

# **BOSTON COLLEGE**

**WILLIAM F. CONNELL SCHOOL OF NURSING**



**NURSE ANESTHESIA  
GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK  
ADDENDUM  
2022-2023**

**Doctor of Nursing Practice**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

These pages are meant to serve as an addition to the *Graduate Student Handbook* published by Boston College School of Nursing. All of the information contained in the handbook pertains to students in the Program in Nurse Anesthesia, however, because the Program in Nurse Anesthesia requires additional matters specific to the specialty to be addressed, this addendum has been developed.

The Boston College School of Nursing instills the values of service to others, truth through scholarly



**FALL Year One**

Examining Diversity in Nursing and Health Care	2
Nursing Ethics and Professional Responsibility in Advanced Practice	3
Population Health Principles, Program Planning and Evaluation	3
Nurse Anesthesia Care for Patients with Co-Existing Disease	3
Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia Practice	<u>3</u>
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**SPRING Year One**

Health Care Information Technology Management	3
Nursing Leadership in Complex Health Care Settings	3
Advanced Health/Physical Assessment across the Lifespan	3
Cardiovascular Physiology & Pathophysiology for Nurse Anesthesia Practice	3
Pharmacotherapeutics in Nurse Anesthesia Practice	<u>3</u>
	15

**SUMMER Year Two**

Health Care Quality Management	3
Advanced Practice Nursing Role	2
Advanced Practice Principles for the Nurse Anesthetist I	3
Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practice I	<u>5</u>
	13

**FALL Year Three**

DNP Project Seminar II	1
Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practice V	$\frac{5}{6}$

**SPRING Year Three**

DNP Project Seminar III	1
Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practice VI	$\frac{5}{6}$

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**Total credits = 98**

**ACCREDITATION**









## **Dress**

It is expected that students will dress appropriately at all times. Proper operating room attire will be adhered to, based on individual hospital policy. The attire for students outside the operating room at the clinical site should reflect the professional nature of nurse anesthesia practice.

## **Electronic Devices**

With the exception of the computerized anesthesia record, the student is prohibited from the routine use of electronic devices such as computers, tablets, and smart phones in the operating room except as permitted by individual clinical sites for patient care purposes.

## **Employment**

Students may be employed during the program as long as there is no conflict in time between employment and student responsibilities. The decision of a student to work as a registered nurse during the program is the student's alone but is not encouraged. Should a student's academic or clinical performance appear to suffer from such employment, the student will be counseled to work less or not at all as acceptable performance will be essential to success and progression in the program. Students may not work the shift prior to a clinical anesthesia commitment and will not be excused from a call assignment because of outside employment. **Students may not be employed to practice anesthesia and at no time is a student to perform a skill attained as an anesthesia student while functioning as a registered nurse.**

## **Evaluations**

### Daily Clinical Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated daily by the preceptor while in the clinical area. All evaluations are meant to be constructive and are designed to help the student to grow and develop as a nurse anesthesia student. The daily evaluation must be written by the preceptor. These evaluations will be kept on file in the Program Director's Office. Any recurrent problem will be brought to the attention of the Program Director.

### Summative Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated at the completion of each term in the clinical area. These evaluations will be coordinated by the Clinical Faculty in conjunction with the Program Director and Assistant Program Director. They are based on data from a variety of sources including but not limited to daily evaluations, simulation performance, and performance on the Objective Structured Clinical Examination. The summative evaluation should identify both strengths and learning needs. A satisfactory evaluation is necessary for progression in the program. Student self-evaluations will be an integral part of the process. Final course grade is the responsibility of program faculty.

## **Health Insurance**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has mandated that all students, graduate and undergraduate, taking at least 75% of full-time credit hours must be covered by medical insurance providing a specified minimum coverage. Students in the School of Nursing who register for 7 or more credits are considered 75% full-time. Boston College will offer all students the option of participating in the plan offered at the University or submitting a waiver. Students are not employees of the clinical site and therefore are not covered by Worker' Compensation.

## Holidays

The following holidays will be observed by the Boston College Program in Nurse Anesthesia during the clinical phase of the program:

New Year's Day  
Martin Luther King Day  
Patriots' Day  
Memorial Day  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day

Because each facility determines its own operating room schedule for other minor holidays, students will receive a day off in compensation for a minor holiday worked.

## Leave of Absence

Leaves of absence are not normally granted for more than 1 semester at a time. Students may obtain the Leave of Absence Form from the Graduate Programs Office and submit this form to that office for the Dean's approval. Leaves of absence for students in the Program in Nurse Anesthesia are not encouraged and should be discussed with the Program Director. The full-time nature of the curriculum and the limited clinical sites necessitates careful planning if all students are to be placed in the clinical practica. In addition, specialty courses are only offered one semester per year.

## Liability Insurance

Students in the Program in Nurse Anesthesia will participate in the Professional Liability Insurance Program for Student Nurse Anesthetists and Nurse Anesthesia Education programs provided by the AANA Insurance Services. The cost of such liability insurance will be borne by the student.

## Monthly Case Records

Students will be required to maintain a daily record of all anesthesia experiences utilizing the *Typhon Group: Anesthesia PRO Tracking Administration* system and the cost for this will be borne by the student.

## Parking and Transportation

Students are expected to comply with all rules and regulations regarding parking while at the Boston College campus or at the various clinical sites. Students must provide their own transportation to the clinical sites. A fee for parking may be required and facilities may require the student to park off-site.

## Personal Time

Students are given a total of **15 personal days** once the clinical portion of the program has begun which may be utilized for illness, weather, interviews, re-certifications, or other personal needs. It is advisable that where possible these days are not taken during a specialty rotation. ***Mondays are also***

***included once the clinical phase has begun. Whole days only are permitted. No partial days will be granted and personal appointments are not allowed during a clinical day.*** Any time in excess of the 15 days must be made up prior to the conclusion of the program as scheduled by program administration. The need for excessive absence from program responsibilities should be proactively

1. Know.....
  - a. You carry malpractice insurance because you are liable. As an experienced registered nurse you are responsible for your actions and are expected to function safely within that scope
  - b. Your limitations
    - i. You are not the “go to” person in a crisis.
    - ii. Ask for help and consultation: if you question if you should ask, the answer is always yes
  - c. Program and hospital policy
    - i. You must always be aware of who to call for what
    - ii. You are never the one to decide your level of supervision
2. Avoid distraction
  - a. Focus on the task at hand
  - b. Do not engage in conversation with OR staff when checking equipment or preparing medication
  - c. Reading in the OR is **NEVER ACCEPTABLE**
  - d. Routine use of an electronic device such as a cell phone, smart phone, texting, or email in the OR is **NEVER ACCEPTABLE**
3. Medication safety
  - a. 5 rights of medication administration
    - i. Right patient
    - ii. Right drug
    - iii. Right dose
    - iv. Right time & frequency
    - v. Right route
  - b. Double check
    - i. Verify correct drug by checking drug name on vial  
**\*\*\* CAUTION!!! Look-alike, sound-alike medications**  
Many medications have similar packaging and/or similar names (generic or trade). You **MUST** carefully and thoroughly read the name on the vial and be certain you have selected the correct drug
    - ii. Prior to placing vial back on cart, verify again that name on syringe matches name on vial
  - c. Save vials on the cart until the end of the case
  - d. If an unexpected reaction occurs, immediately consider that the wrong medication was given and check the empty vial
4. Should a student become aware of a risk to patient safety, the student **MUST** **IMMEDIATELY** report this to his/her preceptor, the clinical coordinator, and program administration. There are **NO** exceptions to this policy.

**Supervision**

The ratio of students to instructors in the clinical area is based on the student's knowledge and ability, the physical status of the patient, the complexity of the anesthetic and/or surgical procedure, and the experience of the instructor. At no time will the ratio of student to instructor exceed 2:1 (students:instructor).

The program restricts clinical supervision in non-anesthetizing areas to credentialed experts who are authorized to assume responsibility for the student.

**Vacation Time**

Program administration reserves the right to assign/approve vacations in order to insure that all students obtain necessary clinical experiences. There is an intentional balance between time off and the continuity of clinical experience. Students will have sufficient vacation during the 27 month program. This may be subject to change by program administration.

For the class of 2025 the following are vacation weeks:

August 22, 2022

November 23 – 25, 2022 (Wednesday – Friday)

December 19, 2022, December 26, 2022, January 2, January 9 (return January 17, 2023)

March 6, 2023

**\*\*Vacation time for academic year 2023-2024 will be announced when Boston College publishes the academic and summer calendar for that year.**