

# Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

## Playing a Vital Role in Washington's Health

### History:

- 1891:** Sister Peter Chrysologous Crevier gives anesthesia at Providence Hospital in Seattle
- 1899:** Sister Mary Gregory Jutras gives 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

### 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 of critical care nursing experience
- Obtain a Master's degree in Nurse Anesthesia from an accredited program (a minimum of 2 years)
- Pass a national certifying exam
- Obtain an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner license from the State.

### Demographics:

- There are currently 382 active practicing and 25 student CRNAs in Washington.
- CRNAs provide anesthesia in all settings: Hospitals, Ambulatory Surgery Centers, and Offices
- 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

### Contact:

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