International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists

ANESTHESIA PROGRAM APPROVAL PROCESS (APAP)

DEEMED ACCREDITATION STATUS

EFFECTIVE MAY 2016

POLICY

If official governmental or non-governmental standards for nurse anesthesia education are equivalent to or exceed IFNA's Education Standards, an individual program may be deemed to have met the requirements for IFNA's Level #3 Accreditation. A nurse anesthesia program with Deemed Accreditation Status will have all the privileges of an accredited program. Title of award: Level #3 IFNA Accreditation.

Criteria that the IFNA Education Committee reviews in considering a program seeking Level #3 Accreditation through the Deemed Accreditation Status option include the following:

- Confirmation that the applicant program meets eligibility requirements for IFNA Level #3 Accreditation.

- A comparison (crosswalk) of the official education standards, under which the applicant program operates, are found to be at least equivalent to IFNA's Education Standards.

- A current copy of the official correspondence from the accrediting or quality assurance agency that confirms its approval of the nurse anesthesia program based on meeting the required standards.

- Fees

    o Payment of a 1500 Swiss Francs application or renewal fee.

    o Ineligible programs qualify for a refund of 750 Swiss Francs

    o Ineligible programs will be offered Level #1 Registration

    o Programs that are ineligible for Deemed Accreditation Status, but qualify for Level #2 Recognition, will be encouraged to submit an application for Level #2

Level 3: Deemed Accreditation Status

Steps in IFNA Accreditation Process

The following steps are to guide the process leading to Level #3, IFNA Accreditation by deemed status:

- Nurse anesthesia program obtains an eligibility application for Deemed Accreditation Status from IFNA's website at www.ifna.site

- Nurse anesthesia program submits a completed application form, the governmental or non-governmental standards, under which it operates, a current copy of the official correspondence from the accrediting or quality assurance agency that is based on meeting the required standards, the length of approval awarded to the program, and an application fee (1500 Swiss Francs) to the IFNA Executive Office ifna.rod@wanadoo.fr. Documents must be in English.

- The IFNA Executive Director distributes the application and standards to the Education Committee, APAP Manager & IFNA President.

- Education Committee reviews application to determine if the program is eligible for accreditation and asks for additional information, if needed.

- The APAP Manager notifies the program director if the program is eligible or not according to established criteria. An eligible program is given an estimated timeline as to when an accreditation decision will be made.

- Programs that are found to be ineligible for Deemed Accreditation Status will receive a partial refund of the application fee and information about other types of recognition as stated in the policy under "Fees"

- The APAP Manager and Education Committee complete a comparison (crosswalk) of the official education standards, under which the applicant program operates, to determine equivalency to IFNA's Education Standards.

- If the standards are not equivalent, the program is notified that it is not eligible for Deemed Accreditation Status but can apply for other categories for which it is eligible.

- If the standards are at least equivalent, the program is notified that it is eligible for Deemed Accreditation Status.

- After reviewing all available material, the Education Committee makes a decision to approve or not approve the program and assigns the category of approval. The length of APAP Accreditation is limited to that of the official approval agency at the last time the program was approved. APAP Accreditation will not exceed 5 years.

- A majority of Education Committee members must approve the decision. If a majority vote cannot be reached, the application will be forwarded to the IFNA President for a decision by the Board of Officers.

- The decision is forwarded to the IFNA President as a recommendation to the Board of Officers. (The IFNA Board of Officers can act for the Executive Committee and CNR between meetings.)

- The Board of Officers will either agree with the recommendation or send it back to the Education Committee with a reason why it is to be reconsidered.

- Returned applications will be evaluated to determine if the Education Committee's original decision should be changed. If a new decision is made that agrees with the Board of Officer's recommendation, the disagreement is resolved. If the Education Committee does not change its original decision, the application is forwarded to the Executive Committee and/or CNR for a final decision.

- The nurse anesthesia program is notified of the final decision, effective dates of Accreditation, and date of next review in a letter signed by the APAP Manager.

- A certificate signed by IFNA President and IFNA Education Chair is sent to program.

- Program's status and curriculum is posted on IFNA's website by the IFNA Webmaster or designee.

Approved: May 12, 2016 IFNA Officers & CNRs