51,000	14	6,200	Get data
Nurse midwives	29-1161	7,200	8,100	12	800	Get data
Nurse practitioners	29-1171	211,300	322,000	52	110,700	Get data

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections program

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates job growth for nurse anesthetists to increase 14% between the years 2019-2029. This increase is reflected as a total increase of 5,800 jobs from the 2019 Nurse Anesthetist employment number of 44,900 to an estimated 51,000 in 2029.³

CRNAs are the sole anesthesia providers in a significant majority of SD counties. They provide access to quality and safe anesthesia care to rural South Dakotans. The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation projects that employment of CRNAs in South Dakota will increase by 16.3% between 2018 and 2028. According to the Bureau Labor and Statistics published data on mean wages for CRNAs by State, South Dakota is in the range of \$184,380 to \$195,010.^{2,4}

The location quotient is the ratio of the area concentration of occupational employment to the national average concentration. A location quotient greater than one indicates the occupation has a higher share of employment than average, and a location quotient less than one indicates the occupation is less prevalent in the area than average.⁵ South Dakota has a location quotient of 2.91, indicating high utilization of CRNAs.

3. How would the proposed program benefit students?

While CRNAs are in high demand, currently, only a single institution is offering CRNA education in the state, Mount Marty University. The proposed CRNA program will uniquely attract applicants who have a demonstrated commitment to health care and wish to advance their professional qualifications. The program at USD will open new opportunities for future generations as the program graduates become healthcare leaders who will advance rural health and give their talent and expertise to increasing access to cost effective care. The program will serve students seeking CRNA education in the state and for those who desire to stay and practice in South Dakota. In

² <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nurse-anesthetists-nurse-midwives-and-nurse-practitioners.htm#tab-6>

³ <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291151.htm>

⁴ Projections Managing Partnership, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

⁵ <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291151.htm>

addition, USD will offer regionally competitive tuition and fee structure, in part due to the existing infrastructure that will make the CRNA program affordable.

4. How does the proposed program relate to the university’s mission as provided in South Dakota Statute and Board of Regents Policy, and to the current Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020?

Links to the applicable State statute, Board Policy, and the Board of Regents Strategic Plan are listed below for each campus.

BHSU:	SDCL § 13-59	BOR Policy 1:10:4
DSU:	SDCL § 13-59	BOR Policy 1:10:5
NSU:	SDCL § 13-59	BOR Policy 1:10:6
SDSMT:	SDCL § 13-60	BOR Policy 1:10:3
SDSU:	SDCL § 13-58	BOR Policy 1:10:2
USD:	SDCL § 13-57	BOR Policy 1:10:1
	Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2014-2020	

The proposed program furthers the mandate and strategic plan of the Board of Regents and the University of South Dakota (USD) by providing new high quality, efficient, flexible, equitable, affordable, and accessible graduate education to the residents of South Dakota. This program will help address USD’s strategic plan of “serving South Dakota”. The proposal aligns with the Board’s strategic plan 2014-2020 by growing the number of graduate degrees and expanding the research and economic development opportunities in the state. The new program enhances and enriches the educational mission at the University of South Dakota and contributes to the overall educational attainment, research and productivity in the state. The program is aligned with the statutory mission of the University of South Dakota, as provided in SDCL 13-57-1:

“Designated as South Dakota's Liberal Arts University, the University of South Dakota, established and located at Vermillion, in Clay County, shall be under the control of the Board of Regents and shall provide undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in business, education, fine arts, law and medicine, and other courses or programs as the Board of Regents may determine. (SDCL 13-57-1)”

The Board implemented SDCL 13-57-1 by authorizing undergraduate and graduate programs in the liberal arts and sciences and in professional education and by requiring the University to promote excellence in teaching and learning, to support research, scholarly and creative activities, and to provide service to the State of South Dakota, the region, and beyond. The University of South Dakota is the comprehensive university of the South Dakota System of Higher Education. Specifically, this program aligns with current goals within the USD Strategic Plan to “enrich academic experience for graduate and professional students; maintain and enhance critical components of the liberal arts in both curricular and co-curricular arenas; and collaborate with community leaders on targeted economic development.” The proposed CRNA program will create a unique opportunity to address a significant workforce shortage, increase access to evidence-based care for vulnerable populations, and utilize community partnerships to increase reach and impact.

5. Do any related programs exist at other public universities in South Dakota? If a related program already exists, explain the key differences between the existing programs and the proposed program, as well as the perceived need for adding the proposed new program. Would approval of the proposed new program create opportunities to collaborate with other South Dakota public universities? A list of existing system programs are available through the university websites and the [RIS Reporting: Academic Reports Database](#). If there are no related programs within the Regental system, enter “None.”

No, there are no CRNA programs offered at any of the public universities in South Dakota. Opportunities for potential collaborations are occurring between the Presidents and Executive Director level at this time.

6. Do related programs exist at public colleges and universities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and/or Wyoming?

This question addresses opportunities available through Minnesota Reciprocity and WICHE programs such as the Western Undergraduate Exchange and Western Regional Graduate Program in adjacent states. List only programs at the same degree level as the proposed program. For example, if the proposed program is a baccalaureate major, then list only related baccalaureate majors in the other states and do not include associate or graduate programs.

	Institution	Program Title
Minnesota		
	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), Post Master's DNP Completion ⁶
North Dakota		
	University of North Dakota, College of Nursing and Professional disciplines	Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), Post Master's DNP Completion ⁷
Montana	N/A	
Wyoming	N/A	

7. Are students enrolling in this program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university?

The main applicant pool will come from registered nurses who hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited program. Additionally, students enrolled in both the M.S. or Doctor of Nursing may choose to apply for this program. USD has established ongoing support for the program through a local, regional health care system. USD offers regionally competitive tuition and fee structure, in part due to the existing infrastructure which will attract students to the program. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists programs are in high demand and employment of CRNAs is close to 100%. Acceptance into CRNA programs in the region ranges from 10-30%. For example, University of North Dakota acceptance rate is 27% based on 60 qualified applicants⁸, Mount Marty acceptance rate is 30% based 105 qualified applicants⁹ and University of Minnesota is 10% based on 60 qualified applicants.¹⁰

8. What are the university's expectations/estimates for enrollment in the program through the first five years? What are the university's expectations/estimates for the annual number of graduates from the program after the first five years? Provide an explanation of the methodology the university used in developing these estimates.

Estimates are based on the availability of adequate clinical sites, accounting for attrition of 1 student per cohort. Based on existing demand, especially the fact that regional CRNA programs

⁶ <https://www.all-crna-schools.com/university-of-minnesota-twin-cities/>

⁷ <https://cnpd.und.edu/nursing/nurse-anesthesia-dnp.html>

⁸ <https://cnpd.und.edu/nursing/nurse-anesthesia-dnp.html#d32e327-2>

⁹ <https://www.mountmarty.edu/sioux-falls/performance-data/>

¹⁰ <https://www.all-crna-schools.com/university-of-minnesota-twin-cities/>

are turning away significant numbers of applicants, we are confident that we will reach our enrollment numbers. USD has a robust marketing team which is capable of creating targeted marketing plans. We will also depend on our existing successful partnerships with the healthcare systems and alumni to recruit students into the program.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
ENROLLMENTS	10	24	42	52	57
Year 1	10	15	20	20	20
Year 2		9	14	19	19
Year 3			8	13	18

9. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university intends to seek authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?

Note: The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
On campus	No	

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
Off campus	Yes	Sioux Falls	Summer 2023

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 5.5.</i>	Intended Start Date
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	No	The program will not be 100% online. Some of the existing NURS courses are available via internet asynchronous.	Summer 2023
Does another BOR institution already have authorization to offer the program online?	No	If yes, identify institutions:	

10. What are the university's plans for obtaining the resources needed to implement the program?

	Development/ Start-up	Long-term Operation
Reallocate existing resources	Yes	No
Apply for external resources <i>If checking this box, please provide examples of the external funding identified below.</i>	Yes	Yes
Ask Board to seek new State resources <i>Note that requesting the Board to seek new State resources may require additional planning and is dependent upon the Board taking action to make the funding request part of their budget priorities. Universities intending to ask the Board for new State resources for a program should contact the Board office prior to submitting the intent to plan.</i>	No	No
Ask Board to approve a new or increased student fee	Yes	No

The program will reach sustainability on tuition and fees in year 6. USD will apply SD BOR policy 5:5:3 (Item 1.7) which outlines the tuition and fees applicable to Nursing courses. Additionally, USD will request a new CRNA Program Fee to be charged per semester. The five-year ramp-up will be a cost share between a local health care system and USD. The program will be developed in partnership with a local health care system who has committed significant stability through the provision of start-up funds as well as the clinical experiences necessary for the success of the program. In addition, USD will seek federal nursing workforce development funds if such funds become available through Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

11. Curriculum Example: Provide (as Appendix A) the curriculum of a similar program at another college or university. The Appendix should include required and elective courses in the program. Catalog pages or web materials are acceptable for inclusion. Identify the college or university and explain why the selected program is a model for the program under development.

Nursing education at the University of Arizona has a history of consistent recognition among the best programs in the country with a most recent acknowledgement from the US News and World Report 2020 as being the #1 online graduate Nursing degree in AZ and the #31 DNP program in the US. Their programs support integrative health, cancer prevention and survivorship, and nursing informatics and tout a unique Integrative Nursing Faculty Fellowship. This Nursing (DNP)- Nurse Anesthesia program is hybrid with a combination of online didactic coursework, on-campus intensives, as well as practicum and clinical placements. Their curriculum is comprehensive to ensure high-quality patient care and addresses rural and native health. The program has had significant success on the national certification exam with very little attrition.¹¹

¹¹ https://www.nursing.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/2020_2021%20BSN_DNP_Nurse%20Anesthesia%20Specialty_Draft.pdf

Appendix A

University of Arizona DNP-Nurse Anesthesia Specialty

https://www.nursing.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/2020_2021%20BSN_DNP_Nurse%20Anesthesia%20Specialty_Draft.pdf

Program requires a total of 85 credit (didactic and clinical) hours, 2000 clinical hours and 600 anesthetics hours

Summer Term 1 (9 units)

CMM 501 Human Gross Anatomy (4 cr hrs)

NURS 572 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics (3 cr hrs)

NURS 670 Bioscience for Nurse Anesthesia Practice (2 cr hrs)

Fall Term 1 (12 units)

NURS 629 Statistical Inference for Evidence-based Practice (3 cr hrs)

NURS 652 Methods for Scholarly Inquiry (2 cr hrs)

NURS 671a Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia (2 cr hrs)

NURS 695b DNP Forum (2 cr hrs)

NURS 704 DNP Philosophy (3 cr hrs)

Spring Term 1 (12 units)

NURS 501 Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology (3 cr hrs)

NURS 575 Nurse Anesthesia Pharmacology (3 cr hrs)

NURS 642 Health Policy and Economics (3 cr hrs)

NURS 751 Evidence-Based Practice Methods (3 cr hrs)

Summer Term 2 (5 units)

NURS 671b Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia II (2 cr hrs)

NURS 752 Evaluation Methodologies for Safety & Quality Improvement (3 cr hrs)

Fall Term 2 (14 units)

NURS 609a Health Assessment (3 cr hrs)

NURS 646 Healthcare Informatics: Theory & Practice (3 cr hrs)

NURS 650 Theories of Leadership & Organizational Management (3 cr hrs)

NURS 673 Advanced Anesthetic Principles (4 cr hrs)

NURS 922 DNP Project (1 cr hr)

Winter Term 2 (1 unit)

NURS 672a Clinical Practicum I (1 cr hr)

Spring Term 2 (8 units)

NURS 672a Clinical Practicum (2 cr hrs)

NURS 674a Senior Seminar Professional Role (1 cr hr)

NURS 675 Co-existing Disease and Anesthetic Implications (3 cr hrs)

NURS 922 DNP Project (2 cr hrs)

Summer Term 3 (5 units)

NURS 672a Clinical Practicum 1 (3 cr hrs)

NURS 695c Interprofessional Collaboration in Healthcare Teams (1 cr hr)

NURS 695c Interprofessional Collaboration in Healthcare Teams (1 cr hr)

Fall Term 3 (10 units)

NURS 672b Clinical Practicum II (6 cr hrs)

NURS 753 Population Health for DNPs (3 cr hrs)

NURS 922 DNP Project (1 cr hr)

Winter Term 3 (1 unit)

NURS 672b Clinical Practicum II (1 cr hr)

Spring Term 3 (8 units)

NURS 672c Clinical Practicum III (6 cr hrs)

NURS 674b Senior Seminar: Clinical topic synthesis (1 cr hr)

NURS 922 DNP Project (1 cr hr)