

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga - School of Nursing Master's of Science in Nursing Program Nurse Anesthesia Concentration Clinical Affiliation Information

As described below, The School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Concentration uses several hospitals in providing student with the highest quality clinical rotation

Clinical Affiliates

Erlanger Health Systems Chattanooga, TN

Erlanger Health Systems (EHS) provides advanced level of hospital-based care to more than 750,000 residents of Chattanooga. The hospital serves patients from 50 counties within a 150-mile radius in Tennessee and neighboring Alabama and Georgia. EHS is Chattanooga's second largest employer and the third largest hospital complex in Tennessee. T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital, Willie D. Miller Eye Center, Regional Cancer Center, and the Plaza Ambulatory Care Center are located on the campus of EHS. Erlanger North Hospital in Red Bank, Tennessee is also a component of the EHS city campus. T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital is a Comprehensive Regional Pediatric Center, the highest designation in the state. Children's Hospital has physicians in virtually every pediatric subspecialty. The Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit provides the region's highest level of care for premature and sick infants. EHS is a Level I Trauma Center, complete with a "Life Force" helicopter ambulance service. Currently, EHS is the only freestanding hospital based facility in the area dedicated to outpatients and the only provider of educational programs for health care professionals. EHS is affiliated with The University of Tennessee College of Medicine and The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) School of Nursing. EHS does not have a physician Anesthesia residency program. There is no competition for anesthesia cases. In addition, nurse anesthesia students receive clinical experience in regional anesthesia and pain management techniques.

www.erlanger.org

Memorial Hospital Chattanooga, TN

Memorial Hospital opened in 1952 under the operation of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth and has achieved regional recognition as one of the most advanced medical facilities in the Southeast. Memorial was named one of the nation's "*100 Top Hospitals*" in 1998. The hospital was also selected as one of the nation's "*100 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals*" in 1999. Memorial surgery facilities provide innovative, responsive and continually advancing resources for all specialties. Besides being noted as an excellent provider for heart surgery, Memorial is also a leading provider of orthopedic procedures like sports medicine and joint replacement and is in the forefront in spinal procedures, being one of the few hospitals in the country to do endoscopic spinal fusions. Memorial Surgical Department has minimally invasive laproscopic services including state-of-the-art equipment. Cancer and ophthalmology are also high volume services. In addition, Memorial Hospital's Intensive Care Units received a five star rating, better than all other hospitals in Southeast Tennessee and Northwest Georgia, in the latest issue of The Consumer Guide for Urban Hospital Care 2002. www.memorial.org

Floyd Medical Center Rome, GA

Floyd Medical Center (FMC) is a 304-bed a regional referral center, not-for-profit hospital located in Rome, Georgia. FMC serves a 16-county area in Northwest Georgia approximately an hour and 15 minutes from Chattanooga. Combining expertise and technology, FMC's Emergency Care Center is a state designated level II trauma center and Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Center. The Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals that represents 70 non-for-profit hospitals in the state recognized FMC's commitment to quality health services by naming Floyd Medical Center the 2002 Large Hospital of the Year.

www.floydmedicalcenter.org

Hamilton Medical Center, Dalton, GA

Hamilton Medical Center located in Dalton, GA is a 282 bed hospital dedicated to providing quality care

excellence. Twice named one of the Top 100 Hospitals in the United States by HCIA and Mercer Consulting, Hamilton Medical Center continually receives the maximum 3 year accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). It has several centers for excellence which include psychiatry and substance abuse, diabetes treatment, cancer care and maternal and infant care. The Level II trauma center, among the state's busiest, provides outstanding immediate and ambulatory emergency care. Hamilton's technologically advanced diagnostic center includes a fully accredited laboratory, a magnetic resonance imaging center and outpatient neurodiagnostic center. www.hamiltonhealth.com

North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo, MS

North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo has a rich history of training students in the field of nurse anesthesia, providing a well-rounded clinical experience since 1993. NMMC has served as a primary clinical site for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga since 2003 for the training of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. Tupelo's nurse anesthesia students have the advantage of completing all their clinical requirements on one campus. With 35 surgical suites, and over 22,000 anesthetics given annually, there is a wealth of experience to be gained. The campus consists of three anesthetizing locations:

- **North Mississippi Medical Center**
 - The flagship hospital of a regional health care system, a 650-bed tertiary referral center. NMMC is the largest non-metropolitan hospital in the United States, and is the 2005 recipient of the American Hospital Association's McKesson "*Quest for Quality*" award and the 2006 recipient of the *Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award*, the highest Presidential honor for performance excellence. <http://www.nmhs.net/tupelo>

- **North Mississippi Ambulatory Surgery Center**
 - Providing ambulatory experience in ENT, Orthopedic, Ophthalmology, Pedodontics, Plastics and Urology for children and adults

- **Women's Hospital**
 - Providing gynecological and obstetric anesthesia experience, including considerable epidural and spinal opportunities

NMMC offers anesthesia experience for more than a dozen surgical sub-specialties. Specialty rotations are offered in Cardiovascular, Neuro, Pediatrics, OB/GYN, and General/Vascular Anesthesia. In addition, there is plenty of opportunity for non-O.R. procedures, including anesthesia for Radiology, GI, and EP lab procedures. With approximately 1000 open heart anesthetics performed annually, students obtain a wealth of experience in placing and monitoring invasive lines. Epidural and Spinal experience is easily obtained during the OB/GYN rotation. Thanks to NMMC's distance learning technology, students "attend" class with their cohorts 300 miles away in Chattanooga. They meet together in a designated SRNA classroom, equipped with state-of-the-art videoconferencing equipment, which allows them to ask questions and join discussions with their colleagues in Chattanooga. Tupelo is conveniently located in close proximity to Memphis, Tenn., Jackson, Miss., and Birmingham, Ala. With a population of 130,507, the Tupelo micropolitan area is the cultural and industrial center of north Mississippi. For more information on the NMMC-Tupelo Clinical Site, please contact:

Kevin Hitt, M.D.
Clinical Coordinator
(662) 377-4394 khitt@nmhs.net

Length of program The length of the program is a minimum of 27 months. Students can complete course work, clinical requirements and thesis/professional project within this timeframe. Upon completing the requirements for the Master's of Science in Nursing degree with specialization in nurse anesthesia, the graduate will be eligible to take the national certification exam offered by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists. Successful completion of this certification exam allows the advanced practice nurse to use the title CRNA.

Admission Requirements for Nurse Anesthesia Concentration All applicants must meet the Graduate School and School of Nursing admission requirements. Students applying to the nurse anesthesia concentration are required to have a minimum of one year of critical care nursing experience. Two years of critical care experience is recommended, particularly if the applicant has no other clinical nursing experience. Emergency, peri-operative or post-anesthesia care nursing will not be substituted for the critical care experience requirement. In addition, a formal critical care course and/or CCRN certification is highly valued. Applicants are encouraged to thoroughly investigate the CRNA practice pattern and rigorous educational requirements by "shadowing" a practicing CRNA. Enrollment is limited and the number of qualified applicants exceeds the number of students who can be admitted.

Selection procedures for the nurse anesthesia concentration

1. The Graduate School at UTC receives applications for the concentration in Nurse Anesthesia.
2. After review and action by the Graduate School, applications will be forwarded to the School of Nursing. You should follow up with the Graduate School to assure that they have received all your material (GRE or MAT results, transcripts & total application packet). Many documents are forwarded to The Graduate School. Sometimes the document does not arrive from the forwarding agency.
3. Applications will be reviewed by the School of Nursing Graduate Coordinator.
4. Applicants eligible for admission to the MSN program will then be forwarded to EHS Nurse Anesthesia Admissions Advisory Group. Group members and other nursing faculty will conduct personal interviews of qualified applicants. Personal and professional attributes, as well as academic background are considered. Therefore, selection of applicants for admission to the nurse anesthesia program will be based on your application packet, GRE or MAT, GPA and interview. Approximately 20-30 applicants will be invited to join the next class.
5. Classes are selected and individuals are notified in writing approximately 5 months prior to the class start date. The Director of the School of Nursing is responsible for notifying the applicant of the admission decision.
6. Individuals receiving acceptance letters must notify the School of Nursing in writing within two weeks whether they plan to accept a place in the class. A \$1000.00 non-refundable check payable to UTC must accompany the applicant's acceptance letter. The \$1000.00 will be applied toward tuition.

Expenses Students will pay tuition and other expenses to UTC. Tuition fees for coursework are paid to UTC each semester for the number of semester hours enrolled. Current tuition fee payment schedule is available in Records and Registration (423-425-4416). These generally change every year. Out-of-state students may be able to take advantage of the Academic Common Market. This is a program whereby legal residents of 14 Southern states can attend specified out-of-state graduate programs without paying out-of-state tuition. Information on degree programs included by each state in the Academic Common Market is available by contacting the Southern Regional Educational Board, 592 Tenth Street, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30318-5790.

Semester 1

Liability insurance \$27.00*
ID Badge \$25.00
UTC Parking fees \$55.00
AANA Associate Student Membership --\$100.00
TASNA Student Membership--\$20.00
Lab Coat \$50.00
Stethoscope
Nerve Simulator \$100.00
Ear Molds \$50.00
Miscellaneous Costs \$50.00
ACLS/PALS Certification
Georgia RN License \$100.00*****
Physical Exam \$35.00**
TB Skin Test \$15.00
Personal Health Insurance
Hepatitis B Vaccination \$70.00***
Varicella Vaccination
Medatrax Case Management Software \$140.00

Semester 2

Miscellaneous Costs \$50.00
UTC Parking fees \$240.00*****

Semester 3

Miscellaneous Costs \$50.0

Semester 4

Liability insurance \$25.00
TB Skin Test \$15.00
Miscellaneous Costs \$50.00

Semester 5

Miscellaneous Costs \$50.00
UTC Parking fees \$240.00

Semester 6

S.E.E. exam \$110.00****
Certification Exam \$700.00*****
Miscellaneous Costs \$50.00

Semester 7

Liability insurance \$25.00
TB Skin Test \$15.00
Miscellaneous Costs \$50.00

Admission Physical Examination Upon admission to the anesthesia program, a statement is required from the student's personal physician attesting to his/her current physical and mental status for entering a career in nurse anesthesia. Evidence of current immunizations, including Hepatitis B vaccine, and TB test must also be presented. The student is responsible for obtaining the physical exam and any associated cost. The physical examination should include a drug screen. A complete physical exam report and record of immunizations must be submitted prior to beginning coursework.

Liability insurance Liability insurance is purchased through the School of Nursing. It must be purchased through the UT System. You may not purchase it on your own. No one is allowed in clinical without current liability insurance.

Housing Students are responsible for their own housing. Rental property (apartments, duplexes, etc.) is readily available in the Chattanooga and surrounding areas. Students rotating to the Rome, GA clinical affiliates will be provided temporary housing through AHEC at no cost to students. University Housing information can be found on the UTC website at <http://www.utc.edu/Units/StudentHousing/>.

Health Care Hospitalization/health care costs are the responsibility of the student. Each student must present evidence of current health care insurance while enrolled in the program.

Transportation/Parking Students are responsible for their own transportation. University parking requires a student permit, which must be purchased from Parking Services at UTC.

Uniforms

Nurse anesthesia students will wear operating room attire provided by the clinical affiliates.

Financial aid Federal loans are available to qualified students. Graduate Assistantships are available through the Graduate Office. Graduate assistantship applications must be completed four (4) months prior to the desired award date. However, in the past we have found that it is very difficult for students in the Nurse Anesthesia Concentration to fulfill Graduate Assistantship time commitments. The Graduate Assistantship is awarded through the School of Nursing.

Employment outside of school

Outside employment must not conflict with class/clinical schedules. Students are strongly discouraged from working during their program of study because of class, clinical and study time commitments. However, the following policies serve to guide students in planning outside work options:

- Students may not work a shift prior to anesthesia commitment time (classroom or clinical).
- Students may not be employed to administer anesthesia.
- Students are prohibited from acting or being paid as a nurse anesthetist

Personal Time Off (PTO) Days

Because the anesthesia clinical practicum (NUR547r) courses do not follow the academic calendar, guidelines for accommodating PTO days are provided. Scheduled PTO days during didactic courses (courses other than NUR547r) is highly discouraged.

- Each student is allotted 20 vacation days for the 27-month program.
- Vacations and sick days are subtracted from the 20 days as they occur.
- All days must be utilized by the beginning of the 24th month; no vacation days may be taken the final 3 months
- Vacations must be requested at least one week in advance and approved by the coordinator or assistant coordinator.
- Students are responsible for making arrangement with the coordinator or assistant coordinator for any additional missed clinical days.
- Holiday breaks may/may not follow the University's academic calendar.

Upon completion of program requirements, students in the nurse anesthesia concentration are awarded a Master of Science in Nursing degree from UTC. Students must successfully complete all MSN requirements prior to taking the CRNA certification exam.

For more information about the MSN program please contact:

Dr. Kay Lindgren
Director & Graduate Coordinator
UTC School of Nursing
615 McCallie Ave.
Chattanooga, TN 37403
(423) 425-4750
Kay-Lindgren@utc.edu

Dr. Linda Hill
Coordinator, Nurse Anesthesia
UTC School of Nursing
615 McCallie Ave.
Chattanooga, TN 37403
(423) 778-7760
Linda-Hill@utc.edu

NOTE: This information is presented to facilitate preparation for program entry. Information and fees are subject to change without notice.