



December 20, 2023

*VIA EMAIL*

Madeline Chalenor, DNP, MHS, CRNA  
Program Administrator  
New Mexico State University Nurse Anesthesiology DNP Program  
MSC 3185, New Mexico State University P. O. Box 30001  
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

Subject: Additional Documentation Approved - Initial Accreditation Granted

Dear Dr. Chalenor:

The COA has reviewed the additional documentation submitted by the program regarding Standard A.12. as it relates to course NURS 5996 Special Topics: Chemistry and Physics and as it relates to inaccurate program advertisement. The program's additional documentation was found to be complete and responsive to the COA's request for additional information. Thank you for submitting the requested documentation.

The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) is pleased that accreditation has been awarded to the nurse anesthesia program at New Mexico State University Las Cruces, NM, effective November 9, 2023. This signifies that all of the procedural steps have been successfully completed up to this point in time. This decision recognizes that the program will provide a graduate level curriculum leading to the award of a Doctor of Nursing Practice. A certificate designating this accreditation will be mailed under separate cover. It is the COA's understanding that the effective starting date of the program is January 2024. Notification must be provided to the COA if the effective date is different or changes.

As the CRNA program director of an accredited nurse anesthesia program, you will be required to complete annual reports each year. The annual report is web-based and electronically transmitted to the COA.

Additionally, two (2) years after the start of the program's first class of students, the program is to submit confidential and anonymous faculty and student evaluations of the program. Further information regarding the evaluations will be sent to you in **Fall 2025**.

A second onsite visit to the program will be conducted after five (5) years following the start of the program's first class of students. This will allow time for certification examination scores and other measures of student achievement to be assessed by the program and reviewed by an onsite review team prior to consideration for continued accreditation. Accordingly, the program will be scheduled for its next onsite visit in **Spring 2029** followed by the Council's review of the program for continued accreditation in **Fall 2029**.

Every nurse anesthesia program has a unique program code. The code for the New Mexico State University Nurse Anesthesiology DNP Program is 522979, which eventually will be published in appropriate documents. This letter also is copied to the National Board of Certification and

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Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) and the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA) as notification of the name of the program and that accreditation has been attained.

Lastly, please review the following sections of the program's COAccess portal. We request that you update this data **within five (5) days** after receipt of this letter.

- Related Contacts – verify/add individuals to be copied on correspondence from the Council (ref. COAccess Reference Library, user guide titled *Updating Other Program Contacts* for directions):
  - a. required: person to whom program administrator reports; CEO and/or president of conducting institution(s) or organization(s); chief academic officer of conducting institution(s) or organization(s)
  - b. other individuals as designated by program
- Program details – verify that the following information is completed:
  - a. Public Phone
  - b. Program's Website Address
  - c. Public Email
- Degrees – enter all data related to the degree(s)

If you would like the assistant program administrator or one (1) program official in addition to the program administrator to appear in the COA's List of Accredited Programs (LOAP), please let your accreditation specialist know. Should you need assistance with COAccess, please contact Accreditation at [accreditation@coacrna.org](mailto:accreditation@coacrna.org).

Sincerely,



Francis Gerbasi, PhD, CRNA, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer

- c: Alan Shoho, PhD  
Alexa Doig, PhD, RN  
Jay Gogue, PhD  
Michele Stone, JD, MHS, CRNA  
Yoshitaka Iwasaki, PhD  
John Preston, DNSc, CRNA, FAAN, FAANA, FNAP, APRN  
Christopher Gill, PhD, MBA, CRNA  
Kathryn Berry, MEd  
Nathan Chamberlain, CAE  
Rhonda Gee, DNSc, CRNA  
John David Albert, MD

FG/kc

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