



 Outlook

[External] CRNA Proposed Rulemaking

From Courtney Golden <cgolden1@ycp.edu>
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To ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the State Board of Nursing's proposed rulemaking, 16A-5145 (CRNA).

My name is Courtney Golden, and I have been a CRNA in Pennsylvania since May 2025. I have been an RN in Pennsylvania since 2017 and have recently graduated from York College's Nurse Anesthetist Program. I begin working at WellSpan Chambersburg this Monday, July 28th, and I am elated to be entering an amazing profession.

As I enter practice, I am grateful for the CRNAs who have gone before me, who helped propel Act 60. This rulemaking finally recognizes and licenses CRNAs as intended under Act 60 of 2021. The rulemaking solidifies the scope of practice for CRNAs to administer anesthesia in cooperation with and under the overall direction of licensed physicians, podiatrists, and dentists, while setting licensing fees and certification standards.

CRNAs take pride in their rigorous education and training standards. These regulations recognize the commitment each individual makes to their profession, striving to provide the highest level of care. During my recent training, I not only obtained the education to become a well-rounded nurse anesthetist, but I also earned my Doctorate in Nursing Practice, which will enable me to teach future nurse anesthetists, improve patient care, and educate those around me. During my rigorous coursework, I also completed over 2,000 clinical hours, rotating at 15 clinical sites, including some that were far from home or even out of state, such as The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Ruby Memorial Hospital in West Virginia. The array of clinical experiences I was able to obtain has prepared me immensely for my transition to practice. I feel confident and prepared to administer anesthesia and provide excellent patient care.

Due to CRNAs' rigorous training and experience, numerous medical studies **have shown that** there is no statistical difference in patient outcomes when a nurse anesthetist provides treatment. In fact, these studies by nationally recognized health-care policy and research organizations prove that CRNAs provide high-quality care, even for rare and difficult procedures.

Pennsylvania is among the top draws nationally for CRNA students, with 15 highly rated nurse anesthetist programs operating across the commonwealth. With these regulations, Pennsylvania is taking the right approach by strengthening existing CRNA programs and supporting the highly qualified professionals they produce.

In today's changing healthcare environment, patients want healthcare delivered with personal care, at a lower cost, with a high degree of confidence. CRNAs deliver all of these by staying with their patients throughout the entire procedure and ensuring that the whole of the patient is cared for --- physically, mentally, and emotionally.

For all these reasons, I urge support for the proposed rulemaking. I appreciate all the work that has gone into finally giving CRNAs the recognition they deserve. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Courtney Golden, DNP, CRNA

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