

CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETISTS

Playing a Vital Role in Washington's Health

History:

1891: Sister Peter Chrysologous Crevier administered anesthesia at Providence Hospital in Seattle

1899: Sister Mary Gregory Jutras administered anesthesia at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane

1935: School of Nurse Anesthesia founded at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane - it continues to this day as the Sacred Heart Medical Center / Gonzaga University Master of Anesthesiology Education Program

2003: Governor Locke signs CMS Opt Out authorizing CRNA independent practice without physician supervision

Education:

To become a CRNA, a candidate must:

Obtain a 4-year baccalaureate degree and be licensed as a Registered Nurse

Have a minimum of one year critical care nursing experience

Obtain a Master's degree in Nurse Anesthesia from an accredited program (minimum 2 years)

Pass a national board certification examination

Obtain an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner License from Washington State

Demographics:

There are currently **663** active practicing and **25** student CRNAs in Washington

CRNAs provide anesthesia in all setting: Hospitals, Ambulatory Surgery Centers, Offices, and Pain Clinics

CRNAs administer anesthesia at 67% of all Hospitals*

CRNAs administer anesthesia at 93% of all Rural Hospitals*

CRNAs are the only anesthesia providers at 72% of all Rural Hospitals*

* of hospitals that provide surgical services

Obstetrical Anesthesia:

CRNAs provide obstetrical anesthesia at **61%** of all Hospitals

CRNAs provide obstetrical anesthesia at **88%** of all **Rural** Hospitals

CRNAs are the **only** obstetrical anesthesia providers at **84%** of all **Rural** hospitals

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