

International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists Anesthesia Program Approval Process (APAP) Newsletter

To: School and Program Directors of IFNA's Approved Anesthesia Programs

From: Betty Horton, APAP Manger

Date: July 2015

APAP Awards in May 2015

Three programs received APAP awards in May 2015! Decisions on their approvals were made by the IFNA Education Committee and the IFNA Executive Committee.

Awarded Level #3 IFNA Accreditation

Congratulations to the following program for completing a successful self-study and on-site visit that showed substantial compliance with *IFNA's Educational Standards for Preparing Nurse Anesthetists*.

- The Specialist Training Program for Nurses in Nurse Anesthesia in the Eastern Part of Denmark; Copenhagen, Denmark; Director: Jakob I. Vedtofte MEd CRNA

Awarded Level #2 IFNA Recognition

Congratulations to two programs that underwent successful reviews including curriculum audits to demonstrate substantial compliance with the "Curriculum Standard" in IFNA's Educational Standards. The newly recognized programs are:

- Anesthesia Nurses Education Program, Shanghai Ninth People's Hospital, Shanghai JiaoTong University School of Medicine; Shanghai, P. R. China; Director: Hong Ruan
- Western Carolina University, MSN Nurse Anesthesia Program; Asheville, North Carolina, USA; Director: Shawn Collins, DNP, PhD, CRNA

World Congress in Scotland

The dates have been changed to May 13-16, 2016 for the next World Congress for Nurse Anesthetists in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom. The Education Committee, chaired by Karin Dr. Karin Björkman Björkelund from Lund Sweden, will be hosting an event on May 15, 2016 during the World Congress for all program directors who have received APAP Registration, Recognition and Accreditation. Invitations will be sent in February 2016.

APAP program directors will also be recognized on stage at the closing ceremonies. Please be in Scotland to join us in celebrating your achievements!

Also, watch IFNA's website for the opportunity to present posters during the World Congress. The tentative application date for poster abstracts is January 10, 2016. Information will be posted on IFNA's website soon at http://www.wcna2016.com/scientific-information/abstracts#.VY_WW02Jjq4. In addition to the poster session, a limited number of poster topics will be chosen for podium presentations in the Free Communication Session. Please consider submitting abstracts for the World Congress!

New Grant Application for 2016

Do you know someone who might like to seek Level #3 Accreditation for his or her nurse anesthesia program? If yes, you may want to share the following information about a new grant. An application can be found on IFNA's website at www.ifna-int.org. The deadline is February 28, 2016

2016 IFNA Accreditation Grant

Applications are being accepted for nurse anesthesia schools or programs (programs) interested in applying for IFNA Accreditation. Three programs will be selected to complete the accreditation process which requires completion of all steps in the written procedure for accreditation as outlined in the International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists *Anesthesia Program Approval Process (APAP) Operational Policies and Procedures*.

The selected programs will be required to pledge to meet the *IFNA Educational Standards for Preparing Nurse Anesthetists*; and submit their curriculum and related material in a written self study for review by the IFNA Education Committee. The information will also be evaluated by a team of on-site visitors to determine if it meets the IFNA Education Standards. Guidelines for this international experience will be provided.

There is no cost to the selected programs for participating in the project; approved expenses will be paid by a grant from IFNA. Anesthesia programs interested in participating in the project should submit a written request to participate by February 28, 2016. The completed application should be e-mailed to the IFNA Executive Office at ifna.rod@wanadoo.fr.

A nurse anesthesia program must meet the following requirements to be selected to complete the application process for Level #3 IFNA Accreditation.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The country where the program/school is located needs to be an IFNA member or become an IFNA member prior to hosting an IFNA onsite visit.

- Admission requirements include an education in nursing that prepares a student to succeed in the program.
- There is official evidence from a governmental entity that the program is currently authorized, recognized, chartered, audited, accredited or has some equivalent official status in the country, if available.
- There is evidence that the program has not been denied approval, recognition or accreditation by a governmental or nongovernmental accreditation or quality assurance entity. (This requires the signature of a program official for confirmation.)
- The program has graduated at least 5 classes of students from essentially the same curriculum.
- A completed application, "IFNA Accreditation Grant Application for Nurse Anaesthesia Program Accreditation", must be submitted
- A statement that addresses how accreditation will benefit the program is required.
- A pledge by the program that it will cooperate with the IFNA Education Committee in meeting timelines is required.

All nurse anesthesia programs are welcome to apply. We are especially interested in applications from programs located in IFNA member countries that do not currently have a program/school with IFNA accreditation.

Please submit your application by the **February 28, 2016** deadline to ifna.rod@wanadoo.fr.

APAP Spotlight

In 2011, Ecole Des Infirmiers Anesthesistes (Nurse Anesthesia Program) in Paris France was selected to receive an IFNA Education and Research Foundation grant titled "Pilot Project to Test IFNA's Accreditation Process for Nurse Anesthesia Programs". Monique Guinot, Nurse Anesthetists Manager, faculty, and students participated in the project resulting in the program receiving the first Level #3 IFNA Accreditation award. The pilot project also helped refine the accreditation process leading to the launch of IFNA's Anesthesia Program Approval Process (APAP). An update about the Paris program has been kindly submitted by Monique Guinot.

Ecole Des Infirmiers Anesthetistes (Nurse Anesthesia Program Paris France

In 2011, the Nurse Anesthetists School of the Assistance Publique Hôpitaux of Paris was the first to receive level 3 IFNA accreditation. As part of accreditation procedures, the IFNA visitors had pointed comments:

- From an administrative staff: since 2012, a secretarial position was supported by the administration.
- On educational support in training by the formative frames of the school: this has been made difficult because of the pedagogical work required for the implementation of the new training system. Specific targets are set for the year 2015-2016.

In 2012, the reengineering of the nurse anesthesia program comes with many changes:

- Registration with the Faculty of Medicine of Paris 7 Diderot which involves a university student registration and also gives them access to library services of the University.

- In 2014, the rank master associated with the Nurses Anesthetists state diploma was awarded for the first time to the class 2012-2014 at an official ceremony attended by the university's dean, the University scientific adviser the school, the general director of the Assistance Publique Hôpitaux of Paris.

- The order of formation of 23 July 2012 organized the construction skills Nurses Anesthetists expected at the end of training with regard to the activities described in the standards (of activities and skills).

- The architecture of the training is based on 1260 hours of theoretical courses divided into 7 teaching units of 4 semesters with the emergence of new courses (teaching English, computer science, humanities, research and deepening of scientific contributions (physics, biophysics ...). Every teaching unit is validated each semester in the way prescribed by the repository. The validation of the teaching units is increased by a number of European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Obtaining the state diploma and master grade is established through the acquisition of 120 ECTS over two years.

- The restructure of courses opens a new course in Clinical Research Unit where students must write and defend their interpretation of the current research or emerging or about a problem which can be in connection with the anesthesia nurse's job.

- Clinical traineeships are validated based on the skills acquired during the training course. Their acquisition is validated from a co-constructed evaluation by physicians and nurse anesthetist's sheet

- Professional memory allows students to conduct a methodological process of investigation with the help of study and research tools. This assessment is based on the formalization of a written and oral defense before a jury of experts, academic and memory manager.

The school is currently training 87 students in the first year and 83 in second.

Since 2012 the school welcomes students of the Health Service of the Armed Services (currently number 21). The teaching team consists of 10 trained health managers mentored by senior health, educational referent. The director oversees both Nurse Anesthetists graduate of State and Operating Room Nurses of State graduate schools. Furthermore, a hundred university teachers and nurses medical anesthetists provide all theoretical courses.

**Graduation Ceremony Paris France
September 2014**

Article and photos submitted by Monique Guinot, Program Director and Nurse Anesthetists Manager, Hopital Salpetriere, Paris France







End Note

Remember to submit any address changes or names of new program directors to bettyhorton10@ymail.com. E-mails with questions, comments, and suggestions are also welcome at anytime!

Anesthesia Program Approval Process (APAP): *The International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists believes that it is possible to improve the health and welfare of humanity by promoting international educational standards through an approval process that takes cultural, national or regional differences into consideration.*