



APAP Newsletter, June 2019

To: School and Program Directors of IFNA's Approved Anesthesia Programs
The Country National Representatives (CNR)
IFNA Committee Members
From: Marianne Riesen, APAP Manger

Dear Program Directors, CNR, Education Committee, Executive Committee and Practice Committee,

We have four newly recognized programs distributed in all three categories of approval. At the May 9th, 2019 meeting at the Kong Frederik Hotel, Copenhagen, Denmark, the members of the Executive Committee and Officers approved the following **new APAP programs**:

Level#1 Registration May 2019 – May 2024:

Anesthetic Nurse Specialist, Lahti University of Applied Sciences

Mukulankatu 19
15210 Lahti
Finland

Level#2 Recognition May 2019 – May 2024:

Lao Friends Hospital for Children Nurse Anesthesia Program

Address: P.O. Box 873, Luang Prabang,
State/Province: Luang Prabang
Lao Peoples Democratic Republic

Level#2 Recognition May 2019 – May 2024:

Phebe Nurse Anesthesia Program

Address:
Phebe Training Program
Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing
P O Box 10- 104
Suakoko Bong County
Liberia

After the Copenhagen meeting the following program was awarded Level3 Accreditation through the Deemed Accreditation option (see Operational Policies page 2)

<https://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/approval-process-for-nurse-anesthesia-programs/>

Level#3 Deemed Accreditation June 2019 – 2024

Northeastern University Nurse Anesthesia Program

Robinson Hall 207
Boston, MA 02115
USA

Five programs were up for renewal. **Renewal** was approved to the following programs:

Level#2 Recognition: Renewed May 2019 – May 2024

Postgraduate Programme in Specialist Nursing - Anaesthesia Care

Institute of Health and Care Sciences, the Sahlgrenska Academy
University of Gothenburg
Box 457, SE 405 30
Gothenburg, Sweden

Level#3 Accreditation: Renewed May 2019 – May 2024

Specialized Nursing Postgraduate Diploma, Faculty of Nursing, University of Iceland

Department of Anesthesia
12CD, Hringbraut, the National University Hospital of Iceland
101 Reykjavik, Iceland

Level#3 Accreditation: Renewed May 2019 – May 2024

Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College Nurse Anesthesia Program

Mail Stop 90-36-697
4483 Duncan Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63110

Level#3 Accreditation: Renewed May 2019 - 2024

Aargauische Fachschule für Anaesthesie-Intensiv-und Notfallpflege (AFASIN) Tellstrasse

P.O. Box 3103
CH - 5001 Aarau, Switzerland

Level#2 Recognition: May 2019-2020

Mount Marty College Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesiology

5001 West 41st Street
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
57106 USA

Recognized programs of all three categories can be found under <https://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/>

Renewal APAP programs 2020

Programs will be asked to renew their applications that expire in spring 2020. The reviews should be completed in time for decisions at the spring 2020 meetings of the IFNA Education Committee and IFNA Executive Committee. The relevant program directors will be notified by the APAP manager in late September.

For information only

An application for Registration from the Kameda Peri-Anesthesia Nurse Program, Japan was sent early 2019. After checking the document it became clear that the program has not yet started educating peri-anesthesia nurses at all. It was informed by the APAP manager to re-apply when the first students graduated.

The eligibility forms for Level2 Recognition, Level3 Accreditation have been revised and can be downloaded under: <https://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/approval-process-for-nurse-anesthesia-programs/>

IFNA is offering one Accreditation Grant

Are you interested in seeking regular Level #3 Accreditation or do you know someone who might like to seek IFNA Level 3 Accreditation for his or her nurse anesthesia program? Eligible nurse anesthesia programs include those who have never applied to APAP and those who currently hold Level #2 IFNA Recognition. One grants is currently available that covers the costs of the accreditation process. An application can be ordered from the APAP manager: apap@ifna.site. The completed application should be e-mailed to Pascal Rod, at the IFNA Executive Office at ifna.rod@wanadoo.fr. or to Marianne Riesen, IFNA APAP Manager at: apap@ifna.site. Deadline: 31.Jan.2020.

Details about the IFNA Accreditation Grant:

Applying nurse anesthesia 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 *IFNA Anesthesia Program Approval Process (APAP) Operational Policies and Procedures* (<http://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/approval-process-for-nurse-anesthesia-programs/>).

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

- 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; however, applicants from all IFNA member countries will be considered.

Currently 28 Nurse Anesthesia and Non-Physician Anesthesia programs are approved by IFNA in all three categories of the Anesthesia Program Approval Process (APAP) <https://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/>. It is IFNA's goal to have at least one program approved in every member country. IFNA has well over 40 member countries. In some countries more than one program is approved. As you can see for yourself there is still a lot of work to be done and you can help us very much. To advertise APAP more widely I would appreciate if you pass this letter on to the presidents of your National Associations and to all Nurse Anesthesia (NA) or Non – Physician Anesthesia Practitioner (NPAP) schools in your country.

Benefits of APAP and Responsibilities of NAs and NPAPs

In healthcare, patient trust is essential. Patient's lives are in the hands of healthcare staff. Community members know a voluntarily process of meeting rigorous standards was undergone. APAP standards are guided by the skills, knowledge and values needed by NAs and NPAPs. APAP increases transparency and programs benefit from ensuring that they address the skills, knowledge and values needed on the job (Kronstadt 2016). Last but not least APAP increases the visibility of a program due to publication on IFNA's website. As the survey of the WFSA (2017) shows the impact of NAs and NPAPs is significant in a large number of countries. With so much responsibility NAs and NPAPs must recognize that it is in the interest of patient safety and nurse anaesthesia to provide transparency about the scope of practice and competencies (Meussen et.al. 2010).

Philosophy of APAP

The International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists (IFNA) believes that it is possible to improve the health and welfare of humanity by promoting international educational standards for non-physician anesthesia programs. Based on this belief and for the purposes of program approval, it is the policy of IFNA to approve programs that admit students who are nurses or who are educated in another scientific area which prepares students to

succeed in their anesthesia education. <http://ifna.site/app/uploads/2017/06/Operational-Policies-APAP-June-2017.pdf>

IFNA would also like to see more programs applying for Deemed Accreditation

If nurse anesthesia programs of a country have to meet national education – and graduate standards and if those standards are equivalent to the *IFNA Educational Standards for preparing Nurse Anesthetists*, the national standards can be compared to the IFNA standards. An onsite visit by a national approval agency must be included as well. If the national standards are found equivalent, the programs operating under those standards can be awarded “Deemed Accreditation”. The compared standards have to be approved by the IFNA Executive Committee. Criteria can be found under: <http://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/approval-process-for-nurse-anesthesia-programs/>.

Changes in the Education Committee

Karin Björkman stepped down as Chair and member of the Education Committee. She has served in the Education Committee for two decades and I cannot thank her enough for her contribution. She agreed to continue handling the **Survey Monkey Evaluation** program though. This would also make sure she stay connected with the APAP process. Karin has been involved from the very beginning, both as an accreditation team leader (twice) and as team member (twice). The Executive Committee agreed that Karin will continue doing the Survey Monkey. Eventually another member should take over from her. After the May 2019 meeting in Copenhagen **Rebecca Madsen** from the USA took on the job as chair of the Education Committee. For Karin a new member was appointed. It is Aaron Sonah, from Liberia. The Education Committee consists of the following members:

- Hsiu-Yun Chang Sunny, Taiwan
- **Rebecca Madsen**, USA (new Chair)
- Christian Herion, Switzerland
- Thorunn Eliasdottir, Iceland
- **Aaron Sonah**, Liberia (new member)

Sincerely

Marianne Riesen, APAP Manager

Schaffhausen, Switzerland, June 2019



The Rhine Falls, Schaffhausen, Switzerland

References:

Kronstadt J. Meit M. Siegfried A. Nicolaus T. Bender K. & Corso L. Evaluating the Impact of National Public Health Department Accreditation — United States, 2016 *MPA3 MMWR* / August 12, 2016 / Vol. 65 / No. 31

Meussen, V., Van Zundert, A., Hoekman J, Rawal R, Knape H. Composition of the anaesthesia team: a European survey *European Journal of Anaesthesiology* 2010 27: 773-779

The WFSA Global Anesthesia Workforce Survey . Peter Kempthorne, MBChB, FANZCA,*† Wayne W. Morriss, MBChB, FANZCA,†‡Jannicke Mellin-Olsen, MD, DPH,†§ and Julian Gore-Booth, MA† . September 2017 • Volume 125 • Number 3 www.anesthesia-analgesia.org