

Professionalism

Policy

Students are expected to follow all Clarkson College and Nurse Anesthesia Program Policies and Procedures. When in the clinical area, students are responsible to comply with all clinical site policies and procedures. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the Nurse Anesthesia Program and Clarkson College. Students are expected to demonstrate high standards of professional behavior in all educational settings including classrooms, laboratories, clinical settings, and during all professional gatherings including meetings, seminars, and during social functions of those professional gatherings.

All students should be dressed neatly and appropriately during all aspects of their professional education. Each student should be familiar with the Nurse Anesthesia Program and their clinical site's dress code policies.

Professional Meetings

As a program requirement, students are required to attend one nurse anesthesia state or national meeting in its entirety, prior to graduation.

Procedure

Professionalism

The Student Registered Nurse Anesthetist (SRNA) is a representative of the nurse anesthesia profession, the College, the Nurse Anesthesia Program, and the clinical affiliates. Professional behavior and appearance facilitate collaboration between the students and patients, families, and other health professionals. Students are expected to comply with the following guidelines on conduct, professional ethics, and dress code.

Conduct

- Consistently demonstrate your concern for the welfare of the patient. Be thoughtful and professional when obtaining the history and performing the physical exam. Treat patients with respect and dignity, both in your interactions with them, and in your patient-related discussions with other professionals. Demonstrate your concern not only for the medical problem but for the total patient.
- Conscientiously respect the rights of your colleagues. Characterize all your professional encounters with cooperation and consideration. Strive to assume an appropriate and equitable share of patient care duties.

- Approach your responsibilities with dedication. Be truthful in all professional communications. When meeting multiple demands, establish patient-centered priorities to guide you in completion of such work.
- Consistently maintain professional conduct in all professional activities in the classroom, clinical setting, meetings, seminars, etc., whether on or off campus, whether sponsored by the college or not.
- Students will be assigned patient care duties and responsibilities at affiliated clinical sites. These clinical training opportunities represent a privilege extended to the academic program and the student.
- Students are reminded of their responsibility to act in compliance with the guidelines of the institution where the clinical rotation is conducted. Students are to behave as professionals and always maintain professional decorum.
- Students will assume the clinical site's dress code, and it is the student's responsibility to determine the specifics of the guidelines in each new situation.
- College or hospital issued identification must also be worn while in the clinical sites. All SRNAs must be clearly and continuously identified as students during clinical experiences. No other credentials will be displayed on the student I.D. badge.
- When leaving the OR suite for other patient care areas, follow clinical site policy as to coverage of scrubs and wearing of masks. Identification must be worn.
- Consuming alcohol with clinical site personnel outside of the clinical area is strongly discouraged.
- Social interactions with clinical site personnel outside of the clinical arena are strongly discouraged.

Professional Ethics & Conduct

The program expects students to adopt and comply with the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiologists (AANA) Code of Ethics, the Clarkson College Code of Conduct SW-18, and the Council on Accreditation Student Standard C3. Violations of these will be regarded as professional and academic misconduct with failure to meet didactic and/or clinical performance objectives. Students found to be noncompliant will result in disciplinary actions being taken up to dismissal from the Nurse Anesthesia Program and Clarkson College.

Tobacco Free/Nicotine Free Environment

Many of the clinical sites now require a tobacco free/nicotine free environment in their offices, facilities and surrounding campuses. Furthermore, these facilities only hire tobacco free/nicotine free candidates. Complaints by patients of personnel with tobacco on their breath are taken very seriously. Clinical sites may choose to permanently dismiss a student from their clinical site if a patient complains about tobacco on a student's breath or person.

The college and program establish affiliation agreements with clinical sites. These affiliation agreements give clinical sites the right to terminate clinical privileges for any student, at any time, within their facility. The college has no authority to require a clinical site to take a student. Should a student be dismissed from the clinical site for any reason, the student will be placed on probation without clinical privileges and dismissed from the Nurse Anesthesia Program and Clarkson College. The Nurse Anesthesia Program does not provide new clinical sites at the request of individual students.

Dress code

All students must always maintain a neat, professional appearance and high standard of personal cleanliness. Clothing must be clean, pressed, and in good repair. The Clarkson College Logo is appropriate.

- Visible tattoos are not allowed. Tattoos must be covered when in the clinical area or any professional activity or meetings, whether on or off campus.
- Visible body piercings are not allowed in the clinical area or any professional activity or meetings, whether on or off campus, except one post/stud on each lower ear lobe.
- Hair must have mostly human coloring without extremes in bleaching or dyeing
- Beard or moustaches for men must be neatly trimmed.
- Many clinical sites forbid artificial nails or nail polish/products due to the infection risk they pose so consult the clinical site policies.
- Jewelry should not pose an infection risk or detract from the work environment. Check the clinical site policies.
- Aftershave or cologne is to be used sparingly with sensitivity to those around

Business casual attire is required for all the following activities, whether sponsored by the college or not:

- Classes held on or off campus
- Professional or academic activities held on or off campus
- Professional meetings, conferences, or seminars
- Visits to hospital facilities, including patient visits, etc.

The following items are **not** appropriate business casual attire:

- Jeans or denim skirts (except on casual dress days & Fridays)
- Tee shirts (business casual shirts must be collared)
- Shorts
- Crop, halter or tank tops

- Any clothing revealing breast or buttocks cleavage or abdomen, including but not limited to, when sitting, standing, lifting or bending
- Athletic shoes (except with scrubs)
- Flip flops or sandals with rubber sole resembling beach or shower sandals
- Sweatpants or tops
- Jogging suits
- Ripped, torn or faded clothing
- Sleepwear
- Backless dresses or clothing more appropriate for evening
- Bib overalls
- Revealing or tight-fitting clothing
- Exposed undergarments
- Hats/caps indoors
- Leggings, spandex or other form-fitting pants unless worn under a dress or top that completely covers the derriere
- Skirts or dresses shorter than fingertips when arms are down

Scrubs are allowed on the days of simulation or cadaver labs. Scrubs include matching top and bottom scrubs with closed-toe shoes.

It should be noted that professional events such as state or national meetings and other professional activities might require a higher decorum of business attire.

See Clarkson College Code of Conduct policy SW-18; See AANA website for Code of Ethics; See COA Student Standard C3

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