



February 21, 2023

*VIA EMAIL*

Carly Mitchell, DNP, APRN, CRNA  
Program Administrator  
Bellarmine University Nurse Anesthesia Program  
2001 Newburg Road  
Louisville, KY 40205

Subject: Initial Accreditation

Dear Dr. Mitchell,

The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) is pleased that accreditation has been awarded to the nurse anesthesia program at the Bellarmine University Nurse Anesthesia Program, Louisville, KY, effective January 26, 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 (DNP) degree. 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 August 2023. 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 **Fall 2028** followed by the Council's review of the program for continued accreditation in **Spring 2029**.

Every nurse anesthesia program has a unique program code. The code for the Bellarmine University Nurse Anesthesia Program is 523202, which eventually will be published in appropriate documents. This letter also is copied to the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) and the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology as notification of the name of the program and that accreditation has been attained.

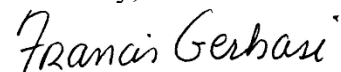
Lastly, please review the following sections of the program's COAccess portal. We request that you update this data **within five (5) days** after receipt of this letter.

- 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).

Please note, per the *Fees* policy, programs are required to enroll cohorts with the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) within 30 days of the start of a new cohort.

Sincerely,



Francis Gerbasi, PhD, CRNA  
Chief Executive Officer

- c:
- Whitley Dunn, DNP, APRN, CRNA
  - Heather Owens, PhD, RN
  - Susan Donovan, PhD
  - Bernadette Roche, EdD, CRNA
  - Manuel Tolosa, DNAP, CRNA
  - John Preston, CRNA, DNSc, FNAP, APN
  - Christopher Gill, PhD, MBA, CRNA
  - Kathryn Berry, MEd
  - Nathan Chamberlain, CAE