

Nurse Anesthetist

Shannon R. Cooper School Milwaukee

Imagine yourself standing in a room with doctors and surgeons. Your patient is about to go into surgery, you're holding the anesthesia for your patient. You have to try to keep your patient calm while you give him anesthesia for the long surgery ahead.

For my dream job I want to be a nurse anesthetist. A nurse anesthetist specializes in the administration of anesthesia. Which means that a nurse anesthetist use drugs or gases to numb patients' bodies or put them to sleep during surgery so they feel no pain.

I want to be a nurse anesthetist because I've always wanted to be a nurse, I just don't like blood. So when I heard that my sister and my brother-in-law were in school to be nurse anesthetists, I knew that I wanted to be a nurse anesthetist.

Most importantly, I want to be a CRNA, which stands for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. CRNAs are considered Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) who administer anesthesia and other medications. CRNAs usually work in the operating rooms, emergency rooms, intensive care units, and cardiac care units. According to my sister, who is studying to be a CRNA, CRNAs are better than regular nurse anesthetist because CRNAs are better with patients when talking to them to try to keep them calm and CRNAs go to school for more years, which could mean a better education.

To become a CRNA, I must successfully complete an accredited nurse anesthesia educational program, which can take 2-4 years, depending on the intensity of the program. There are approximately 113 accredited nurse anesthesia programs in the US, with approximately 2,200 active clinical training sites. All nurse anesthetists must also pass the CRNA exam prior to beginning the practice.

For my education, I want to go to University of Wisconsin-La Crosse because it is the only college with a nurse anesthetists program in Wisconsin. After that, I want to further my education to become a CRNA and go to Mayo School of Health Sciences, which is in Rochester, Minnesota. I want to go here because both my sister and my brother-in-law go there currently, and I heard a lot of good things about it.

Becoming a Nurse Anesthetist will be a lot of work, but with that title comes a rewarding and gainful career. My goal is to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist like my sister and my brother-in-law.

<http://www5.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/school/cooper/>

414) 304-6300