

## **ADMISSION CRITERIA**

Applicants seeking admission to this program must meet the admission requirements for Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Schools of Graduate and Professional Programs graduate degree requirements and for the Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia Program.

These requirements are:

- Completed an appropriate baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution. Degrees must be completed and final transcripts must be submitted by the April 1st deadline. Appropriate degrees include the areas of nursing, biophysical, biological or behavioral sciences
- Overall GPA of 2.75 on a 4.00 scale or higher.
- Current unencumbered licensure as a Professional Registered Nurse in the State of Minnesota, or eligible for reciprocity.
- A minimum of one year of experience in a critical care setting.
- Three completed professional reference statements.
  - a. One from current work supervisor
  - b. Two professional references
- A completed application file by the application deadline.
- Successful completion of a personal interview.
- Medical Clearances: Students in health care programs who are involved in patient care are required to submit further proof of immunity to certain communicable diseases. A physician's statement stating that the student is physically able to function as a student in the field of study is also required. Required documents include:
  1. Proof of a physical examination with a physician's statement stating that the student is physically able to function as a student in the field of study. (Required after the student has been accepted into the program.)
  2. Documented immunity to communicable disease is required prior to the student's involvement in hospital activities. Serum titers that are required include rubella, rubeola, varicella, hepatitis B and mumps. Vaccination will be required in non-immune students. (Required after the student has been accepted into the program.)
  3. A 2-TB test is required at least once each year. Students must have a negative TB test or have evidence that she/he has received treatment for a positive test. (Required after the student has been accepted into the program.)

These requirements meet or exceed the Standards and Guidelines set by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

### **Background Checks for Students in Health Care Programs**

Anesthesia students work with vulnerable persons as defined by the Minnesota Vulnerable Adults Act of 1995 and Wisconsin 1997, Act 27 and 1999 Act 9. In order to be in compliance with this legislation, criminal background studies must be submitted by all students prior to participation in clinical practicum and once per year and as required by Wisconsin affiliates. Failure to be cleared by either Minnesota or Wisconsin may result in dismissal from the nurse anesthesia program.

### **Graduate Nurse Anesthesia Nursing Licenses**

All applicants to the Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia program are required to submit evidence of current and unrestricted / unencumbered licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Minnesota or must be eligible for reciprocity. Copies of a current Minnesota Registered Nurses license must be submitted to the program prior to enrollment in course work and each time the license is renewed. This licensure must

remain current and unencumbered throughout the program. Students assigned to Wisconsin sites are required to hold a registered nurses license in Wisconsin in addition to Minnesota unless Interstate Compact Licensing Rules apply. An unrestricted / unencumbered licensure is required to participate in clinical activities.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applicant must submit:

1. A completed Graduate Student Application Form and the Supplemental Application for Nurse Anesthesia Form with the nonrefundable application fee.
2. An official transcript issued to Saint Mary's University from each undergraduate college or university attended, including an official transcript from the institution posting the applicant's completed bachelor's degree.
3. A personal statement which includes the following:
  - a. a brief description of the applicant's background, training, and experience;
  - b. a statement indicating the career goals of the applicant and his/her reasons for seeking admission to this program;
  - c. a description of the areas which the applicant considers to be his/her strengths and the areas in which the applicant wishes to develop greater strengths and abilities; and
  - d. personal information the applicant wishes to share.
4. Three completed professional reference statements from:
  - a. a current work supervisor; and
  - b. two professional references.(Reference forms can be downloaded from our website [www.smumn.edu/nap](http://www.smumn.edu/nap))
5. A current résumé or curriculum vitae listing educational background and work experience.

All application materials are to be mailed to:

Admissions Department  
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota  
2500 Park Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55404-4403

Submission of all applicable college and nursing school transcripts to be sent directly to the address listed above. All application materials must be received by the program before April 1st for candidates to be considered for a personal interview. The program reviews applications once a year and accepts qualified applicants into the next available class.

If selected, applicants must also complete a personal interview with program staff.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

Since the class size is limited, candidates who meet the minimum admission requirement may not be selected. The admissions committee will select the most qualified applicants based on the following criteria:

- The completed application and supporting material.
- Previous academic performance, especially in science and math coursework.
- Demonstrated success as a professional Registered Nurse in a critical care area.

- The ability to perform all anticipated tasks relevant to the practice of Nurse Anesthesia.
- Successful completion of the interview process demonstrating personal traits indicative of success in the program.

Note: Applicants will be screened and the most qualified individuals will be invited for an interview.

### **TRANSFER INTO THE PROGRAM**

Transfer into the Nurse Anesthesia Program is handled on an individual basis and credit for previous anesthesia education is not guaranteed.

### **STUDENTS WITH FOREIGN TRANSCRIPTS**

All applicants whose native language is not English and/or who submit a transcript from a country other than the U.S. must provide evidence of a TOEFL score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 77 (internet-based). The TOEFL is not required if the applicant has a bachelor's or higher degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university, or has successfully completed Saint Mary's University's English Language Academy certificate program.

Transcripts from countries other than the U.S. must be evaluated on a course-by-course basis by World Education Services ([www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org)) or the Education Credential Evaluators ([www.ECE.org](http://www.ECE.org)) and be deemed equivalent to accredited U.S. university standards. Students are responsible for having their transcripts evaluated, as well as the associated costs.