



APAP Newsletter, June 2020

To: 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 Members,

I hope you, your families and friends have come through this worldwide pandemic healthy. This virus shook and still shakes the world and the IFNA meeting in May 2020, in Zagreb, Croatia, fell victim to it. Despite Corona and all the travel restrictions the APAP processes went on as usual.

We have five newly recognized programs distributed in all three categories of approval. Due to the Corona pandemic the members of the Executive Committee and Officers electronically approved the following **new APAP program** on May 15th 2020:

Recognition

Postgraduate Education Program in Anesthesia Nursing
School of Nursing Xuzhou Medical University, No.209, Tongshan Road, Xuzhou, Jiangsu, 221004, P.R. China

Other new programs approved from June 2019 – May 2020

APAP policy does require approval of a program for Level1 Registration by the majority of the Education Committee members only. The following program was awarded Registration unanimous.

Registration

Nursing Anesthesia Master Program
An-Najah National University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
Nursing and Midwifery Department
Nablus, Palestine
October 2019 – October 2024

During the IFNA meeting in May 2017, in Budapest it was agreed that the Education committee can award level3 Accreditation (deemed option only) to programs who's

standard comparison have been approved by the Executive Committee which was the case of the COA standards of the USA during the above mentioned meeting. Therefore the Education Committee awarded Accreditation the following programs:

Deemed Accreditation

Northeastern University Nurse Anesthesia Program
Robinson Hall 207
02115 Boston MA
June 2019 – June 2024

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC)
School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia
1900 Gravier St.
New Orleans, LA 70112
September 2019 – September 2024

University of Cincinnati, College of Nursing
BSN – DNP Nurse Anesthesia Major
3110 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221
November 2019 – November 2019

The following Level2 and Level3 programs were applying for renewal

The programs were notified end of September and provided with all the necessary applications and policies, and a timetable containing the steps of the process. The Education Committee reviewed the documents and the student and faculty evaluations and recommended to approve the renewal of all programs. The members of the Executive Committee and Officers followed the recommendations and electronically awarded the following **program renewals** on May 15th 2020

Recognition

Mount Marty College Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesiology
5001 West 41st Street
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
57106 USA

Western Carolina University
MSN Nurse Anesthesia Program
28 Schenck Parkway Suite 309
Asheville, NC 28803 USA

Education Program, Shanghai Ninth People's Hospital Affiliated to School of Medicine, Shanghai
Jiaotong University
Room 210, Building 8, 639#
Zhi Zao Ju Road (200011)
Code: +86-021
Shanghai, P. R. China

Accreditation

Nurse Anesthesia Program Eastern Part of Denmark
University Hospital, Righospitalet
Afsnit 4231, Blegdamsvej 9
2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

Updated curricula were put on IFNA's website. All recognized programs of all three categories can be found under <https://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/>

Renewal of APAP programs 2021

The programs will be asked to renew their applications that expire in spring 2021. The reviews should be completed in time for decisions at the spring 2021 meetings of the IFNA Education Committee and IFNA Executive Committee. The relevant program directors will be notified by the APAP manager in late September – early October.

The following programs are coming up for renewal in 2021

University of Tennessee Health
Science Center, College of Nursing, Nurse
Anesthesia Concentration
Memphis, Tennessee

University of Alabama at Birmingham Nurse Anesthesia Program
1701 University Blvd, NB Suite 1007
Birmingham, AL 35294

Lund University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Health Sciences
P.O. Box 157
SE-221 00
Lund, Sweden

Fontys University of applied science Human and Health
P.O Box 347
5600 AH Eindhoven
The Netherlands

IFNA is offering Two Accreditation Grants

Are you interested in seeking regular Level3 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 Level2 IFNA Recognition intending to upgrade. Two grants are currently available that cover the costs of the accreditation process. An application can be ordered from the APAP manager: apap@ifna.site or marianne.riesen@bluewin.ch 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 or marianne.riesen@bluewin.ch Deadline: 31.July 2021.

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 Level3 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.

If program directors are interested about any category of recognition they can download an eligibility form and send it to: apap@ifna.site (APAP Manager) or to ifna.rod@wanadoo.fr (Executive Director). The eligibility forms for Level2 Recognition, Level3 Accreditation can be found under: <https://ifna.site/ifna-accreditation-program/approval-process-for-nurse-anesthesia-programs/>

Currently 31 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. 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

I wrote some of this in my last newsletter already but would like to point out the benefits of APAP again. 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). 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/>.

Sincerely

Marianne Riesen, APAP Manager

Schaffhausen, Switzerland, June 2020



Munot Castle, Schaffhausen, Switzerland

References:

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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