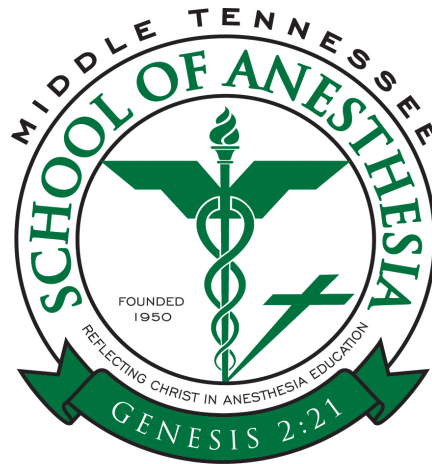


Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia



***Reflecting Christ in
Anesthesia Education***

2007 CATALOG

www.mtsa.edu

***Master of Science (MS)
with a focus in Nurse Anesthesia***

*The statements, policies, and guidelines contained in this Catalog are intended to be informational only. The most current policies and procedures of the School pertaining to students are contained herein. Students will be given a Student Handbook upon enrollment with any revisions made in the interim. Both the Catalog and Student Handbook are revised annually and amendments to policies and procedures are included in each new edition. The School reserves the right to make revisions to the contents of the Catalog and Student Handbook as necessary, or as deemed advisable by the President's Council. Additionally, the School reserves the right to amend policies and procedures in the most current Catalog and Student Handbook with such changes taking effect immediately upon approval by the President's Council. At the beginning of each year, all students are given a copy of the most recent Student Handbook and are expected to abide by its contents.

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INTRODUCTION

The Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Inc. (MTSA), is a non-profit Tennessee corporation qualified as a 501(c)3 organization in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia is owned by Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Inc. and is operated by a Board of Trust. Trustees represent the business, educational, financial, healthcare, and legal professions. The membership of the Board of Trustees is comprised of three categories, with approximately one-third community members, one-third Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs), and one-third physician anesthesiologists. As such, the Board of Trustee members contribute broad and varied interests, abilities, and experience. The Board is charged with policy decisions and ensuring the future advancement of the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia. Since the Board typically meets quarterly, it delegates interim authority to the President's Council of the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia. Operational authority is delegated to the President and Vice-President/Dean.

As of February 1, 2007, the members of the Board of Trustees are as follows:

Nevin H. Downs, MD Chairman (Presiding Officer)	Scott Hoffman, MD
Larry Boughman, PhD	Caroline Litchfield, MS, CRNA, APN
Duane Brown, CPA	Lewis McCarver, CRNA, APN
Mike Clark, MEd	Arlan Monroe, MS, CRNA, APN
Ken Crawford, CRNA, MS, APN	David Murphy, MS, CRNA, APN
Steven Dickerson, MD	J. David Netterville, MD
Jack Edmondson, CRNA, MS, APN	Art Runyon-Hass, MD, PhD
Patrick A. Forrest MD	Nila Sherrill, MA
Michael W. Hays, MD	John A. Shields, CRNA, MS, APN
Doug Hilliard, BA, BS	Mark Westlake, JD
Judith Hodges, MLn	Wayne Winfree, CRNA, MS, APN

The ex-officio, non-voting officers and members of the MTSA Board of Trustees are as follows:

L. Phil Hunt, RN, EdD MTSA President	Mary Elizabeth DeVasher, CRNA, MEd, MS, APN MTSA Vice-President/Dean
Jim Closser, BA, CFRE MTSA Vice-President for Advancement	Robin Taylor, MD Medical Consultant
Chris Gustin, BA MTSA Director of Operations	Charles W. Cagle, JD MTSA Attorney

The Secretary for the MTSA Board of Trustees is Martie Hansen, MTSA Administrative Assistant.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia functions to provide graduate education specific to anesthesia, in both academic and clinical areas, to qualified registered nurses holding a baccalaureate degree. These nurses wish to earn the Degree of Master of Science (MS) with a focus in Nurse Anesthesia, and complete the academic and clinical requirements to become eligible to take the National Certification Examination, to become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. It also provides a mechanism whereby Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists can complete the degree requirements. Graduates will be able to teach anesthesia related subjects, should they desire, and assist in the preparation of the next generation of anesthesia providers.

In harmony with a broad overall mission of reflecting Christ in its educational program, and in keeping with its Seventh-day Adventist heritage, the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia conducts its academic classes with an exposure to Christian, Seventh-day Adventist beliefs.

By this educational effort, it is the mission of the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia to contribute to filling the community needs for anesthesia providers in Nashville, Middle Tennessee, the Central South, regionally, and nationally.

Reviewed 2006
Revised 2000

ACCREDITATION

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA), which is a specialized accrediting body recognized by both the United States Department of Education and Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS COC) to award the degree of Master of Science (MS) with a focus in nurse anesthesia. The SACS COC offices are located at the following address:

**1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097
Telephone: (404) 679-4500
Fax: (404) 679-4558
Website: <http://www.sacscoc.org>**

CURRENT ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each of the following criteria must be met for an applicant to be considered for an admission interview. After the application deadline, the Screening Committee reviews the applicant pool, based on the following requirements, to determine which applicants will receive an interview with the Admissions Committee.

◆ **A Baccalaureate Degree**

A minimum of a baccalaureate degree in nursing OR a licensed Registered Nurse with a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in a related field of science is required for interview and admission to MTSA. If the baccalaureate degree is not in nursing, the applicant must have at least 15 semester hours of biophysical sciences beyond the basic nursing degree (associate degree or diploma graduate).

◆ **Current Licensure as a Professional Registered Nurse**

After acceptance **but prior to enrollment** at MTSA, the student must have a Tennessee RN license **UNLESS licensed in one of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) states.** As of January 8, 2007, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) website (<https://www.ncsbn.org/158.htm>) lists the following as NLC states: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin. The NCSBN website also says that as of November 1, 2006, the following states have enacted the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) and it is signed by their respective governors, but they have not yet implemented the NLC: Colorado, Kentucky, and New Jersey. The Tennessee Board of Nursing address is as follows:

Tennessee Board of Nursing
Health Related Boards
227 French Landing, Suite 300
Heritage Place Metro Center
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone (615) 532-5166 or (800) 778-4123
TN.health@state.tn.us

Additional Requirements regarding licensure

After the student has been enrolled, and late in the first year of school (Spring-to-Summer), an Ohio RN license must be obtained by all students assigned to rotate through one of the Ohio affiliates (i.e. Columbus Children's Hospital or Grant Medical Center). Obtaining this license and meeting all the continuing education requirements for such licensure is the student's responsibility. The student is encouraged to obtain information about the licensure prior to enrollment. However, as a

cost containment measure, the student should wait until the latter part (Spring-to-Summer) of the first year to actually apply for licensure. The student must have obtained this license and a copy must be given to the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator before the student affiliates at Columbus Children's Hospital or at Grant Medical Center. The Ohio Board of Nursing address is as follows:

State of Ohio Board of Nursing
17 South High Street, Suite 400
Columbus, Ohio 43215-7410
Phone: (614) 466-3947
Fax: (614) 466-0388
<http://www.nursing.ohio.gov/>
<mailto:board@nursing.ohio.gov>

Should MTSA develop affiliates in other sites where the student is assigned, or should the student desire to participate in any other out-of-state affiliate, such as a Senior Elective in a state that is not a Nurse Licensure Compact state, licensure in that state must be presented to the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator of Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia prior to full approval of that elective.

◆ **Critical Care RN Experience**

A **minimum** of one year (excluding orientation) of **recent** (within the last 3 years) nursing experience as a Registered Nurse with a basic degree in nursing, such as a Diploma, Associate or Baccalaureate degree (or Master's degree, if this is the first nursing degree), in a **critical care** patient setting. Highest priority is given to applicants who have the most recent work in high acuity, large hospital ICU or CCU settings where a broad base of invasive hemodynamic monitoring experience, management of ventilated patients, and administration of frequently-titrated vasoactive drugs in the care of **adult patients** are likely. (A mix of neonatal/pediatric and adult ICU experience may be accepted; however, as most patients cared for in the anesthesia educational program are adults, adult ICU experience is expected.) While not an area of highest priority, applicants will be considered who work in recovery rooms where patients routinely have invasive hemodynamic monitors. Emergency room experience will be considered only if the candidate can demonstrate he cares for patients with invasive monitors in this setting.

New RN graduates who are currently working in critical care nursing positions, and who will have met the one year of experience prior to actual enrollment are welcome to apply. In the past, a few of these new RN graduate candidates have been accepted on the first interview; however, many have not been. Those who are not accepted on the first interview will likely have found the interview experience helpful as they prepare for a subsequent future interview.

ALL applicants, whether recent RN graduates or RN candidates with experience in other areas of nursing, who have had less than one year of recent critical care experience at the time of the interview, and who are accepted to MTSA will have been accepted only with the contingency that they remain in the critical care area until the month of enrollment at MTSA. To assure MTSA that they have met this continued employment expectation, these candidates are required to have their nursing supervisor validate that they have continued employment there up to the month of enrollment. A request form will be distributed by the Admissions Coordinator to each accepted applicant on the annual Orientation Day held in May. This request form will simply be a letter that the accepted applicant can present to his nursing supervisor, explaining the need for such verification. This validation must be on hospital letterhead and signed by the nursing supervisor, and is subject to verification calls from MTSA. It is the accepted applicant's responsibility to obtain and submit such verification to the Admissions Coordinator at MTSA.

◆ **Current ACLS Certification**

Current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Provider Status certification with certification by September 30, 2007. If applicants are certified at the time of interview and certification lapses between the interview and enrollment date, the applicant will not be required to take it again before enrollment, because it will be taken during the six-week Broadfields Orientation session.

◆ **Physical Assessment Course**

Applicants must have completed a class in physical assessment within the past five years. Students graduating from a BSN program within the past five years have had this included in their program. Graduates from a BSN program longer than five years ago and graduates from an AS or diploma nursing program, who have the baccalaureate degree in an area other than nursing, must supply documentation of completing a specific course in physical assessment. This course does not have to be taken at a college or university, but may be as brief as a one-day hospital-offered course. For information regarding such a course in the Nashville area, please contact the Vanderbilt Critical Care Program at 615-343-3294.

◆ **Transcripts**

Official transcripts of ALL academic work since high school.

◆ **Minimum 3.0 Cumulative GPA**

Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA (including a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in science areas.) **For candidates whose scores are borderline, MTSA will offer advice related to outside remediation. If MTSA recommends**

remediation courses, it is highly recommended that candidates complete these to be competitive. However, completion of recommended remediation does not guarantee the applicant an interview or a position as a student. The Screening Committee reviews the entire applicant pool each year to determine the most highly qualified applicants to receive invitations to interview. The Screening Committee will consider offering interviews to candidates whose scores may have been borderline in early years, but whose most recent transcripts show evidence of strong science grades.

◆ **Chemistry**

A minimum of a 3-credit hour introductory course covering both **biochemistry** and **organic chemistry** is required, but a General Chemistry course (also at least 3-credit hours) is preferred.

◆ **CCRN**

CCRN is recommended for first-time applicants, and is highly recommended for all re-applicants.

◆ **References**

Five personal work references utilizing the two-page MTSA form. These must be from immediate nursing supervisors and co-workers.

◆ **Personal Letter**

A brief personal letter addressed to the Admissions Committee (to be received by September 30) summarizing experience, with reasons for wishing to become a nurse anesthetist.

◆ **GRE Results**

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) must be completed and results submitted to MTSA by September 30, 2007. Call your local university to ask for the nearest testing center. MTSA's GRE code is 1410.

◆ **Personal Interview**

A personal interview with the Admissions Committee is available **ONLY** by invitation from the Screening Committee. The applicant is expected to dress in professional attire for this interview. **The committee is interested in determining the candidate's base knowledge of physiology and associated critical care therapies, with specific emphasis on the cardio-pulmonary systems, as well as his understanding of the mechanism of action TO THE INTRACELLULAR LEVEL of the drugs commonly used in the critical care area where he works. This drug understanding should include SPECIFIC receptor sites and intracellular activities. The candidate should be prepared to answer questions related to ventilated patients and invasive hemodynamic monitors.**

◆ **Background Check Release**

If accepted, the applicant must sign a release for a copy of a completed background check to be sent to our clinical affiliates.

Other Admissions Issues

- ◆ **Foreign nurses**, who are appropriately credentialed in their own country and seeking to come to the United States on a Non-Immigrant Educational Visas (J-1) must, in addition to meeting all federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements, demonstrate successful completion of the examination administered by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) prior to admission into an accredited nurse anesthesia educational program. Graduates who have not achieved licensure as professional nurses in the United States will not meet the eligibility requirements for certification in the specialty of anesthesia.

For graduates of foreign schools, the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia requires that all transcripts from foreign schools be reviewed by a common external agency. This review is the responsibility of the applicant, and will not be done by MTSA. This external agency can be contacted via the following methods:

Director of Evaluation
World Education Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 745
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-0745
Telephone Number 212-966-6311
Fax 212-966-6395
E-mail: info@wes.org

◆ **Enrollment Frequency**

Enrollment into the School is once each year. Classes begin in late July with a class usually consisting of approximately 72 students.

◆ **School and Clinical Observation Visits (Optional)**

Applicants are invited to call and make an appointment to visit the School and "shadow" a student for a day in both the clinical and academic areas. A nursing license is required for admittance into the clinical area. It is suggested that interested individuals call the office to make an appointment approximately one week prior to a visit, and again the day before to make sure the surgery schedule will provide an interesting and informative experience. Due to the large number of applicants that apply to the School, visits will be limited to one visit in any given application period.

◆ **Admissions Deadline:**

The deadline for a **COMPLETED** application file (to include **ALL** requirements listed above) is the preceding **September 30th** to qualify for an interview for the incoming July class. **The deadline for a completed application file is September 15th** to qualify to be considered for an early interview.

*Deadlines may be extended only by special vote of the Screening Committee. Candidates contacting the school after the deadlines stated and wishing to be considered need to tell the Admissions Coordinator they want to request special consideration by the Screening Committee.

◆ **Admission Routes (3 possible):**

1. **Regular Admission Interviews**

MTSA admits students once each year, in late July; therefore the regular Admissions Committee only meets once each year, in December. When the exact date of the interview session has been established by MTSA, and the Screening Committee has determined an applicant is competitively qualified to meet with the Admissions Committee, then the applicant will be invited by letter and/or phone call to schedule and attend an interview session.

2. **Early Admission Interviews**

After the Early Interview application deadline of September 15, the Screening Committee will review the files of all applicants whose files are complete. Highly qualified applicants, who, in addition to meeting the preceding criteria, also meet the following additional criteria, may be selected by the Screening Committee to be invited for an Early Interview. An applicant can **ONLY** request the Screening Committee to consider him or her as a candidate for an early interview **IF** the applicant meets all the regular MTSA admission requirements **AND** has already been accepted for admission at another school of anesthesia, **AND** is required by the other school of anesthesia to confirm their selection prior to the date of regular interviews at MTSA. Such a request **must** be submitted in a separate letter addressed to the Screening Committee, and **must** include documentation of acceptance at another anesthesia school, on that school's official letterhead. All applicants who receive an invitation for an early interview are selected at the discretion of the Screening Committee. The following general guidelines may be used by the Screening Committee in determining which applicants will be invited for an early interview, and they may vary from year to year, depending upon the applicant pool each year:

1. Undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above and/or,
2. A significant number of upper division and/or graduate level science hours with a GPA of 3.5 or above, and
3. Have excellent recommendations from immediate supervisors and co-workers.

If an applicant receives an invitation from MTSA to attend an early interview, he must be sure that MTSA is the school he chooses to attend, as he will be required to submit immediate payment of the non-refundable deposit to hold his position if he is accepted early. Also, the applicant will be asked to sign a release for a background check to be sent to our clinical affiliates, if accepted.

3. **Board/Affiliate Nominees Interviews**

Representatives of the Board of Trustees, whose anesthesia groups currently provide clinical education to MTSA students, have a right to nominate for admission interviews up to 15% of an incoming class. These candidates **must** meet all the regular requirements for admission and will be interviewed prior to regular interviews. As with the early interviews, those accepted in this route **must** be prepared to submit **immediate** payment of the **non-refundable** deposit **on the day of the interview**, to be held by MTSA until the admission decisions are finalized at the conclusion of the Early Interview sessions. Upon notification of the applicant of acceptance, the payment will be deposited at the bank.

All applicants accepted through either Early Interview process must be prepared to pay the \$3,500 deposit the day of the interview. If the candidate is not accepted, the check will be returned. If the student decides at a later date to decline acceptance into the program, the \$3,500 will **not** be refunded. Applicants not accepted at the Early Interview will be eligible to re-interview at the regular Admissions Committee in December. Files must be completed prior to the interview date or by September 15 to be considered for an early interview, or by September 30 to be considered for a regular interview. The Screening Committee and the Admissions Committee reserve the right to limit the number and timing of early interviews. No early interviews will be conducted after November 15.

◆ Re-Applicants

ALL applicants who are re-applying **must** meet the following requirements:

1. Submit a letter asking that their file remain active
2. Complete and submit a new application form
3. Submit a \$50 re-application fee with the new application form
4. Submit a minimum of **five new** references from professionals who have observed their clinical performance during the past year, one of which must be from an immediate supervisor.
5. Submit a transcript reflecting completion of at least three semester hours in graduate level biophysical science courses (i.e., Organic Chemistry, Advanced Physiologic Concepts of Acute Care, Advanced Pathophysiology, Physics, Biochemistry, and Pathophysiology). For those in the Nashville area, Pharmacotherapeutics in Acute Care and Advanced Physiologic and Pathophysiologic Foundations of Acute Care, both taught at Vanderbilt University by Dr. Larry Lancaster, are excellent choices. The latter of these may also be taken in a distance format. For further information, contact Dr. Larry Lancaster at 615-322-7488. **These courses must be completed within the past year or since last meeting** with the Admissions Committee. Grades less than 'B' are not considered competitive; grades of 'A' are expected.
6. Continue working in an active critical care area with exposure to invasive hemodynamic monitors and ventilated patients **and provide verification of such, as explained on pages 7 and 8.**

NOTE: Candidates who have been repeatedly denied admission to MTSA are strongly encouraged to apply elsewhere. If a candidate has been granted any type of admissions interview during more than four separate annual interview cycles, and the candidate has been denied a position as a student or as an alternate each time, the candidate may not be permitted to interview again. If a candidate has applied and been denied to receive any type of interview with the Admissions Committee, for more than 6 annual interview cycles, additional re-applications will no longer be accepted.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES (accomplish the following):

- Submit the application (http://www.mtsa.edu/admission_req2.php) and the application fee of \$50 prior to the September 30 deadline. The deadline for a complete file (**ALL** reference letters and **ALL** transcripts received) is also September 30. Personal interviews by the Admissions Committee may not be granted to applicants who fail to meet these deadlines.
- Submit five names for references. These **must** include immediate nursing supervisor and a co-worker. Additional suggestions include other co-workers, preceptors, physicians, and CRNAs with whom the applicant has worked closely. Please have **correct** and **complete** addresses and phone numbers listed in the event MTSA needs to contact them for further recommendation or clarification. **The applicant** is responsible for contacting references with the two page reference forms provided with the application form (http://www.mtsa.edu/admission_req2.php). The waiver must be signed and dated with references returned directly to MTSA. The deadline to have all references received by MTSA is September 30.
- Submit GRE scores. See page 9 for details.
- Submit a copy of current ACLS certification.
- Submit a copy of current nursing license.
- Submit a personal letter to the Admissions Committee briefly describing your educational background, nursing experience and reason for desiring the specialty of nurse anesthesia. This letter should be no more than one page, single-spaced, with 10 or 12 point font.
- Submit official academic transcripts from **every** institution of higher learning. MTSA cannot accept transcripts stamped "Issued to Student." The transcripts must be sent to MTSA directly from the institution. (It is highly recommended that the nursing school (cumulative) grade point average (GPA) be at least 3.0 based on a 4.0 grading system, and the science GPA be at least 3.0). Remediation may be suggested by the Admissions Committee for individuals not meeting the suggested GPA. These transcripts must demonstrate that all general education curriculum required by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to earn the baccalaureate degree are met.

Prior to acceptance, there will be a **brief** (10-15 minute) personal interview with the MTSA Admissions Committee (8-12 members). **Members of this committee are interested in determining the candidates' base knowledge**

of physiology, invasive monitors, care of ventilated patients, and their in-depth knowledge of the drugs they commonly administer in ICU. The Admissions Committee plans to meet for its Regular Interview session in December, 2007, to interview applicants for the Class of 2008-2010. Applicants having completed their files by September 30, 2007, will have those files submitted to the Screening Committee. If the Screening Committee determines the applicant to be competitively qualified, MTSA will contact the applicant and invite him to interview.

Repeat applicants – Please refer to the previous section regarding all submissions required prior to consideration for a second interview.

Early Admissions Interview attendees – Please refer to the previous section regarding all submissions and procedures for obtaining an invitation for an early interview with the Screening Committee.

ALL candidates for admission must be prepared for clinical questions relating to physiology, pharmacology, hemodynamic monitor information, ventilators and other questions related specifically to their critical care nursing experience.

Selection by the Admissions Committee is based on the applicant's GPA (cumulative, later academic, and science scores, specifically), references, and presentation during the personal interview. Each member of the Admissions Committee is given the responsibility to vote conscientiously after each applicant's interview. Scores are collected immediately following the interview. Justification by the Screening Committee or the Admissions Committee for acceptance or rejection of a candidate is not required nor noted in the applicant's file. If there are areas where it is felt an applicant could improve his chances for admission in the future, the Committee members are invited to express them on the scoring sheet. Any questions regarding admission requirements should be directed to the Admissions Coordinator, who will then consult with the Vice-President/Dean, as needed.

All candidates should submit a passport or studio photograph to MTSA **after** notification of their acceptance status. This picture should be included with their deposit submission. For candidates who are admitted through an Early Interview process, this picture should be included with the written acceptance letter they submit to MTSA upon their notification of acceptance.

NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY

MTSA admits students without regard to race, color, sex, age, disability, marital status, religion or ethnic origin, to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the School. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, disability, marital status, religion, national or ethnic origin, in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, grant and loan programs, or any other School-administered programs. The School will make reasonable accommodation wherever necessary for all applicants with disabilities, provided that the individual is otherwise qualified to safely perform the duties and assignments connected with the academic and clinical requirements of the curriculum.

FEEDER SCHOOLS

Those schools of nursing with relationships with MTSA in regard to “Early Interviews” (referred to as “feeder schools”) currently include the following:

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing:

Students who complete the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree within the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP) Program at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) **and** who meet all other specific criteria for admission to MTSA will be eligible for an interview for admission through the Early Interview process. This applies to VUSN graduates who have entered the VUSN program either as BSN nurses, ADN or diploma nurses, or those who have entered the bridge to the MSN at VUSN.

Belmont University School of Nursing:

Students who have completed the Bachelor of Science degree (BSN) from the Belmont University School of Nursing **and** who meet all other specific criteria for admission to MTSA will be eligible for an interview for admission through either the Early Interview or Regular Interview process.

Southern Adventist University School of Nursing:

Students who have completed the Bachelor of Science Degree (BSN) from the Southern Adventist University School of Nursing **and** who meet all other specific criteria for admission to MTSA will be eligible for an interview for admission through either the Early Interview or Regular Interview process.

MTSA highly encourages and has a strong expectation that applicants who are currently enrolled in a master’s degree program at ANY school of nursing will complete that program prior to enrollment at MTSA.

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

Madison Hospital School of Anesthesia for nurses was founded in 1950 by Bernard Bowen, CRNA, under the sponsorship of Madison Hospital. It has been in continuous operation since that time. The program got its start when Mr. Bowen was invited to Madison by Dr. James D. Schuler, a surgeon, and Dr. Julian C. Gant, who was the Medical Director of the hospital. Since that time, more than 1000 graduates have gone out from Madison to provide high quality anesthesia service throughout the United States and in many parts of the world.

Through the years, all persons connected with the School, both as students and teachers, have contributed to the success of the School and to the growth of nurse anesthesia as a profession. Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia is proud to carry on the tradition of excellence that was so firmly established by Bernard Bowen, his staff, and students.

As of July 1, 1980, the School of Anesthesia changed from Madison Hospital School of Anesthesia to Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia. Nashville Anesthesia Services, a partnership of physicians, agreed to temporarily shepherd the school until a corporation could be formed. On January 5, 1982 the institution was incorporated as an independent, 501 (c)(3), non-profit organization, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Inc., under the guidance of a Board of Trust composed of community leaders involved in the business, educational, financial, legal, and medical industries.

Tennessee Christian Medical Center, formerly Madison Hospital, continued to provide strong support for MTSA in the form of a leased building and operative facilities until 2005. In 2005, MTSA initiated a capital expansion project, constructing an entirely new state-of-the-art classroom and student lounge facility, while beginning renovation of two existing buildings. In early 2006, MTSA purchased three acres and the two existing buildings from the parent company of Tennessee Christian Medical Center, Adventist Health System. In March 2006, students first occupied the innovative lecture hall, and in August 2006, students began using the newly designed Simulation Skills Center.

In addition to specificity accreditation in nurse anesthesia through the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA), in December of 1994, MTSA first received regional accreditation through the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The latter enabled the School to grant a master's degree.

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

MTSA recognizes the expanded role CRNAs fill as contributing members of the health care team. It is no longer enough that nurse anesthetists be skilled in anesthesia administration, as important as that is; but they must also be able to assess their patients' medical status and plan a comprehensive anesthetic management program that encompasses the pre- and post-anesthetic periods, as well as the operative period. To this end, MTSA aims to provide the facilities and academic climate necessary for the student to attain the body of knowledge and technical skills consistent with high standards of practice. In recognition of the important role played by CRNAs in the nation, but more specifically in the Southeastern region of the United States, MTSA is historically constituted and strategically located, so as to play a vital part in meeting continuing needs for well prepared anesthetists, both regionally and nationally.

MTSA believes that true education involves the growth of the spiritual, intellectual, and physical aspects of the student. In keeping with this belief, the faculty seeks to provide a balanced program between the academic and clinical phases, so that knowledge and skills may be developed concurrently. Thus, it offers an integrated curriculum with academic and clinical experience occurring simultaneously. The acquisition of both intellectual and technical skills should start with the basic and simple, then progress in logical steps to the more complex and advanced; each step building on the previous ones. Throughout the entire educational process, Christian values, like a golden thread, should be emphasized in the daily lives of both faculty and students, for both their benefit and that of their patients.

MTSA believes that the student's role is one of an active participant in the educational process. This means students may participate in seminars, present case studies, write papers, and maintain independent study.

MTSA believes that the body of knowledge that constitutes the art and science of anesthesia is ever growing and ever changing. In keeping with this belief, MTSA endeavors to foster in both faculty members and students a thirst for knowledge and an intellectual curiosity that will promote lifelong professional growth and a desire for excellence. Graduates will be able to teach anesthesia-related subjects, should they desire, and to assist in the preparation of the next generation of anesthesia providers.

It is the goal of MTSA that graduates be well qualified to fill first level positions and be capable of working with other CRNAs or physician anesthesiologists; or if necessary, to be able to function under the direction of a surgeon only.

Furthermore, it is the philosophy of MTSA that it be operated as a freestanding, single purpose, anesthesia specific, graduate degree granting institution; rather than be enveloped by a multi-disciplinary university.

OUTCOME CRITERIA FOR STUDENTS UPON GRADUATION

Graduates of MTSA shall have acquired knowledge, skills, and competencies in patient safety, perianesthetic management, critical thinking, communication, and the professional role.

A. Patient safety is demonstrated by the ability of the student to:

1. Be vigilant in the delivery of patient care.
2. Protect patients from iatrogenic complications.
3. Participate in the positioning of patients to prevent injury.
4. Conduct a comprehensive and appropriate equipment check.
5. Utilize standard precautions and appropriate infection control measures.

B. Individualized perianesthetic management is demonstrated by the ability of the student to:

1. Provide care throughout the perianesthetic continuum.
2. Use a variety of current anesthesia techniques, agents, adjunctive drugs, and equipment while providing anesthesia.
3. Administer general anesthesia to patients of all ages and physical conditions for a variety of surgical and medically related procedures.
4. Provide anesthesia services to all patients including trauma and emergency cases.
5. Administer and manage a variety of regional anesthetic techniques, including:
 - a. Spinal blocks; this includes actual insertion of the spinal needle and all other related skills,
 - b. Epidural blocks,
 - c. Other peripheral blocks.
6. Function as a resource person for airway and ventilatory management of patients.
7. Possess advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) recognition.
8. Possess pediatric advanced life support (PALS) recognition.
9. Deliver culturally sensitive perianesthetic care throughout the anesthesia experience.

C. Critical thinking is demonstrated by the student's ability to:

1. Apply theory to practice in decision-making and problem solving.
2. Provide nurse anesthesia care based on sound principles and research evidence.
3. Perform a preanesthetic assessment and formulate an anesthesia care plan for patients to whom they are assigned to administer anesthesia.

4. Identify and take appropriate action when confronted with anesthetic equipment-related malfunctions.
5. Interpret and utilize data obtained from noninvasive and invasive monitoring modalities.
6. Calculate, initiate, and manage the patient's fluid and blood component therapy.
7. Recognize and appropriately respond to anesthetic complications that occur during the perianesthetic period.
8. Seek appropriate consultation in situations that exceed the capacity of the nurse anesthetist to respond unaided.
9. Performing arterial cannulation for blood gas determinations and taking appropriate action with reference to screening pulmonary function and blood gas determinations.
10. Pass the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists' national certification examination.

D. Communication skills are demonstrated by the student's ability to:

1. Effectively communicate with all individuals influencing patient care.
2. Utilize appropriate verbal, nonverbal, and written communication in the delivery of perianesthetic care.

E. Professional role development is demonstrated by the student's ability to:

1. Participate in activities that improve anesthesia care.
2. Interact on a professional level with integrity.
3. Function within the appropriate legal requirements as a registered professional nurse, accepting responsibility and accountability for his or her practice.
4. Interpret anesthesia related research data and complete a research project.
5. Teach selected anesthesia related concepts to patients and health-related personnel.
6. Participate in continuing education activities to acquire new knowledge and improve his or her practice.

Reviewed 2007, Revised 2003.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Each student must accomplish each of the following criteria to be eligible to become a graduate of MTSA:

- Satisfactory completion of all academic courses, Valley Review, and the Comprehensive Examination (For complete information regarding the Comprehensive Examination, please refer to page 46 of the *2007 Catalog*)
- Satisfactory completion of all categories of clinical procedures required by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA)
- Satisfactory completion of practicum at assigned affiliates (as determined by the Progressions Committee), and senior electives, including the MTSA-required care plans, case study, and clinical case records
- Completion of the 28-month program, with absences in excess of thirty vacation days, twelve holidays, and seven personal/sick days being made up prior to graduation
- Completion of any and all financial obligations to MTSA
- Completion of the Financial Assistance Exit Interview for students who have borrowed FFELP Stafford loans while attending MTSA
- Participation in the graduation exercise, unless specific prior permission for graduation in absentia is granted by the Progressions Committee. Exceptions generally will not be made unless the circumstances preventing attendance are beyond the control of the student.

CREDENTIAL AWARDED

Upon satisfactory completion of the program of study at Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, the student is awarded a diploma with the degree of Master of Science (MS) with a focus in Nurse Anesthesia.

The student is then eligible to take the National Certification Examination under the direction of the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists (CCNA), an autonomous council of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). Upon successful completion of this examination, the graduate will bear the title of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).

LOCATION AND FACILITIES

ACADEMIC FACILITIES

The MTSA campus has offices and classroom facilities located in Madison, Tennessee. Teaching facilities include a technologically state-of-the-art lecture hall, two seminar rooms for study and small group use, a new student lounge, the Nelda Faye Ackerman Learning Resource Center (LRC), a computer lab with wireless internet service and 12-16 laptop computers, and clinical facilities of the affiliate hospitals. MTSA also has a Simulation Skills Center, which houses a realistic operating room with a computerized human patient simulator to enhance both academic and clinical education. The academic courses are conducted on the School's campus, adjacent to the former Tennessee Christian Medical Center, which is currently called Skyline Madison Campus.

CLINICAL FACILITIES

The desirability of providing students with enrichment to their learning experience through affiliations with other health care institutions is recognized by Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia. Accordingly, **ALL** students should be prepared to affiliate at institutions in the Nashville area **and** elsewhere. As of February 1, 2007, regular affiliations are conducted at the following institutions:

HOSPITAL	LOCATION
<i>Baptist Hospital</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<i>Bedford County Hospital</i>	<i>Shelbyville, TN</i>
<i>Blanchfield Army Community Hospital</i>	<i>Ft. Campbell, KY</i>
<i>Bowling Green Medical Center</i>	<i>Bowling Green, KY</i>
<i>Centennial Medical Center</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<i>Columbus Children's Hospital*</i>	<i>Columbus, OH</i>
<i>Crockett Hospital**</i>	<i>Lawrenceburg, TN</i>
<i>Gateway Medical Center</i>	<i>Clarksville, TN</i>
<i>Grant Medical Center****</i>	<i>Columbus, OH</i>
<i>Hendersonville Medical Center</i>	<i>Hendersonville, TN</i>
<i>Horizon Medical Center</i>	<i>Dickson, TN</i>
<i>Maury Regional Hospital</i>	<i>Columbia, TN</i>
<i>Metro Nashville General Hospital</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<i>Middle Tennessee Medical Center</i>	<i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>
<i>Norton Kosair Children's Hospital*****</i>	<i>Louisville, KY</i>
<i>Skyline Medical Center</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<i>Southern Hills Medical Center</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<i>Southern TN Medical Center***</i>	<i>Winchester, TN</i>
<i>St. Thomas Hospital</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<i>Summit Medical Center</i>	<i>Hermitage, TN</i>
<i>Vanderbilt University Medical Center</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>

When students affiliate at Columbus Children's Hospital, they will receive a "one-time travel expense" (\$300) from MTSA to help cover the cost of the trip to and from this institution. When students affiliate at Columbus Children's Hospital, they will also receive a "one-time dislocation expense" (\$200) from the anesthesia group at Columbus Children's Hospital. Living quarters are provided by the anesthesia group at no cost to the student while on affiliation at Columbus Children's. While students are on rotation at the Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, they take call and are given meal tickets by the anesthesia group there for days **when on call only.*

***When students affiliate at Crockett Hospital in Lawrenceburg, TN, they are provided a room and a dislocation allowance by the anesthesia group there. Students will also receive a "one-time travel expense" (\$100) from MTSA to help cover the cost of the trip to and from this institution.*

****When students affiliate at Southern TN Medical Center in Winchester, TN, they are provided a room by the anesthesia group there. Students will also receive a "one-time travel expense" (\$100) from MTSA to help cover the cost of the trip to and from this institution.*

*****When students affiliate at Grant Medical Center, they will receive a "one-time travel expense" (\$300) from MTSA to help cover the cost of the trip to and from this institution. Living quarters are provided by the anesthesia group there, at no cost to the student while on affiliation at Grant.*

******When students affiliate at Norton Kosair Children's Hospital, they will receive a "one-time travel expense" (\$150) from MTSA to help cover the cost of the trip to and from this institution. Living quarters are provided by the anesthesia group there, at no cost to the student while on affiliation at Kosair.*

All of the living quarters provided by any of these affiliates are ONLY for the use of the students currently rotating at those facilities. Living quarters are not provided for students' family members at any time, and these are the responsibility of the student and his or her family. If a student is not satisfied with the accommodations provided by any of these affiliates, he may make alternative arrangements at his own personal additional expense. Any other travel expenses and living expenses at out-of-town affiliations are the responsibility of the student.

Selected affiliates return a fee to MTSA when senior students rotate in their facility. This fee helps MTSA keep tuition lower for students.

MTSA retains the right to change affiliations or length of rotations at any time.

OPTIONAL AFFILIATES

MTSA recognizes that there are hospitals and anesthesia groups willing to give clinical instruction to students that cannot accommodate the entire student body of MTSA. For this reason, "Senior Electives" have been developed. Each student **must** participate in a Senior Elective taken during the last **three months** (last quarter) of the program. A Senior Elective fee must be paid by either the affiliate or the student. The actual fee for the quarter depends on the location chosen – \$3,000 if in the Nashville area or \$3,750 if outside the Nashville area and not already a full-time affiliate. The affiliate hospital agrees to have the position for a limited number of MTSA students. These facilities have the right to approve or disapprove student participation in the affiliation. Students seeking any time other than the last 3 months must submit a special written request to the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator.

Those requests made first, and with the hospitals already having contracts with MTSA, will be considered first. As of February 1, 2007, the following facilities have participated in the "Senior Elective" program in the past:

HOSPITAL	LOCATION
Anesthesiology Medical Group	Nashville, TN
Baptist Hospital	
Centennial Medical Center	
St. Thomas Hospital	
Summit Medical Center	
The Women's Center	
Athens-Limestone Hospital	Athens, AL
Baptist Hospital of East Tennessee	Knoxville, TN
Baptist Medical Center	Little Rock, AR
Baptist Medical Center South	Montgomery, AL
Baptist Memorial Hospital – Huntingdon	Huntingdon, TN
Baptist Memorial Hospital – Golden Triangle	Columbus, MS
Baptist Memorial Hospital – North Mississippi	Oxford, MS
Baptist Memorial Hospital – Union County	New Albany, MS
BMC Montclair & Princeton	Birmingham, AL
Brackenridge Hospital	Austin, TX
Candler Hospital	Savannah, GA
Cardiovascular Anesthesiology –	Nashville, TN
St. Thomas Hospital	
Claremore Hospital	Claremore, OK
Clark Regional Hospital	Winchester, KY
Central Baptist	Lexington, KY
Cookeville Regional Medical Center	Cookeville, TN
Crestwood Hospital	Huntsville, AL
Crockett Hospital	Lawrenceburg, TN
Cumberland Medical Center	Crossville, TN
DCH Regional medical Center	Tuscaloosa, AL
Decatur General Hospital	Decatur, AL
DeKalb Medical Center	Decatur, GA
Dr. Dan C. Trigg Memorial Hospital	Tucumcari, NM

<i>Eliza Coffee Memorial Hospital</i>	<i>Florence, AL</i>
<i>Erlanger Health Systems</i>	<i>Chattanooga, TN</i>
<i>Florida Hospital</i>	<i>Orlando, FL</i>
<i>Florida Hospital – Heartland Division</i>	<i>Sebring, FL</i>
<i>Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center</i>	<i>Knoxville, TN</i>
<i>Frank T. Rutherford Memorial</i>	<i>Carthage, TN</i>
<i>Garden Park Medical Center</i>	<i>Gulfport, MS</i>
<i>Grant Medical Center</i>	<i>Columbus, OH</i>
<i>Greenwood Leflore Hospital</i>	<i>Greenwood, MS</i>
<i>South Sunflower County Hospital</i>	
<i>Grove Health Cooperative</i>	<i>Redmond, WA</i>
<i>Gulf Coast Medical Center</i>	<i>Panama City, FL</i>
<i>G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery VA Medical Center</i>	<i>Jackson, MS</i>
<i>Hardin Memorial Hospital</i>	<i>Elizabethtown, KY</i>
<i>Hartou Regional Medical Center</i>	<i>Tulahoma, TN</i>
<i>Helen Keller Hospital</i>	<i>Sheffield, AL</i>
<i>Henry County Medical Center</i>	<i>Paris, TN</i>
<i>Horizon Medical Center</i>	<i>Dickson, TN</i>
<i>Houston Medical Center</i>	<i>Warner Robins, GA</i>
<i>Huguley Memorial Medical Center</i>	<i>Fort Worth, TX</i>
<i>Huntsville Hospital</i>	<i>Huntsville, AL</i>
<i>Jackson Clinic</i>	<i>Jackson, TN</i>
<i>Jackson Madison County General Hospital</i>	
<i>Jewish Hospital</i>	<i>Louisville, KY</i>
<i>LeBonheur Children’s Medical Center</i>	<i>Memphis, TN</i>
<i>Livingston Regional Hospital</i>	<i>Livingston, TN</i>
<i>Louisiana Heart Hospital</i>	<i>Lacombe, LA</i>
<i>Lourdes Hospital</i>	<i>Paducah, KY</i>
<i>Marymount Medical Center</i>	<i>London, KY</i>
<i>Medical Center at Bowling Green</i>	<i>Bowling Green, KY</i>
<i>Memorial Hospital</i>	<i>Chattanooga, TN</i>
<i>Memorial Hospital at Gulfport</i>	<i>Gulfport, MS</i>
<i>Methodist Healthcare – Volunteer Hospital</i>	<i>Martin, TN</i>
<i>Methodist Hospital of Memphis</i>	<i>Memphis, TN</i>
<i>Methodist Medical Center</i>	<i>Oak Ridge, TN</i>
<i>Memorial Mission Hospital</i>	<i>Asheville, NC</i>
<i>Miami Valley Hospital</i>	<i>Dayton, OH</i>
<i>Middle TN Medical Center</i>	<i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>
<i>Monroe County Hospital</i>	<i>Monroeville, AL</i>
<i>Morton Plant Hospital</i>	<i>Clearwater, FL</i>
<i>North Mississippi Medical Center</i>	<i>Tupelo, MS</i>
<i>Norton Hospital</i>	<i>Louisville, KY</i>
<i>Norton Suburban Hospital</i>	<i>Louisville, KY</i>
<i>Our Lady of Bellefonte</i>	<i>Ashland, KY</i>
<i>Park Plaza Medical Center</i>	<i>Houston, TX</i>
<i>Parkway Medical Center</i>	<i>Decatur, AL</i>
<i>Piedmont Hospital</i>	<i>Atlanta, GA</i>
<i>Providence-Yakima Medical Center</i>	<i>Yakima, WA</i>
<i>Regional Medical Center</i>	<i>Memphis, TN</i>
<i>Elvis Presley Trauma Center</i>	
<i>Riley Memorial Hospital</i>	<i>Meridian, MS</i>
<i>Sacred Heart Medical Center</i>	<i>Spokane, WA</i>
<i>Samaritan Hospital</i>	<i>Lexington, KY</i>
<i>Southern Hills Medical Center</i>	<i>Nashville, TN</i>
<i>Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center</i>	<i>McComb, MS</i>
<i>Sparks Medical Center</i>	<i>Ft. Smith, AR</i>

*Sumner Regional Medical Center
St. Joseph Hospital
St. Thomas West End Anesthesia
Taylor Regional Hospital
The Surgery Center of Huntsville
Trident Medical Center
United Hospital
University Hospital
VA TN Valley Healthcare System
Western Baptist Hospital
Wiregrass Hospital
Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital*

*Gallatin, TN
Memphis, TN
Nashville, TN
Campbellsville, KY
Huntsville, AL
Charleston, SC
St. Paul, MN
Jackson, MS
Nashville, TN
Paducah, KY
Geneva, AL
Yakima, WA*

To be eligible for consideration for a Senior Elective of his choice, the student **must** meet the following criteria:

1. Maintained an overall 3.0 GPA
2. No failures in any class
3. Above average clinical evaluations
4. Met or have the potential to meet all case requirements
5. No Progressions Committee action preventing student's participation
6. Specific permission from the Progressions Committee if the student has been on probation for any cause during his time in the program

Students not meeting these criteria will be assigned at one of the traditional affiliates and are personally responsible for the cost of the Senior Elective.

MTSA is willing to develop a Senior Elective with any large anesthesia group willing to offer specific clinical experience to students, and whose CRNAs and anesthesiologists are capable and desirous of becoming clinical instructors and are willing to enter into our senior elective contract agreement. The School does not provide living accommodations for students, so the affiliate or student is expected to cover this. The student is responsible for identifying the Senior Elective site of his choice and initiating contact with the anesthesia group no later than early in the senior year, as all final paperwork must be submitted to MTSA by February 1 of the senior year.

TUITION AND FEES

While these are current, the student can expect some changes prior to enrollment and as the program progresses. The appropriate tuition and fees are due in each period as outlined on page 32.

- ◆ \$50 Application fee (include with application).
- ◆ \$50 Re-application fee (**for each year a file remains active**). Those who have interviewed repeatedly (three - four times) and have not been accepted are strongly encouraged to apply elsewhere. If a candidate has been granted any type of admissions interview during more than four separate annual interview cycles, and the candidate has been denied a position as a student or as an alternate each time, the candidate may not be permitted to interview again. If a candidate has applied and been denied to receive any type of interview with the Admissions Committee, for more than six annual interview cycles, additional re-applications will no longer be accepted.
- ◆ \$3,500 non-refundable deposit – (fee set each year by the Board of Trustees or Finance Committee - to be submitted upon receipt of acceptance letter, if not an early acceptance). This deposit verifies your position in the class and applies toward Period I tuition.
- ◆ Textbooks – Students will purchase textbooks upon entrance into the program after MTSA sends the list of textbooks for the school year in which the student is accepted. Current approximate retail value of required textbooks is \$1,200 (prices subject to change).
- ◆ Tuition rates planned for 2007 (as of 2/12/07, but likely to be updated in July 2007): Period Ia: \$6,632 (in addition to the \$3500 non-refundable deposit already paid upon acceptance of a position into a class after interview). This amount is due and payable upon entry into MTSA. Period Ib: \$6,132; Period IIa: \$5,488; Period IIb: \$5,488; Period IIIa: \$5,568; Period IIIb: \$5,568. **Tuition rates for 2007 are currently under review and are expected to be finalized by July 2007. Please refer to the *2007 Student Handbook*, which will be published in July 2007, for the actual 2007 tuition rates.**

While it is projected the tuition will be as stated above, MTSA reserves the right to change tuition and fees on a year-to-year basis (between acceptance and enrollment for Period I and also in Periods II and III).

- ◆ \$200 Possible Liability Insurance Fee. A portion of tuition is directed toward liability insurance. This fee will not be charged unless there is an increase

in the second year liability insurance premium. If the increase is greater than \$200 MTSA will bear the increase.

- ◆ Ohio Nursing License* - After the student has been enrolled, late in the first year of school and before the student is scheduled to affiliate at Columbus Children's Hospital, an Ohio RN license must be obtained. Obtaining this license and meeting all the continuing education requirements for such licensure is the student's responsibility. The student is encouraged to obtain information about the licensure prior to enrollment. However, as a cost containment measure, the student should wait until the latter part of the first year (Spring-to-Summer) to actually apply for licensure. The student must have obtained this license and a copy must be given to the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator before the student affiliates at Columbus Children's Hospital or at Grant Medical Center. For further information, please refer to pages 6 and 7.
- ◆ Nursing license in other states* - Should the student desire to participate in any other out-of-state affiliate, or in a Senior Elective in any other state that is not one of the compact states, licensure in that state must be presented to MTSA prior to beginning that elective.

MTSA operates on a relatively tight, fixed budget. Its primary source of income is tuition. The tuition for each class is set in advance and is apt to fluctuate from year to year. Historically, the tuition increases approximately 10-12% each year, so students should make their financial plans accordingly. Student selection policy is designed to accept only those students the Admissions Committee believes have the ability and desire to complete the academic and clinical components of the program.

NO TUITION OR FEES WILL BE REFUNDED TO ANY STUDENT WITHDRAWING FROM THE PROGRAM OR TERMINATING AFTER REGISTRATION.

**As these fees are mandated by parties other than MTSA, the student will be responsible for payment of any fee increases.*

SUMMARY OF TUITION AND FEES (Revised 2/12/07)
Class of 2007-2009 (These are planned as of 2/12/07, but will be updated in July 2007)

	Period I(a) July 2007	Period I(b) Dec 2007	Period II(a) May 2008	Period II(b) Sept 2008	Period III(a) Feb 2009*	Period III(b) July 2009*	TOTALS
Tuition	\$6,632	\$6,132	\$5,488	\$5,488	\$5,568	\$5,568	\$34,876
Related Fees and Expenses	\$2,705	\$2,165	\$2,480	\$1,155	\$1,105	\$1,105	\$10,715
Deposit Paid Upon Admission	<\$3,500>						\$ 3,500
TOTAL	<\$ 9,337> \$12,837	\$8,297	\$7,968	\$6,643	\$6,673	\$6,673	\$49,091

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE:

***** SENIOR ELECTIVE *****	Sept/Oct/ Nov 2009	May be self-paid or affiliate paid	DUE: 9/15/09 Local \$3,000 Distance \$3,750	LOCAL \$3,000 DISTANCE \$3,750
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NOTE: The above period dates are timed to coincide with loan disbursements.

* Last three periods are **Bold and shaded light gray**, indicating when enrolled students can expect tuition change.

2007- 09 TUITION: \$34,876

2007- 09 FEES: \$10,715

2007- 09 TOTAL COST: \$49,091

*****Senior Elective cost is in addition to the total cost listed here**

This cost is usually paid by the elective affiliate group or site. However, if it is not paid by the elective affiliate group or site, it is the student's responsibility to pay this additional cost.

Included in Tuition, Fees and Expenses are fees for equipment, AANA dues, parking, EKG/ACLS-EP seminar, laboratory, library, board review exams, Valley Review, PreCheck and Clinical Record Tracking Service and graduation.

NOT included in tuition and fees are required items including, but not limited to, scrubs, palm pilot and related drug program, beeper, 4th (and additional) Comp Exam (if required), and molded ear piece, etc. See the *2007 Catalog/Other Expenses*, page 33 for further detail.

DETAIL OF TUITION AND FEES

Class of 2007-2009 (These are planned as of 2/12/07, but will be updated in July 2007)

	Period I (a) July 2007	Period I (b) Dec. 2007	Period II(a) May 2008	Period II (b) Sept. 2008	Period III (a) Feb. 2009	Period III (b) July 2009
TUITION:	\$6,632	\$6,132	\$5,488	\$5,488	\$5,568	\$5,568
FEES:						
ACLS/PALS/EKG	\$ 310		\$ 250			
Equipment	\$ 260	\$ 260	\$ 260			
AANA/TASNA *	\$ 150					
Parking *	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100
Laboratory	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750			
Learning Center	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125		
Drug Testing *	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60
Health Reports *	\$ 20		\$ 20			
Senior/SEE *	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60
Valley Review *	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500		
Accreditation *	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80
Medatrax *	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50
Pre-Check	\$ 60		\$ 45			
Dislocation	\$ 180	\$ 180	\$ 180	\$ 180	\$ 180	\$ 180
Graduation					\$ 225	\$ 225
Cert. Exam *					\$ 350	\$ 350
4th Comp **						
Deposit Paid	<\$3,500>					
TOTAL	<\$9,337> \$12,837	\$8,297	\$7,968	\$6,643	\$6,673	\$6,673

In addition to above:

**SENIOR
ELECTIVE
DETAIL**

September	May be self-paid or affiliate paid (See Note below)	DUE:
October		9/09
November 2009		Local \$3,000
		OR
		Distance \$3,750

(Last three periods are **Bold and shaded light gray**, indicating this is when **enrolled students can expect tuition will change.**)

NOTE: If elective is sponsored, group or affiliate will be billed directly from contract info supplied to the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator (Mitzi Birdwell).

If elective is self-pay, payment arrangements must be made with Business Office.

Payments must be received in full before graduation.

***As these fees are mandated by parties other than MTSA, the student will be responsible for payment of any fee increases.**

**Only if required to take a more than three comprehensive exams.

TOTAL TUITION: \$38,376
TOTAL TUITION AND FEES: \$49,091 + Senior Elective Fee

OTHER EXPENSES (areas of expense or related expenses not covered by tuition or School fees)

1. Each student is required to have a physical exam **during the months of April, May, or June prior to enrollment** and provide the MTSA Admissions Coordinator with all information required on the Health History form, including each of the following, **by June 30**:

The actual lab reports showing evidence of either immune or non-immune for the titers Rubella and Rubeola.

The actual lab reports giving evidence of positive Varicella titer drawn from a reputable laboratory with date and result, OR evidence of two Varicella vaccines given no less than one month apart and a post-vaccine titer. Any Varicella titer in the negative range (indicating no immunity) must have the Varivax vaccine in the two stage process. If the Varivax vaccine is indicated, it is the student's responsibility to obtain this vaccine and to provide documentation of such to the MTSA Admissions Coordinator prior to enrollment at MTSA.

Written documentation of completed series of three Hepatitis B vaccines or documentation of refusal of the vaccine (from physician's office).

Record of tetanus booster (from physician's office in the last seven years).

Documentation (the actual report) of completion of the currently CDC-required two-step TB skin test will be required within at least the twelve months prior to enrollment.

2. After enrollment into the program at MTSA, either an **annual** or every six-month single-step TB skin test will be required, **with documentation of results measured in millimeters** maintained at MTSA in the office of the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator. If results are positive, an annual negative chest x-ray is required. If the chest x-ray is required, it must be done at the student's additional expense, unless it is done through the Davidson County Health Department (see below). **NO TB skin tests are administered on-site at MTSA.**

During Broadfields Orientation in August, **ALL** students (**both newly admitted Juniors and the new Senior class members**) will be required to obtain a single-step TB skin test from the Davidson County Health Department in Nashville. This test **MUST** also be read at the Health Department. Each student will be required to present a signed release form (obtainable from MTSA's Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator) to the Health Department during testing. This will not only enable the Health Department to send the test

results directly to MTSA to be placed in each individual student's file, but will also indicate that MTSA is to be billed for this service, rather than the student. If test results are positive and the test was done at the Health Department, the student will not be charged any additional fee for the required follow-up chest x-ray, if done through the Health Department. If any additional follow-up treatment is required for positive findings, the Health Department will provide needed counseling and medication at no additional cost to the student. If a student does not have TB skin testing done through the Health Department, the student will be responsible for meeting the same testing and documentation requirements, but these will be entirely on the student's "off" time and at the student's personal additional expense.

Currently, students scheduled at St. Thomas may be required to have a TB skin test within the previous six months before their assignment begins.

3. Each student **must** provide evidence of medical insurance coverage upon enrollment, and **must maintain** coverage and documentation of such until graduation from MTSA. The office needs such evidence current **at all times** in the student's file.
4. Uniforms – At all times these are to be clean and fresh each day. Each student is required to own his own scrub clothes and to wear them where the clinical sites allow this. At all times, these scrubs are to be clean and fresh each day. Appropriate operating room apparel is furnished by some of the hospitals. Students are expected to abide by MTSA's complete dress code policy, which can be found on page 63.
5. Scrubs at Vanderbilt - Vanderbilt uses scrub vending machines. Each student scheduled there will be assigned an ID number by Vanderbilt. If the scrubs are not returned, the student may be charged for them.
6. Parking – Students will park only in authorized parking lots at all affiliating institutions. The parking spaces on each side of the lot adjacent to MTSA are primarily for the MTSA employees, faculty, and visitors. Students may use the parking spaces of the Madison Campus Seventh-day Adventist Church above the school. Parking on the grass and in "No Parking" areas is not allowed.

Vanderbilt parking - The fee the student submits to MTSA is paid by MTSA to Central Parking for a limited number of Vanderbilt parking cards/tags. These cards/tags are kept at MTSA by the Clinical Schedule & Contract Coordinator. They are to be signed out by students only if they have a scheduled Vanderbilt rotation. **The student is expected to pay a \$40.00 "lost park card" CASH deposit to the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator upon receipt of the park card. No checks will be accepted for this deposit.**

After the student's rotation at Vanderbilt ends, the student must sign the card and tag back in to the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator at MTSA, and she will return the "lost park card" deposit to the student and then will give the card and tag to the next student scheduled to be at Vanderbilt. The student is **not** to pass the card and tag on to another student, but must turn it in personally. The School will keep the "lost park card" deposit if the card and tag are not returned to the School within one week after the rotation has ended.

General Hospital parking is by parking pass. These passes are available only during the rotation and are distributed and collected by the General Hospital Anesthesia Department. Failure to return the pass will result in a replacement fee, which if not paid immediately, will be collected before graduation.

7. Meals – Meals are not provided. Arrangements for meals vary at each affiliation for seniors. Juniors returning to class from affiliates will be given adequate time for quick meals. The new student lounge is equipped with tables and chairs, microwave ovens, coffee makers and coffee cups, a sink, and a refrigerator. If students wish to bring their meals from home, they must provide their own dishes and utensils. As MTSA does not provide daily housekeeping services, students are expected to be responsible for keeping the student lounge tidy (i.e. placing one's trash in the garbage, wiping up spills, etc.)
8. Housing – It is the students' responsibility to find housing while attending MTSA, as no student housing is available.
9. Accommodations while taking call – While assigned on call, the student is required to stay within twenty minutes of any hospital at which he is on call. Some hospitals, but not all, provide a room for the student to stay in-house while taking call. If the hospital does not provide a room and the student's home is farther than twenty minutes from the hospital where he is assigned on call, the student is responsible to make his own arrangements for accommodations while taking call (i.e. staying with a classmate).
10. Molded earpiece – for the ear in which your hearing is best. Traditionally, MTSA has a company come to class during Broadfields Orientation to make earpieces. The charge is approximately \$50. If hearing is equal in both ears, it may be better to get your earpiece for the right ear, as the clinical instructor usually stands on the left side, allowing you to better hear instructions.
11. Protective eyewear (to be worn at all times in the operating rooms).
12. Technology requirements:
 - a. Nerve stimulator – approximately \$140 (7100 Microstim Plus: 1-800-638-7689). In recent years, pharmaceutical representatives have provided these at no cost to our students. If not provided, the student is responsible for the purchase. This is usually done in Broadfields Orientation.

- b. Pager. The student must wear his pager all day every weekday and during clinical, call, and class times. MTSA uses Satellink pagers, and a representative from Satellink will be available during Broadfields Orientation to assist students in setting up their pager accounts. All new students are required to obtain long-distance nationwide pagers.
- c. A mobile phone is required. As students travel to several affiliates, a mobile phone may be needed for emergency use. **It is the student's responsibility to keep the School updated with the current phone number at all times.**
- d. All students are required to have a working answering machine on their home telephone or mobile phone throughout the 28 months of the program.
- e. A home computer or laptop with high-speed internet access with the following recommended specifications: processor speed 1.8-2.0 GB, operating system Windows XP-Professional, and MS Office applications (including Word and Excel). Because of incompatibility with existing MTSA computers, Microsoft Works is **NOT** acceptable. While MTSA recognizes that students may prefer Apple computers, please be aware that MTSA only has PCs with Microsoft programs. We cannot, therefore, support any usage of Apple technology within the School. The computer must also have the capability to "hot sync" with the student's PDA (see item f. below).
- f. Recommended but optional - Portable Digital Assistant (PDA) with the following specifications: Palm O/S with expandable memory. This should be adequate to support any drug programs the student buys in addition to the Medatrax clinical record program to be used throughout the program.

As of January 25, 2007, Medatrax has supplied MTSA with the following list of the PDAs that they recommend for compatibility with their programs:

TOP PALMS

Palm 700w	WINDOWS OS
Palm 700wx	WINDOWS OS
Palm 700p	Palm OS
Palm 680	PALM OS
Palm E2	PALM OS
Palm z22	PALM OS
Palm Lifedrive	Palm OS
Palm T5	Palm OS

TOP IPAQ's & Dells

<ANY WINDOWS MOBILE OS 5 device> (for example: IPAQ 2490, DELL X51v)

NOT supported

<ANY Windows Mobile 5.0 for Smartphones Device> (for example: BLACKJACK)
Palm TX

For ALL PDA questions, please refer to the Medatrax-Suggested

REFERENCE: www.brighthand.com or call Medatrax at (931) 468-2653 or (931) 468-3049.

As technology changes frequently, MTSA cannot provide any guarantee that PDAs currently owned by applicants will be compatible with Medatrax. MTSA **strongly** recommends that applicants **not** purchase a new PDA specifically for use at MTSA until they are accepted into the upcoming class and have attended the required Orientation Day session in May prior to their enrollment.

13. Random drug screening (any for-cause drug screens requested will be at an additional cost to the student).
14. AANA/TASNA dues – The required associate membership charge for students in the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) is \$100. Also, the AANA charges graduates an additional dues fee of \$100 for graduate associate membership until they successfully pass the National Certification Examination. The Tennessee Association of Student Nurse Anesthetists (TASNA) charges a one-time dues fee of \$25 to be collected from each student enrolled in a nurse anesthesia educational program in Tennessee.

Housing should be easily accessible to the following local institutions where students take call: Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Hendersonville Medical Center, Skyline Medical Center, and Metropolitan Nashville General Hospital. Students may be required to take call at other out-of-town affiliates at some time in the program.

The School does **not** pay student stipends. Dislocation allowances may be provided by affiliations in some distant Senior Elective sites. For specific details of dislocation allowances and travel allowances provided for selected affiliates, please refer to page 25.

HEALTH

If accepted, each applicant is required to undergo a complete physical examination during the months of April, May, or June prior to enrollment, using forms furnished by MTSA. These forms are mailed to applicants once they have been accepted into a class. The physical examination form must be completed and returned to MTSA's Admissions Coordinator by June 30. **MTSA reserves the right to deny admittance of a student if the physical examination or health information deems that the person would be incapable of completing the program.**

If accepted, each applicant must have a recent complete physical examination (within the months of April, May, or June prior to enrollment) and be in a state of satisfactory physical and mental health. **The report by the physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner must include lab reports documenting titers for varicella, rubella, rubeola, and hepatitis.** This report must show evidence of either immune or non-immune Rubella, Rubeola titers. This report must also include actual lab reports giving evidence of positive varicella titer drawn from a reputable laboratory with date and result, OR evidence of two varicella vaccines given no less than one month apart and a post-vaccine titer. Any varicella titer in the negative range (indicating no immunity) must have the Varivax vaccine in the two stage process. If the Varivax vaccine is indicated, it is the student's responsibility to obtain this vaccine and to provide documentation of such to the MTSA admissions office prior to enrollment at MTSA. Written documentation of the completed series of three Hepatitis B vaccines or documentation of refusal of the vaccine must also be included in this report. The report also must document a record of tetanus booster within the last seven years.

Documentation of completion of the currently CDC-required two-step TB skin test will be required within at least the twelve months prior to enrollment. Currently, students scheduled at St. Thomas may be required to have a TB skin test within the previous six months before their assignment begins. For more detailed information about TB skin testing requirements after enrollment into the program at MTSA, please refer to page 33.

The student must provide documentation of a tetanus vaccination within the last seven years and a hepatitis vaccination.

The health history, physical exam, and all lab reports must be submitted to MTSA's Admissions Coordinator by June 30, prior to enrollment.

All student health records may be shared with appropriate personnel at any clinical affiliate, if requested. Students must sign a release of information form. In keeping with MTSA's drug free environment, applicants will be required to sign a statement relative to substance abuse prior to interview and enrollment and are expected to refrain from substance abuse as students. Students are expected to be good citizens; consequently, all applicants are required to sign a form indicating any conviction of a felony other than a minor traffic violation.

Per requirements from some clinical affiliates, all students will receive drug testing after enrollment. The cost for this initial testing is included in the fees set by MTSA. Students should also plan on receiving random drug testing, the cost for which is also already included in the fees charged each student. Additionally, MTSA reserves the right to request additional "for-cause" drug testing at any time. If additional "for-cause" drug testing is requested by MTSA, it will be performed at the student's expense. If any drug screen gives a non-negative result, additional review by a medical review officer (MRO) will be required. In all cases, the additional cost of the MRO review will be the student's responsibility.

MTSA does **not** assume the student's medical care, the cost for medical care, nor provide health insurance. **The student must provide evidence of basic health insurance to the School within the first week of school, or he will not be allowed to attend clinical.**

MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

Students are required to participate in the program for student malpractice coverage carried by the School with The State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company underwriters, which provides basic limits of liability of \$1,000,000 per incident with an aggregate of \$3,000,000. The cost of the basic premium can fluctuate. For the first year, a basic premium has been included in the tuition. Should the second year basic premium increase, the student will be charged a fee in the amount of the increase only, up to \$200. Should the increase be greater than \$200, MTSA will cover the additional increase. Should it be determined that the actual limits of this basic insurance need to be increased, the student will be asked to cover the actual cost of this increase.

STUDENT FINANCIAL PLANNING

Enrollment in a 28-month continuous course of full-time study during a period of extremely limited financial income may place immense strain on students and their families. Financial difficulties can have an adverse effect on academic endeavors. Applicants are advised to plan their sources of financial support very carefully prior to entry into the program, since most students are able to work very little, if at all, throughout the program. In light of this 28-month period of drastically decreased income, applicants who are accepted to MTSA should plan to adjust their lifestyles accordingly. Although the Admissions Committee prefers that applicants be financially stable, the following information should prove helpful in financial planning:

- Some anesthesia groups are willing to sponsor students attending MTSA. For additional information, contact the Student Finance Office. Students should be aware that such sponsorship may affect eligibility for alternative loans as discussed below.
- Students who intend to return to their own locality to work after graduation are encouraged to seek sponsorship from anesthesia groups or hospitals in that area. Please be aware that such sponsorship may affect eligibility for alternative loans as discussed below.
- Part-time employment by a student is permissible only if prior approval has been obtained from the Dean. Failure to maintain satisfactory grades and clinical performance levels will give cause for permission for part-time employment to be denied or withdrawn. It is advised that students do **not** work during the first three quarters. After this period, a suggested maximum is two shifts per week.
- Students are encouraged to investigate various civic, church and state agencies in their state of residence to determine if there are grant or scholarships funds available for graduate level studies. Such funds are limited, but are available in certain instances.

NOTE: Anesthesia students may not be employed by title or function as nurse anesthetists during the 28-month program.

In May, prior to enrollment in July, admitted students are **required** to attend an Orientation Workshop at MTSA. In addition to thorough information regarding the student financial assistance process, admission, academic and other information pertinent to new student enrollment is covered in detail. Students who desire further information or counseling in regard to loans, grants, or financial planning are invited to contact the school office to schedule an appointment with the Interim Student Finance Coordinator.

To be considered for financial assistance, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA) twice during the 28-month program at MTSA. The FAFSA is completed the first time prior to enrollment at MTSA. Then, prior to the beginning of the second 9-month Enrollment Period, the FAFSA must be completed the second time. When applying for Financial Aid, the MTSA School Code is 007783-00.

Following are some of the financial assistance programs available to MTSA students:

- Federal Stafford Loan

Beginning July 1, 2007, the amount of \$20,500 may be borrowed every nine months (3 times during the 28-month program). Up to the amount of \$8,500 is available for a **subsidized** Stafford Loan. The Federal government pays the interest on behalf of the student during the time the student is enrolled in the program for a **subsidized** Stafford Loan. The amount of the **subsidized** Stafford Loan is based on the needs analysis information received by MTSA from the FAFSA information. All \$20,500 (minus any **subsidized** funds received) is available through an **unsubsidized** Stafford Loan. The student is responsible for the interest that accrues on an **unsubsidized** Stafford Loan during the time the student is enrolled. Since the **unsubsidized** Stafford Loan is not based on financial need, all students who have completed the FAFSA will qualify for **unsubsidized** funds even if they do not qualify for the **subsidized** Stafford Loan. Disbursement of each Stafford Loan check is made in two equal payments. The first payment is at the beginning of the Enrollment Period, and second is at approximately the half-way point of the specific Enrollment Period.

- Grants

Some limited grant assistance may be available to MTSA students. MTSA makes application annually to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Any funds received from HRSA are distributed to currently enrolled students.

- Alternative Loans

Additional loan funds may be available to MTSA students through the alternative loan programs offered by the lenders on the MTSA Preferred Lender List. This information is discussed in detail during the Orientation Workshop, or may be obtained from the Student Finance Office. Students must complete the FAFSA and apply for the full **subsidized** and **unsubsidized** Stafford Loan prior to consideration for any alternative loan funds.

Any sponsorship received by the student will be considered as an alternative loan amount, thus reducing eligibility for alternative funds from a lender source.

Disbursement of each Alternative Loan check is made in two equal payments. The first payment is at the beginning of the Enrollment Period, and the second is at approximately the half-way point of the specific Enrollment Period.

- **Military Assistance:**

The various military programs offer financial assistance to students in exchange for service following completion of the Program. This assistance is explained in detail during the Orientation Workshop. Additional information is available through the Student Finance Office.

Prior to disbursement of funds, all students must complete the Entrance Interview process. This is done by accessing <http://www.mapping-your-future.org/> and completing the Entrance Interview process. MTSA is then notified via email of the student's completion of the process.

Prior to graduation, all students who have obtained student loans during their studies at MTSA must complete the Exit Interview process. This is done by accessing <http://www.mapping-your-future.org/> and completing the Exit Interview process. MTSA is then notified via email of the student's completion of the process.

MTSA is very proud of its extremely low default rate. The current MTSA default rate is 0%. In connection with this, the exit interview stresses loan repayment for students who are recipients of Stafford Loans.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

On enrollment day, the Dean will review and summarize all costs, schedules, and obligations, and will issue and discuss the salient features of the 2007 Student Handbook. Students will sign the Enrollment Contract and pay the Period 1A tuition. Late enrollment is not permitted without special President's Council or Progressions Committee approval. Students will be asked to review the Release of Information Policy and sign the consent form, and will also be made aware of HIPAA policies related to patient data collection for educational purposes.

Each student should be aware that there will be **two** student handbooks issued during the program, one at the beginning of the program and one at the beginning of the second year. While changes are rare, except moderate tuition increases or changes, **students MUST abide by the most current student handbook**, unless otherwise noted, including abiding by the most current tuition and fee changes. The student will be notified of financial changes in advance.

WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

Anyone considering withdrawal from MTSA must meet with a faculty committee prior to withdrawal to retain the option of possible readmission. The Dean is to be notified of intent to withdraw and will assemble a committee of faculty members to discuss the withdrawal with the student. Any withdrawal without a prior meeting with a special faculty committee will be considered permanent.

REFUND POLICY

THERE ARE NO REFUNDS OF TUITION OR FEES TO STUDENTS WITHDRAWING OR TERMINATING AFTER REGISTRATION.

HOMELAND SECURITY POLICY

In the event of a regional or national crisis, MTSA has agreed with the Public Health Department that its junior students, on non-clinical mornings, may be called upon to help in nursing activities requiring RN's (i.e., vaccination in the event of a bioterrorist attack).

RN TO FULL-TIME STUDENT TRANSITION

Enrollment in a 28-month continuous course of full-time study during a period of extremely limited financial income may place immense strain on students and their families. Financial difficulties can have an adverse effect on academic endeavors. Applicants are advised to plan their sources of financial support very carefully prior to entry into the program, since most students are able to work very little, if at all, throughout the program. In light of this 28-month period of drastically decreased income, applicants who are accepted to MTSA should plan to adjust their lifestyles accordingly.

RN TO NURSE ANESTHETIST TRANSITION

While all students accepted into MTSA have had acute critical care nursing experience, this experience has been received in a wide variety of hospital settings. Traditionally in the settings from whence students have come, hospitals schedule nurses on shifts with each nurse reporting to the oncoming nurses at the end of their shift, and then being able to leave at a predictable time. Because most surgery schedules vary in number of cases on a daily basis and on the varying length of cases, most anesthesia scheduling is not handled as it has been in other nursing environments. Typically, a CRNA, much like an anesthesiologist (MDA), accepts a job, not a shift. It is expected that the anesthesia provider (CRNA or MDA) will work until the job for the day is done, or until the surgery schedule has reached the point that the "late" or "call" team can cover the cases.

As a CRNA or MDA, if the cases are finished by 10:00 in the morning, unless you are designated as the "late" or "call" person, oftentimes your job for the day is completed. On the other hand, if more cases last late into the night than the "late" or "call" person(s) can handle, the other anesthesia providers are expected to stay until the work is done. Employers are cognizant of the actual number of anesthesia providers needed to complete the tasks in a reasonable number of hours.

As described, in your transition from RN to CRNA, students will be adjusting to having hours patterned after the physicians' hours, rather than after the nurses' hours. Also, when students are at selected affiliates such as Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Columbus Children's Hospital, and Grant Medical Center, they will be working with physician anesthesia residents who have never had the scheduling of hours nurses have. Their expected hours will still be longer than MTSA students. Students should be aware of the residents' longer hours and be patient with them as they learn to understand student nurse anesthetists' hours. At some affiliates, such as Columbus Children's Hospital and Grant Medical Center, student nurse anesthetists from MTSA may work with student nurse anesthetists from other nurse anesthesia programs.

Other nurse anesthesia programs may have different expectations of clinical hours for their students; however, MTSA students are expected to abide by MTSA's clinical pattern as described here.

Junior students should maintain a relatively fixed schedule of coming to clinical every other morning and class every Monday through Thursday afternoon. The expectation is that students will be able to come to class every day that class is scheduled. If a junior student ever needs to be late or miss any part of a class due to unforeseen clinical situations, the absence will be excused and any tests or quizzes will be rescheduled, pending discussion and explanation of such with the Academic Coordinator and the scheduled academic instructor.

As seniors, the class load decreases, and clinical expectations increase where students function more as CRNAs described in the above paragraphs. If students are assigned to a hospital and the cases are finished early, most likely they will be dismissed early. On the other hand, if students are assigned to a facility and the cases last longer than an assigned block of time, they are expected to function as a CRNA until relief is available.

In past years, the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) suggested that an average of 60 hours per week be maintained. Today's COA requirement is that the hours be "reasonable." Students will affiliate in some sites where they have long hours; however, they will also be assigned to sites where the hours are much shorter. MTSA expects that students' hours at any given site should not exceed an average of 60 hours per week. MTSA tracks actual hours spent in clinical by a specialized, self-reported tracking service, Medatrax, to assure overall obligated time is not excessive. These must be completed by each student in a timely manner, within two weeks of the performance of the anesthetic, or the student will be asked to take a comp day to come to the facility to complete these.

MTSA and its affiliates make schedules for students with their monthly time randomly averaged in each affiliate (time taken from the CCNA CLINICAL RECORD) to assure that hours are reasonable. At Vanderbilt, the students may be asked to actually clock in and out to keep track of their time.

As it is MTSA's aim to prepare students both in academic and clinical knowledge and experience to become a CRNA, MTSA also chooses to orient the student to the time commitment and expectations of the CRNA. These time commitments will be different from typical nursing hours.

ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL STANDARDS

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

- ◆ High academic standards must be maintained. A minimum of 70% scholastic achievement in each academic course is required. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.
- ◆ Students must successfully complete all assigned affiliations.
- ◆ There will be three MTSA faculty-composed Comprehensive Examinations regularly administered to assist in the evaluation of the student's knowledge in the field of anesthesia. These are typically scheduled in April and August. The percentile score from the nationally-administered Self-Examination Examination (SEE), which is composed by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists (CCNA), will be averaged with the score from the first Comprehensive Examination. This averaged score will be the one recorded for the first Certification Examination grade. Each junior student will be **required to take the SEE exam during July or August**, near the end of the junior year. The CCNA reports the SEE exam scores to the School. Once MTSA receives SEE exam results on all students in a class, MTSA will notify students of their scores on the SEE. The second and third comprehensive examinations are primarily composed by a faculty member of MTSA. The student is required to attain a passing score of 70% on two out of the three regularly scheduled Comprehensive Examinations or attain an average score of 70% on all three regular examinations.

In the event that a student fails to attain a passing score of 70% on two of the three regularly scheduled Comprehensive Examinations or fails to attain an average score of 70% on all three regular examinations, he may be allowed to take continuing special examinations. The cost for taking the first special examination is \$100. If needed, special comprehensive examinations may be administered at monthly intervals following the third regular examination. However, the fee for any additional comprehensive examinations will double each time (i.e. the second additional examination is \$200; the third additional examination is \$400, etc.).

In any additional examinations, the student must either:

- a. Pass both the final special examination and one of the regular examinations with a score on both not less than 70%; or,
- b. Make a passing average of 70% calculated by averaging the two highest regular examination scores and the score on any special examination.

If these conditions are met, the student is allowed to graduate with his class. If the student fails to attain a passing score on the regularly administered comprehensive examination and the special additional comprehensive examinations administered prior to graduation, the student may not be allowed to graduate with his class. However, with the permission of the Progressions Committee, the student may extend in the program and continue to take special additional comprehensive examinations scheduled at monthly intervals until the conditions of passing two, or an average of 70% on three, comprehensive examinations are met. If the student needs to extend in the program, he will continue to have clinical assignments and pay additional pro-rated tuition, as well as the increasing special examination fees discussed above, during this time. During the time between comprehensive exams, even though the student is studying for the comprehensive exam, the student will continue to have clinical assignments.

- ◆ Each student is carefully evaluated for academic achievement and clinical performance on a regular and continuing basis. Academic grades are published quarterly. Clinical practicum evaluations are received from each affiliation, reflected on the official transcripts as letter grades, and used in tabulating the final grade point average. During the program, the student will receive both an academic transcript and a clinical transcript. The clinical transcript will be delayed approximately two months behind the quarter's end. Both are merged at the end of the program to give a cumulative academic/clinical grade point average. Students shall be advised by a CRNA faculty member concerning their academic and clinical progress no less than three times per year.
- ◆ Advancement of each student to the next higher level of anesthesia training and responsibility is made at quarterly intervals by the Progressions Committee, with faculty recommendation.

Each student will receive a quarterly grade sheet (MTSA Transcript) reflecting academic and clinical progress, with current and cumulative GPAs. Comprehensive examinations will be reflected on the transcript.

The MTSA Grading Scale is based on the following 4.0 grading system:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = 50-59%
- I = Incomplete*

*An Incomplete may be given if any of the following three conditions is met:

1. A course is scheduled to begin in one quarter and to end in another.
2. An instructor or a student is unable to complete a course in one quarter and must complete the course at a later time. This requires special permission from the Dean.
3. Any Incomplete on the transcript must be completed before graduation. No student may graduate with an Incomplete on the transcript.

W Withdrew

WP Withdrew passing

WF Withdrew failing

Prob/C Probation due to unsatisfactory Clinical Performance

Prob/A Probation due to unsatisfactory Academic Performance

Prob/O Probation due to Other Considerations

S Suspension

(Involuntary withdrawal from either the Academic or Clinical program for a period determined by the School.)

T Terminated

(Involuntary withdrawal from the School indefinitely.)

- ◆ Transcripts are given to students on a quarterly basis. The **target dates** for these transcripts for **juniors** is expected to be no later than the end of the month following the end of each academic quarter. The target dates for **seniors** may vary slightly due to seniors' deadlines for submission of case studies. The senior case study is a major paper which will be completed throughout the senior year. The initial plan for the case study will be due by a specified date in January. The first draft will then be due by a specified date near the end of February. These two submissions will comprise a portion of the academic grade for the sixth quarter. The second draft of the case study will be due by a specified date in April. This submission will comprise a portion of the academic grade for the seventh quarter. The final paper will be due by a specified date in July. This submission will comprise a portion of the academic grade for the eighth quarter. For more details regarding penalties for late submissions of case study segments, please refer to page 54.
- ◆ Attendance at announced TANA meetings, specific group functions, and evening lectures by guest speakers is mandatory for all students, unless the student is on vacation, call, or at an out-of-town affiliation.
- ◆ Students must keep a current Tennessee nursing license or Nurse Licensure Compact license on file in the office of MTSA's Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator.

ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL SUMMARY

The first 6 weeks of the program is an intense session called “Broadfields Orientation,” where students have class every day, Monday through Friday. This culminates in a two-day demonstration of skills in three affiliate hospitals.

Upon enrollment on the first day of Broadfields Orientation, students are divided into two groups, A and B, typically alphabetically. This division is for clinical assignments in the first (junior) year. Clinical assignments are on an **every other morning basis for the first year**. For example, group A will be assigned to clinical each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning, and on Sunday if there is a “call assignment” for the first week. During the second week, group A will have a Tuesday and Thursday schedule, which will include Saturday if there is a “call assignment” that week. There are two to three places where the junior has a call assignment; however, this call is within the rotating days as described above.

After Broadfields Orientation, there are four quarters (11 weeks each) of class. During the first (junior) year, students have class every afternoon/evening, Monday through Thursday. Students of the past requested to have no Friday classes, preferring rather to have longer classes the other four days, thus allowing every other weekend, when there is no clinical assignment, to have a long weekend off. This was done on a trial basis, evaluated through several cycles, and now has been instituted.

First quarter begins immediately following the completion of the six-week Broadfields Orientation session. Second quarter immediately follows first quarter and proceeds for about four weeks until Christmas, when a two-week break in **class** is scheduled. During this two-week period, each junior student will have **one** week of **earned** vacation prescheduled. While group A is on vacation every day during that first week, group B has an all day, every day clinical assignment. The second week, group B is on vacation while group A has the all day, every day clinical assignments.

Second quarter then continues in January, and the students have another two-week break in classes between second and third quarter in February. Here, each student takes the second **one** week of prescheduled **earned** vacation, again alternating vacation and full clinical between groups A and B. Between third and fourth quarters, in May, each student will also have a two-week break in class, and each will take the third prescheduled **one** week of vacation on an alternating basis between groups A and B.

During the breaks in class, **if the student is not on vacation, he will be in a clinical assignment**. These days described above are those 15 days of vacation granted in the first year.

At the beginning of the second year (near the end of August), which coincides with the end of the fourth quarter, **MTSA** will again schedule each student the first **one** week of their earned senior year vacation. **One** week of senior vacation is to be scheduled later during the senior year by each student, in consultation with and with the approval of the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator. The final one week of vacation will be pre-scheduled prior to beginning of senior elective.

Currently, clinical experience for Juniors is at Baptist Hospital, Bedford County Hospital, Centennial Medical Center, Hendersonville Medical Center, General Hospital, Skyline Medical Center, Gateway Medical Center, Horizon Medical Center, Maury Regional Hospital, St. Thomas Hospital, Summit Medical Center, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center. These sites may vary somewhat, but have been very stable, as most facilities truly enjoy having anesthesia students. Clinical assignments begin at the completion of Broadfields Orientation, typically at the end of August or the beginning of September. In their junior year, students typically change rotations on a monthly basis. Senior rotation sites vary in length, with the maximum being approximately four months.

There is one course in the senior year, Senior Board Review, in addition to the Valley Review Seminar. Seniors have clinical assignments all day, every day.

CLINICAL STANDARDS:

◆ Clinical Evaluations of Students by Instructors:

Juniors:

Clinical evaluations are used to determine advancement to the next clinical level and to give the student immediate feedback on his progress. While students may do more than one case each day they are assigned in clinical, each clinical day all students are expected to receive an evaluation from a clinical instructor on at least **one** case utilizing MTSA's official Daily Evaluation Tool. Students may choose to be evaluated on more than one case, or the instructor may wish to evaluate the student on more than one case. The tool is color-coded according to the student's level in the program. The reverse side of the tool lists the clinical performance expectations for students at each level. This tool will be used all month. The tool is reviewed and revised periodically.

Evaluations of students' clinical performance by instructors is subjective; however, instructors are aware of the expectations of students at each level and are able to judge students by those expectations and by comparing performance of students within a given class, and within classes at the same level in the past. Students should be aware that the purpose of the tool is not just to log how well the student is doing (as important as positive feedback is), but to note specifically where they

need to improve. Students should utilize every opportunity to seek advice about how to improve.

The tool is simple. Each color-coded sheet has room for a limited number of cases to be evaluated, each containing only case number and date which the student fills out, and a place for instructors to give general comments and to list specifically any areas where improvements are needed. There is also an area for the instructor's signature beside each case entry. More than one sheet per month will likely be needed.

The completed sheets should be stapled together and returned to the MTSA Clinical Evaluation Coordinator at the end of each month. **Students should make two copies of these sheets, one to leave with the affiliate coordinator at the end of the affiliation, and the other to retain for their own records prior to turning them in.**

When the affiliate clinical coordinator who is responsible for submitting a clinical numerical grade to the school completes the monthly summary (Narrative Evaluation of Performance - green sheet), he or she will return it to the School. The daily evaluation tool sheet will contain all instructors' comments about the student's clinical performances while rotating with the instructors and is very beneficial in determining the students' final evaluation grade for the month.

In most institutions, the clinical coordinator completes the summary green sheet completed after the student leaves and then sends it to the School for the student to read and sign. However, should students question the summary evaluation or wish to talk to the instructor who completed the summary, they may call him or her. Students are also free to make their own comments on the back of the summary sheet.

Seniors:

Seniors are expected to seek evaluations from clinical instructors using the MTSA daily evaluation tool as described above. The exceptions to the use of this tool are the following sites, where MTSA has approved an alternate evaluation system:

- Columbus Children's Hospital

- Vanderbilt University Medical Center

- Vanderbilt University Medical Center O.B. (They provide an alternate tool that the student keeps, and then turns in a copy of the completed alternate tool to MTSA).

- Vanderbilt Children's Hospital

Refer to the section under *Penalties* in the *2007 Catalog*, beginning on page 72 for not adhering to this policy.

◆ Special Card System:

MTSA has developed a “card system” to assist in the evaluation process of all students, both juniors and seniors. Giving these cards is the prerogative of each instructor. The following are suggestions regarding when and why these cards may be given.

The first card is the “Commendation Card” (green card). Green cards are to be completed by an instructor to acknowledge outstanding performance in any area. These are to be submitted directly to the School and are to be discussed at the quarterly Clinical Faculty meeting.

The next card developed is the “Area Needing Improvement Card” (yellow card). From time to time, a student’s performance may not be quite as advanced as the instructor feels it should be for the student’s level in the program. Also, if the instructor has seen several students at the same level and their performance is significantly better than the student being evaluated, the instructor is asked to identify specific areas in writing where the student can improve. These yellow cards are to be submitted directly to MTSA, and will be discussed at the quarterly Clinical Faculty meeting.

The final card developed is a “Critical Incident Card” (red card). Instructors determining that the student’s level of performance is below that level acceptable for this stage in the program according to the Quarterly Objectives on the back of the sheet, and that the performance could or would have caused significant morbidity or mortality without intervention, are asked to complete this card. **They must have the student sign it and send it directly to the School.** To receive a Critical Incident Card is very serious. At the Quarterly Clinical Faculty Meeting all Critical Incident Cards will be discussed. Each affiliate is invited to have a representative present at this meeting. Each student’s quarterly performance at each affiliate is discussed in these meetings.

Faculty from the institution where the student is to affiliate during the next quarter will likely be present as well. If no faculty from the student’s next affiliate is present, the Clinical Faculty Committee identifies areas of significant weakness, and the Clinical Coordinator at the student’s next scheduled affiliate is made aware of the area and is asked to devise methods of helping the student improve.

Receipt of Critical Incident Cards can lead to probation, or in extreme cases, such as an affiliate site’s refusal to allow the student to continue in that rotation, termination.

All cards will become part of the student's permanent file. A letter grade for clinical performance will be recorded on the transcript. Information used in tabulating this grade follows the section regarding Clinical Case Records because clinical evaluations, care plans, paperwork, and faculty review of performance are utilized in this grade.

During quarterly Clinical Faculty meetings, daily case evaluations, any cards, and general observations about each student are discussed. Any recommendations by that committee are given to the Progressions Committee. The Progressions Committee makes the final decision relative to any action regarding performance. Should it be determined that there may be a negative decision by the Progressions Committee (i.e., probation), the student will be offered the opportunity to discuss his performance with the Progressions Committee, prior to any decision.

◆ Clinical Care Plan Submission

Juniors:

Students are required to do care plans on all patients. Depending on the student's level, these plans may vary from complete written plans to verbal plans. All care plans must be submitted as directed.

For first and second quarters, juniors are expected to do an in-depth written care plan on each patient for whom an advance assignment is made. If a junior only receives the assignment the morning he arrives in clinical, he is expected to do a "modified written care plan," to include review of systems, blood volume and tolerated loss, fluid calculations and drug calculations (front of form). At a minimum, all juniors must discuss a verbal care plan with the instructor prior to starting the case. During these first two quarters, juniors must submit **one care plan per clinical day to MTSA for a grade**. If the care plan for the case has only been a modified plan (front of form) or verbal plan, it must be converted to a complete written care plan. **During third and fourth quarters**, each junior will turn in a complete written care plan **once per week**. They will continue to have a minimum of a verbal care plan on all cases.

Care plans may be submitted to the Clinical Evaluation Coordinator at MTSA anytime during the month. They will be forwarded appropriately for grading. The deadline for turning in care plans for any one month is the 15th of the following month. All students not adhering to this deadline will receive a ZERO for the care plan portion of the clinical grade that month. Failing to submit these plans on a timely basis can seriously impact the clinical grade for the quarter. The grades on these plans will be factored into each quarter's clinical grade. After the fourth quarter is completed, juniors become seniors.

Seniors:

As seniors, each student will submit one major case study for academic grades, rather than submitting daily or weekly care plans. A case study is an in-depth analysis of an anesthetic administered by the student at the **first** assigned specialized rotation during the senior year. This is to be a typewritten, double-spaced paper of 20 – 25 pages. All references must be cited in the case study, and a complete Reference List included at the conclusion of the paper. At least 15 different references must be cited, and at least ten of these references must be to research articles in peer-reviewed journals. The Case Study format follows specific required guidelines, which will be presented to students near the end of the junior year. The written guidelines presented then may supersede these.

The case study will be submitted in stages. All senior students will be required to select a patient to whom they have provided the anesthesia care during their **first** assigned specialty rotation. The specialty rotations include Intrathoracic anesthesia, Obstetrical anesthesia, Pediatric anesthesia, Regional anesthesia (excluding IV Regional Block), and Major surgical (Trauma, neuro, major vascular) anesthesia. All seniors will have begun their first specialty rotation by December of their senior year. Following is the basic submission schedule for all case studies:

- Early January during the senior year – the basic plan for the case study, to include patient selected, procedure and type of anesthesia performed, and diagnostic studies completed
- Late February during the senior year – the first draft of the paper
- Mid-to late April during the senior year – the second draft
- Late July during the senior year – the final case study

Each case study segment assigned **must** be submitted by the specified date due, which will be announced to each class. If each assigned portion of the case study is not submitted on or before the specified deadlines, ten percent will be deducted for each additional week beyond the deadline, until the assigned segment is submitted to the MTSA Clinical Evaluation Coordinator. If the assigned segments are not submitted by one month beyond the deadline, in addition, the student will be removed from his clinical rotation and also charged one personal day for every additional day required to submit the assignment. The **only** exceptions to the deadline penalties will be if the student has taken the initiative to obtain special exemption from the **Dean only**, prior to the initial deadline. Each case study segment assigned will be progressive, so subsequent assignments will build upon prior assigned segments. Late submissions of any assigned segment, even with special arrangements or exemption from the Dean, will **not** delay subsequent deadlines for other assigned segments.

For all other anesthetic cases, it is required that the students at least complete a verbal care plan, although it is recommended that the student complete a written care plan. These written care plans will not be submitted to MTSA for grading purposes.

◆ Completion of Time Segment of Monthly Student Clinical Case Records:

The “time” segment of the record, Section XVI, is of importance in documenting the obligated or committed time to the program of anesthesia, and specifically in documenting numbers of clinical hours. MTSA is especially interested in the following information:

- a. actual time students spend doing cases (anesthesia time)
- b. time students spend making pre and post anesthesia visits
- c. time obligated in the clinical area but not doing a case, not doing pre/post visits, and not assigned to a call shift (non-anesthesia time),
- d. call time (differs in affiliates – 24hour call shifts, 3P –11 P shifts, 7P-7A shifts. etc.)
- e. study time
- f. class time

While the Council on Accreditation (COA) expects contracts with affiliates to be generally “reasonable”, MTSA assumes that the original COA-suggested standard of 60 hours per week is reasonable. Therefore, the MTSA/Affiliate contracts specify 60 hours per week. MTSA assumes this to be an average time of 60 hours. In some affiliates with specific learning experiences the call time may be non-in-house, every other day for a short period (one month). In some affiliates, the assignments vary in such a pattern as to have some weeks heavy and some light, but the general monthly balance is expected to approximate the stated 60 hours. Using the students’ logged time, MTSA conducts time studies to assure that the general time commitments are reasonable.

Due to the nature of MTSA’s program, students will spend more time in some affiliates than others. Not all affiliates will have the same time obligation. It is the intent that the overall hours shall not be excessive.

◆ Clinical Case Records

Each student is required to keep a daily clinical log counting the number and types of procedures as outlined by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists (CCNA). The student keeps these case records either via a PDA or his personal computer. The company MTSA has hired to collect this data is Medatrax. On each case the student performs, a detailed record must be kept of specific information regarding that case. Medatrax totals the cases at the end of each month that the student has logged in daily. It also places the total for that month as the beginning total on the next monthly Clinical Case Record so the cases are cumulative from one month to the next. The CCNA requires that students fulfill a given number of experiences, and the accurate keeping of this log is the student's proof he has met and/or exceeded these requirements. This clinical record also includes the student's committed time hours in the school of anesthesia. The record must be completed in its entirety. Medatrax will disallow any entries after the 15th of the following month; therefore, all entries for one month must be completed before the 15th of the following month.

When these are not turned in on time, the student may be removed from clinical and asked to take a vacation day to complete the record. Any completion of the record after the 15th will involve the student contacting administration which will contact Medatrax.

MTSA has assigned a staff person to oversee submissions and work with students as they become familiar with clinical record completion on Medatrax. MTSA reserves the right to spot check for accuracy with the affiliate to which the student was assigned. MTSA uses this record to perform time studies periodically at selected affiliate sites. This record is very important, as it is submitted as a part of the student's final transcript to the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists for their determination of the student's eligibility to take the National Certification Examination. Instructions will be given during Broadfields Orientation regarding the accurate completion of this form. Medatrax has been very willing to help students with data entry issues.

◆ Other Paperwork:

All paperwork must be kept up-to-date, including Vanderbilt parking passes, TB skin tests, proof of insurance, and nursing licenses (TN & OH). All of these are kept on file with the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator.

◆ Clinical Grade during the Junior year:

Clinical Evaluations (Daily/Summary) (Average of percentile score listed on the summary sheets from affiliates each quarter.)	75%
Care Plans	25%

◆ Clinical Grade during the Senior year:

Clinical Evaluations (Summary) (Average of percentile score listed on the summary sheets from affiliates each quarter.)	100%
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Case Study assignment submissions during the senior year comprise a portion of the academic grade during the specified quarters and are **not** used in computation of the clinical grade.

Clinical grades will be recorded on the transcript under Clinical Performance. They will be recorded as GS (Good Standing) or Prob/C (Probation Clinical) and accompanied by the letter grade earned, as described above, for that quarter. The penalty for delinquent care plan submissions is found on page 53. The penalty for delinquent case study assignments is found on page 54, while penalties for other delinquent paperwork are found under the penalties section on page 72.

STUDENT EVALUATION OF PROGRAM (ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL)

Students are required to evaluate the clinical and academic portions of the program, to include clinical sites, clinical instructors, academic instructors, as well as other aspects of the program at MTSA, on a regular basis. These evaluations are part of the program's evaluation of institutional effectiveness. In many instances, these evaluations have led to changes. MTSA has most of these evaluations completed by the students on-line with Medatrax, as a convenience for the student.

Medatrax collects and tabulates various student evaluations of the program. Completion of these evaluations is mandatory. These evaluations are anonymous, and are reviewed regularly by committees at MTSA. The Evaluation Committee reviews all evaluations, including those regarding general programmatic issues as well as those pertaining to specific administrative, academic and clinical faculty members. The Clinical Evaluation Coordinator is responsible to notify Medatrax when an evaluation is to be posted on the website for students to complete. The Clinical Evaluation Coordinator will also send Medatrax a list of students who are expected to complete this evaluation, whether it is for academic faculty, clinical sites, or programs. A deadline is given for completion of the evaluations by the Clinical Evaluation Coordinator, using MTSA's published guidelines. At the end of the deadline period, the Clinical Evaluation Coordinator will contact Medatrax, requesting them to run a query as to which students have not completed the evaluation. Medatrax will then manually disable the case log recording capability for these students, ensuring that no cases previously recorded will be lost. A memo will be sent to these students indicating that the case logs will be reactivated when the evaluations are complete. In extreme cases, students will be required to take a vacation day to complete evaluations. This memo will be automatically generated by Medatrax, as MTSA strives to maintain the anonymity of all student evaluations.

Graduates are sent paper copies of evaluation forms, asking them to evaluate their total MTSA experience one year after their graduation. The major strengths cited about MTSA continue to be the multiple and varied affiliates, such as Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Columbus Children's Hospital, and MTSA's Christian mission. Other positives center on the variety of techniques of anesthesia, including regional anesthesia, strong emphasis on academics, and the "family atmosphere" of MTSA.

INTEGRITY AND PERSONAL BEHAVIOR **(DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT)**

MTSA endorses the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989, and, in compliance with that Act, presents the following information:

MTSA prohibits the possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol on the campus proper, or on the campus of any affiliate site. MTSA contracts with an outside company to perform random drug screening of students throughout the 28-month program of study. Since many drugs alter one's alertness, and mental alertness is crucial during the provision of anesthesia, students may be screened for drugs at any time they are committed to either clinical or classroom assignments. Students should be aware that if they are found to test positive for substances such as opioids or benzodiazepines, even if those substances have been prescribed by a healthcare provider, they may be subject to disciplinary action, at the discretion of the Progressions Committee. Therefore, students are advised to report any alertness-altering prescribed substance use (i.e. opioids for chronic pain) to the Vice President/Dean. Details of actual collection protocol will be disseminated to students after enrollment in class and in print.

Various federal and state statutes make it unlawful to manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver, or sell controlled substances. The penalty imposed depends upon many factors which include the type and amount of controlled substance involved, the number of prior offenses, if any, and whether any other crimes were committed in connection with the use of the controlled substance. Possible sanctions include incarceration, up to and including life imprisonment, and imposition of substantial monetary fines.

The use of alcohol can lead to the following serious health risks:

- loss of muscle control, poor coordination, slurred speech
- fatigue, nausea, headache
- increased likelihood of accidents
- impaired judgment
- possible respiratory paralysis and death

Heavy use of alcohol can lead to the following problems:

- damage to brain cells
- increased risk of cirrhosis, ulcers, heart disease, heart attack, and cancers of liver, mouth, throat, and stomach
- hallucinations
- personality disorders

Health risks associated with the use of illegal drugs include the following:

- increased susceptibility to disease due to a less efficient immune system
- increased likelihood of accidents
- personality disorders
- addiction
- death by overdose
- anemia
- poor concentration

MTSA does not provide drug/alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation programs for employees, teachers, or students. Upon request or in appropriate situations, the School may refer the student to a private center or program for assistance with such needs.

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia will impose sanctions against individuals who are determined to have violated rules prohibiting the use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs or alcohol.

Sanctions for students using or possessing illegal drugs or alcohol include disciplinary probation, and in appropriate cases, suspension or dismissal from MTSA. Referral for criminal prosecution may be made in appropriate cases. Individuals involved in the sale or distribution of illegal drugs will be suspended from MTSA and referred to the appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution.

All employees, teachers, and students agree, as a condition of hire, contract, or admission respectively, to abide by this policy. Sanctions against employees for use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol in the work place include termination of employment. Additionally, employees are required to notify the institution of any drug convictions resulting from a violation in the work place, no later than five days after conviction.

ADDITIONAL STANDARDS SPECIFIC TO THE MIDDLE TENNESSEE SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, at its inception over 56 years ago as Madison College School of Anesthesia, was established as a Seventh-day Adventist School. It has always upheld Christian ideals and standards. While it is the policy of the School to freely accept students regardless of religious persuasion, it is the philosophy of the School that both students and faculty serve as public representatives of the School and are expected to avoid any conduct that would conflict with its Christian standards.

Actions and conduct not in harmony with the Christian philosophy of MTSA include the following:

- ◆ **Reporting for duty at ANY hospital or for ANY class while under the influence of alcohol or ANY mood altering substance**
- ◆ **The use of addicting drugs or ANY drugs which would impair judgment or function**, including those prescribed by a physician, since mental alertness is crucial during the provision of anesthesia. Each student should notify MTSA of any medications he is using which may impair judgment or function. Additionally, whenever specimen samples are collected for drug testing, the student must notify the collection personnel of any medications in use currently. Student anesthetists administer narcotics daily and must not be lax in signing out drugs, administering them properly, or properly disposing of unused portions. If circumstantial evidence renders students suspect of drug abuse, they may be asked to have urine, blood, or hair analyses to document their non-use of drugs. MTSA reserves the right, and students should expect, that a routine or random analysis for drugs may be requested at any time and without prior notice, to rule out substance abuse.
- ◆ **The use of ANY illegal drugs**
- ◆ **The use of tobacco in ANY form on the premises of MTSA, Madison Campus SDA Church, or any clinical affiliate, other than in properly designated smoking areas**
- ◆ **The use or demonstrated effect of ANY alcoholic beverage on the premises of MTSA, Madison Campus SDA Church, or on the premises of any clinical affiliate**

- ◆ **Participation in or conviction of ANY criminal activity**
This includes theft or pilferage of hospital or School supplies, equipment, or drugs.
- ◆ **Cheating or lying involving ANY clinical, academic, or school endeavor**
Students may sit in close proximity to each other in the classroom; therefore, they are encouraged to cover their tests to prevent the accidental, or appearance of, sharing information. Please note that the classroom has strategically placed video cameras, and all exam and quiz sessions are digitally recorded. No ball caps or any hats with brims or bills are to be worn during **ANY** quizzes or tests in **ANY** class. Plagiarism is a form of cheating, and is subject to disciplinary action by the Progressions Committee.
- ◆ **Talking or moving about the room during ANY quizzes or tests**
When a student finishes a quiz or test and others are still taking it, it is preferred that the student quietly leave the room. However, if the student chooses to stay in the classroom, he is required not to have any open book or notes where others taking the test may have occasion to see the material.
- ◆ **Possession or sharing copies of some teachers' quizzes or tests**
Some instructors do not return quizzes or tests to the students. Students' possession or sharing of copies of these instructors' tests or quizzes is deemed cheating. For those instructors who do return tests and quizzes to students, it is not inappropriate to have or share copies of those tests or quizzes.
- ◆ Students are allowed and encouraged to use laptop computers in the classroom before class begins. However, out of respect for fellow students and instructors, the only use for laptops during any class will be for taking notes specifically related to the current class in session. No other computer activities, such as web-surfing, Medatrax case record completion, or game-playing, will be allowed during any class. The only exception to this is if web-based research is part of the curriculum for a given class, and this is specifically stated by the instructor.
- ◆ **ANY conduct or action that could bring dishonor or discredit on MTSA or would reflect unfavorably on its reputation as a Christian institution**

DRESS POLICY

This policy covers expected standards for dress in both clinical practice settings and academic settings, in addition to all other functions of the School, to include professional meetings. Students are also expected to abide by any affiliate hospital's dress policy which may be more specific than MTSA's policy. Above all, at all times the student is expected to use common sense in dress.

All students are expected to present themselves in a clean, neat, and well-groomed manner. The following standards apply:

1. Clothing:

- a. **Clinical:** Students are expected to own their own scrub clothes and to wear them where the clinical sites allow this. At all times these are to be clean and fresh each day. Scrub pants and tops should be worn in such a manner that at no time do they reveal the undergarments.
- b. **Classroom:** Students may wear their surgical scrub clothes to class. All clothes must be neat and clean. They must not be faddish, to include torn or tattered jeans or offensive logos on shirts. Tops with spaghetti straps or tube-type tops are not appropriate, nor are clothes that reveal the midriff or undergarments, or tops that are revealingly low-cut. For ladies, skirts must be a modest length. Longer styles of shorts may be worn, but they must not be short shorts. No ball caps or hats with brims may be worn at any time; however, surgical scrub caps may be worn in class.
- c. **Professional (To include AANA or TANA meetings and when giving class presentations):** The attire must be "professional" to include at minimum a dress shirt and tie for men with khaki or dress pants.

2. Jewelry:

- a. **Clinical:** Jewelry is to be limited to no more than one ring per hand (wedding set counts as one ring), no more than one earring per earlobe (dime size or smaller and **only** in the earlobes), **no** necklaces, and **no** visible body piercing or metal subcutaneous implants.
- b. **Classroom and Professional:** The same requirements will apply in clinical, classroom, and professional settings, with the following exceptions: One modest-sized necklace may be worn.

3. **Tattoos:** In both the clinical area and in the classroom/professional setting, students will not have visible offensive tattoos. Such must be covered at all times. Any visible tattooing must be moderate in amount.

4. **Hair:** Hair must be neat and clean and out of the face at all times. In the clinical area, it must be covered completely by a surgical scrub cap.
5. **Facial Hair:** Facial hair must be neat, well trimmed and not to exceed three inches in length. In most of the clinical facilities, facial hair is subject to approval by Infection Control and the Operating Room Supervisor, those who are responsible for assuring it is appropriately covered in the operating room.
6. **Fingernails:** Fingernails must be neat and clean, not longer than 1/4th inch beyond the end of the fingertip. Only natural nails are approved for use in the clinical area. Polish is to be of a single color (clear, pale, pink, white, or red) with **no** adornments; **no** black, green, blue, or dark colors.
7. **Shoes:** In the clinical area, there shall be no open-toed footwear. Students may wear their own surgical shoes or clogs, if they contain no holes; however, in many affiliates, footwear may be required to be covered by shoe covers. In the classroom, tennis shoes or sandals may be worn if they are neat and clean. Professional dress does **not** include sandals or tennis shoes.
8. **Aromas:** No perfumes, fragrant lotions, or colognes are to be worn in the clinical area. Any offensive or overpowering odor is to be called to the attention of the student as soon as it is noticed, whether in clinical or in the classroom. This includes the personal hygiene responsibilities of each student.

NON-REPAYMENT OF LOANS

It is expected that students accepted into the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia are good citizens and individuals of high integrity, who fully expect to repay all student loans. Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia graduates historically have had a very low default rate on these loans.

STUDENT RIGHTS

MTSA maintains a grievance and due process protocol. Complaints are addressed to Mary E. DeVasher, CRNA, MEd, MS, APN, Vice-President/Dean, P. O. Box 417, Madison, TN 37116.

Student representatives sit as regular full voting members on the School Progressions Committee, Curriculum Committee, and the Appeals Committee.

Students involved in a disciplinary action by the Progressions Committee have the right to speak on their own behalf. The student has the right to appeal decisions of the Progressions Committee to the Appeals Committee, the highest appellate body in the School.

The Appeals Committee has the right to review the entire issue, and may support the Progressions Committee's action or may render a judgment that may be more lenient or more severe. The student and the Progressions Committee are expected to abide by the decision of the Appeals Committee.

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

Each class elects student representatives and alternates as regular full voting members of the Progressions Committee, Admissions Committee, Appeals Committee, Curriculum Committee, and the Code of Conduct Council. Each class also elects student representatives and alternates as consultant members of each of the following committees for input on specific topics, as needed: Social Committee, Advancement Committee, Alumni Committee, IT Committee, Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Institutional Review Committee (for student research projects), and Strategic Planning Committee.

Should any committee member be out of town on an affiliation, the alternate for the position or any other committee member or class member may be appointed by the MTSA administration to fill the position. Students from each class nominate potential representatives to the Tennessee Association of Nurse Anesthetists (TANA); however final appointment is by the President's Council.

MTSA STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

DECLARATION OF HONOR

MTSA's mission, focus on academic excellence, and culture of faith are grounded in the Christian values of truth, honor, and virtue. Abiding by these principles illuminates the pathway of learning, sustains the integrity and purpose of the school, thus preparing competent and caring nurse anesthetists.

The MTSA Honor Code defines the standards of conduct expected of students. Core standards include honesty, integrity, morality, and virtue. Supplemental to the code, but significant in their effect on the spirit and attitude of the individual and the school community, are dress and grooming standards emphasizing modesty, neatness, and cleanliness.

HONOR CODE

The Honor Code of Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia is reflective of the Christian principles of truth, honor, integrity, and virtue. The Honor Code is vital in fostering an environment of trust, order, and unity within the school. Ancillary to the Code, but important in their effect on the spirit and attitude of the student and school community, are Dress and Grooming Standards emphasizing modesty, neatness and cleanliness, and accentuating the respect for the rights and property of others. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with and abiding by the Honor Code, the Dress and Grooming Standards, and all school policies. These can be found in the *2007 Catalog*, which is published annually in March and the *2007 Student Handbook*, which is published annually in July on the MTSA website: www.mtsa.edu.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

A thorough understanding and commitment to this Declaration of Honor and the Honor Pledge is essential to success of MTSA's honor system. The following avenues will be utilized to facilitate implementation of these statements:

1. The Declaration of Honor statement, with its accompanying Honor Pledge, will appear on applications for admission, and applicants to MTSA shall be required to acknowledge affirmation by signing and dating the document as specified.
2. Information regarding the Declaration of Honor and the Honor Code will be included in all MTSA catalogs and handbooks.
3. The Declaration of Honor and the Honor Pledge will be discussed during all orientation programs, including ANPR 500, Broadfields Orientation.
4. A thorough discussion of the Declaration of Honor and the Honor Pledge will be included in ANED 520.
5. Implementation and monitoring of adherence to these standards will be accomplished through a Student Honor Council, the MTSA Progressions Committee, the President's Council, and the MTSA Appeals Committee.

GENERAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND DUE PROCESS

Dismissal from the School or any lesser penalty may result from any of the following:

1. Academic cheating or plagiarism;
2. Furnishing false information to the school with the intent to deceive;
3. Knowingly providing false information or testimony during the investigation of, or hearing on a disciplinary matter;
4. Violation of the terms of academic or clinical probation;
5. Vandalism, malicious destruction, damage, or misuse of private or public property, including library or computer center material;
6. Forgery, alteration, destruction, or misuse of School documents, records, or identification;
7. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other School activities, including any authorized activities on School property; In no event shall this rule be construed to prevent speech protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution;
8. Physical abuse of any person, or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person (i.e., this includes attending class or clinicals under the influence of drugs or alcohol), whether such conduct occurs on or off School property;
9. Attending class or clinical rotations under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
10. Use of tobacco products on School and Madison Campus Church property;
11. Theft, wrongful appropriation (i.e., theft with intent to temporarily deprive the owner of possession), unauthorized possession, or sale or damage to School property or any organization affiliated with the School or of another member of the School community (i.e, faculty, staff, student, or campus visitor);
12. Unauthorized use of or entry to School facilities and/or unauthorized possession of keys to School facilities;
13. Unlawful use, manufacture, possession, distribution, or dispensing of drugs or alcohol on school-owned property or of any other institution affiliated with the School;
14. Possession, while on School-owned property, or of any other institution affiliated with the School, of any weapon such as, but not limited to, rifles, shotguns, ammunition, handguns, air guns, including explosives, such as firecrackers, unless authorized in writing by the School administration;
15. Disorderly conduct or lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct on School-owned property or at any other institution affiliated with the School, or at School-sponsored functions;
16. Failure, after notice, to promptly pay all School bills, accounts, and other School financial obligations;
17. Participation of students in group activities on or adjacent to the campus which causes damage to public or private property, causes injuries to persons, or interferes with the orderly functioning of the School or the normal flow of traffic;
18. Refusal to respond to a request to report to a School administrative office or other location;
19. Violation of written School policies or regulations as stipulated herein or as published and/or announced by authorized School personnel;

20. Falsely reporting the presence of an unlawful explosive or incendiary device with the intent to mislead, deceive, or disrupt the operation of the School or a scheduled event sponsored by the School;
21. Any act of arson, falsely reporting a fire or other emergency, falsely setting off a fire alarm, tampering with or removing from its proper location fire extinguishers, hoses, or any other fire emergency equipment, except when done with real need for such equipment;
22. An attempt to commit or to be accessory to the commission of any act in violation of other Standards of Conduct;
23. Commission of an act or an attempt to commit an act on School property or involving members of the School community (i.e., faculty, staff, student or campus visitor) in an act that would be in violation of state or federal law;
24. Unauthorized use or misuse of MTSA's computing facilities to include logging on an account without the knowledge and permission of the owner; changing, deleting, or adding to the programs, files and/or data without authorization of the owner; theft of program data or machine resources; attempts to thwart security of the computer system, including hardware and software;
25. Violation of local, state, or federal law, whether on or off campus, when it appears that the student has acted in a way that adversely affects or seriously interferes with the School's normal educational function, or that injures or endangers the welfare of any member of the School or its affiliate community. Such violations include, but are not limited to, violation of state or federal drug laws, commission of or attempt or threat to commit rape, murder, felonious assault, arson, or any other felonious crime against person or property.
26. Any violation of a local, state, or federal law, whether on or off campus, that results in an arrest; the School must be notified within 24 hours.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED

Persons accused of violations of existing rules and/or regulations of the School are entitled to the following rights:

1. Written notice of the charge(s) and the allegations supporting the alleged misconduct, a list of the witnesses, and notice of the scheduled hearing. The hearing notice shall be delivered at least 24 hours before the committee or hearing. The student may request additional time and must demonstrate good cause upon making such request.
2. Notice of the maximum allowable penalty (i.e., permanent dismissal).
3. The right to present witnesses.
4. The presumption of innocence. The burden of proof rests with the School, which must demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that the disciplinary action is warranted.
5. A written decision specifying the rule and/or policy violated, penalty assessed, and the right of appeal.
6. The right to have his/her case heard only on the misconduct specified in the written notice.
7. The right to remain silent or confront or cross-examine all available adverse witnesses and to present such other relevant proof as the interests of due process mandate.
8. The right to appeal to the next higher committee, the President's Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY

In accordance with School policy, By-Laws, and Board of Trustees actions, the Vice President/Academic Dean who is the chief disciplinary officer, delegates the supervision of student disciplinary actions to the Student Honor Council, Progressions Committee, and the President's Council. Recommendations and actions taken by the Student Honor Council and the Progressions Committee may be subject to review by the President's Council prior to going to the Appeals Committee.

The Vice President/Academic Dean, administrative officers, faculty, and staff are responsible for working with students to encourage compliance with all School policies and the Standards of Conduct.

STUDENT HONOR COUNCIL

The Student Honor Council is convened to review instances of suspected or confirmed conduct that is in violation of the published MTSA Standards of Conduct. This Council is charged with recommending disciplinary action, if any, to the MTSA Progressions Committee. The President's Council is responsible for the final decision and will be responsible for implementation and monitoring of any remedial and/or punitive actions.

Membership

The Student Honor Council is composed of the following members:

- Three junior students

- Three senior students

- President – *ex-officio*

- Vice President/Dean – *ex-officio*

- School Attorney – *ex-officio* (advisory capacity only on an as needed basis)

PROGRESSIONS COMMITTEE

The MTSA Progressions Committee is responsible for reviewing the recommendation(s) from the Student Honor Council and making a decision that upholds the recommendation(s), or may make modifications, regarding any remedial and/or punitive actions required of the student(s). If the student(s) is (are) not satisfied with the decision of the Progressions Committee and/or the President's Council, the student(s) may request a formal hearing at the established MTSA Appeals Committee. The decision of the Appeals Committee will be final.

PENALTIES

The penalties which may be assessed (but not limited to) and brief explanatory notes are as follows:

Loss of Privilege

These penalties are intended to serve as reminders of operating regulations and are for specific periods of time. Such penalties may include loss of scholarship, loss of right to participate in certain school activities, loss of privilege of use of facilities, etc.

Disciplinary Reprimand

Disciplinary reprimands are used for minor infractions. A reprimand indicates that further violations will result in more severe disciplinary actions. Reprimands may be issued to a student orally or in written form. A written reprimand, once issued, will be placed on the permanent file of the student.

Disciplinary Probation

Disciplinary probation means that a student is permitted to remain at the School or clinical affiliate on a probationary status. If a student is found responsible for a similar violation during probation, the student may be suspended or dismissed. Other conditions of probation are specific to the individual case and may include loss of eligibility to serve on school committees or participate in specified school activities.

Indefinite Suspension

Indefinite suspension means that no specific date has been recommended for readmission of the suspended student. This penalty is used when the prognosis of rehabilitation is uncertain and the committee desires that some additional evidence of rehabilitation be presented by the student prior to readmission to the School. Applications for readmission shall be considered by the Progressions Committee and the President's Council.

Permanent Dismissal

Permanent dismissal means that a student is permanently barred from readmission to the school. This penalty is used when the violation of one or more of the Standards of Conduct is deemed so serious as to warrant a total and permanent disassociation from the School community.

APPEAL AND SCOPE OF REVIEW

The disciplinary action of the Progressions Committee may be appealed to the next higher body, the MTSA Appeals Committee. The standard procedure of an appeal is as follows:

1. In all cases, the request for an appeal must be submitted in writing to the Vice President/Academic Dean within five (5) business days of written notice of the Progressions Committee decision. If the fifth day falls on a legal or school holiday, the time is extended to the next regular business day. Regular business days for the School are Monday thru Thursday.
2. All written documentation to be submitted for the Appeals Committee consideration, must be submitted within the same time provided for filing a request for an appeal. If the Appeals Committee requires further documentation, such must be provided within three (3) business days of the Committee request. The Appeals Committee will meet and make a decision within fifteen (15) days after the request for a hearing has been filed. This time may be extended by the Committee for good cause.
3. The Appeals Committee will review the request for appeal together with any written documents and other supporting evidence to determine if the appeal presents a substantial question within the scope of review. The scope of review shall be limited to the following:
 - Appropriateness of the penalty: In cases appealing the appropriateness of the penalty, the Appeals Committee shall uphold the penalty unless the penalty is shown to be “clearly unreasonable” or arbitrary (i.e., “that which has been clearly and fully proven to have no sound basis or justification in reason.”).
 - New Evidence: In cases appealed on grounds of new evidence, the student(s) must show that such evidence is material to the decision of the Appeals Committee on issue of the charges and the findings and that said evidence could not have been discovered with due diligence prior to the original hearing and decision of the Progressions Committee.
 - Due Process: In cases appealed on grounds of denial of due process, the student(s) must demonstrate that the Progressions Committee’s process at the initial hearing was not conducted in conformity with properly prescribed procedures. The student(s) must also show that the alleged discrepancy was materially adverse to the student(s) interest.
 - The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

HONOR PLEDGE

As a student of Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, I will incorporate the principles of truth, honor, integrity, and virtue in all that I do while enrolled at MTSA. I acknowledge the Honor Code as vital in fostering an environment of trust, order, and unity within the school. I accept the sacred trust placed upon me to continue this heritage of honor in my efforts to become a competent nurse anesthetist. I freely pledge to abide by the MTSA Standards of Conduct and this Honor Code in all of my conduct.

Student Signature: _____ **Date :** _____

The Honor Pledge **must** be signed by each student on Enrollment Day.

PENALTIES

Penalties may range from a simple verbal warning to dismissal from the program; and may include, but not be limited to the following:

ACADEMIC ISSUES

- ◆ A student having less than an 80% academic or clinical average (grade of B) may receive verbal counsel from the Dean.
- ◆ A student whose academic or clinical GPA falls below 3.0 in any one quarter will be placed on academic probation. Even though the cumulative GPA may be above 3.0 at the end of that quarter, the student will still merit probation. Academic probation will continue until the cumulative GPA reaches or exceeds 3.0. In the next quarter, if the GPA does not show significant improvement, the student may be terminated from the School.
- ◆ Failure in any one academic course will result in academic probation, with the course being repeated the next year when it is offered. Such repeats are expected to result in an extension of time in the program, commensurate with the amount of time for the repeat course (typically one quarter). The charge for such extension will be prorated per quarter. If a student is extended in the program, financial assistance may be affected.
- ◆ Any student who fails the same course a second time will be terminated. The student can appeal this decision to the Appeals Committee. Both the student and MTSA will abide by the decision of the Appeals Committee.
- ◆ Students receive certain penalties for late paperwork in documentation that includes, but is not limited to, care plans, case studies, clinical records, and daily evaluations. If paperwork is not turned in by the 15th of the month following that clinical rotation, a penalty will be enforced. Delinquent paperwork must be completed at MTSA, with each day beyond the deadline resulting in the loss of one vacation or personal day. The student who uses the entire bank of such days will graduate one day late for each additional delinquent day. The student will not receive a diploma until all paperwork is completed and extended days are made up in an assigned clinical area.

CLINICAL ISSUES

- ◆ Students who have not received satisfactory clinical evaluations may be placed on a probation designed to help improve their clinical skills, at the recommendation of the Clinical Faculty Committee to the Progressions Committee, or the Progressions Committee independently. This probation will be reflected on the student's transcript.
- ◆ The probationary status for clinical performance will be a minimum of one quarter. At its next quarterly meeting, the Clinical Faculty Committee will review performance evaluations from all affiliates where the student has rotated and determine if the student is eligible to be removed from probation. The Clinical Faculty Committee may recommend that the student be removed from probation or that probation continue. For charges of inconsistent performance, the student may receive probation for the duration of the program. In this instance, the Progressions Committee must determine if the student's clinical performance has been consistently satisfactory prior to a recommendation for graduation.
- ◆ Seniors having been placed on a clinical probation may of necessity extend a minimum of one quarter in the program. Seniors participate in specificity rotations (i.e., cardiovascular, pediatrics, obstetrics, and trauma) and if their clinical progress prohibits their full participation in specialty areas, they will need to extend in the program to complete these rotations.
- ◆ Should a student be placed on clinical probation, the student's status will be made known to each clinical affiliate where the student is likely to affiliate. If aware of the cause of probation, the affiliate will be better able to assist the student in remediation.
- ◆ Students whose clinical performance warrants an extended time in the program will be charged for the extension. The extension cost will be prorated per quarter.

ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL ISSUES

- ◆ A student with a combination of unsatisfactory academic and clinical performance may be terminated without probation.

GENERAL OR OTHER ISSUES

- ◆ A student may be placed on a general probation for other issues, such as if conduct or health fails to meet acceptable levels. General probation may be at the recommendation of the Clinical Faculty Committee to the Progressions Committee, the Curriculum Committee to the Progressions Committee, or the Progressions Committee independently. The duration of this probation is determined by the Progressions Committee and is expected to be between one and three months. Upon completion of the probationary period, the student may be restored to full student standing, have probation continued (duration is at the discretion of the Progressions Committee), or, in extreme cases, be dismissed from the program.
- ◆ If the student has been on probation for any cause during his time in the program, specific permission must be obtained from the Progressions Committee for the student to be eligible to participate in a Senior Elective rotation of his choice, rather than one assigned by the school.
- ◆ A student may be placed on suspension if conduct in any area fails to meet acceptable levels, to include cheating in any form. The duration of the suspension will be determined by the Progressions Committee. Upon completion of the suspended period, the student may be restored to full standing with no probation, or allowed to re-enter the program and placed on probation for a duration that will be determined by the Progressions Committee.
- ◆ In extreme cases, a student may be dismissed from the program without probation or suspension.
- ◆ Disciplinary actions for violations of the standards of academic, clinical, or personal conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following or any combination thereof: verbal reprimand, written reprimand, probation, suspension (including suspensions from classes and/or clinical rotations), and expulsion from the School.
- ◆ The Progressions Committee has the authority to require the student to spend extended time in the program as an alternative to dismissal.
- ◆ Occasionally, the Progressions Committee meets to discuss specific issues that involve individual students. In this instance, the Progressions Committee invites the individual student(s) to speak to the issue before rendering a decision. Should students not agree with this decision, they may appeal the issue to the Appeals Committee, the highest appellate body of the School.

- ◆ There may be times the Progressions Committee, in its discussion of students' performance in general, determines that an action should be taken related to individual students. Upon notification of the decision, any students who feel extenuating circumstances existed which may have impacted on any decision of the Progressions Committee, and were unable to speak on their own behalf before the original decision was rendered, may give a written request to the Progressions Committee to speak on their own behalf to appeal the decision. The Progressions Committee will meet to allow a student to speak to the issue. The Progressions Committee may decide to alter its original decision or to stand by it. Should a student still not be in agreement with the final decision, the student may address the issue to the Appeals Committee.

- ◆ Students must give a written notice to the Dean if they desire to have a decision heard by the Appeals Committee. The Dean will assemble an Appeals Committee according to policy. The Appeals Committee has the right to review the entire issue and may support the Progressions Committee's action or may render a judgment that may be more lenient or more severe. The student and the Progressions Committee are expected to abide by the decision of the Appeals Committee.

- ◆ Upon completion of a probationary period, the student's situation will be reviewed by the Progressions Committee and his or her status determined. Depending on the student's progress, he or she may be restored to full student standing, have probation continued, or, in extreme cases, be dismissed from the program.

- ◆ All probationary periods, regardless of the type of probation or the reason for the probation, will be reflected in the student's permanent file.

- ◆ Students must complete the comprehensive examination requirements detailed in the "Academic Standard" section of this catalog. Failure to do so will result in an extension in the program and/or termination.

- ◆ As a portion of the Professional Adjustment Class, the instructor requires the student's attendance at the annual TANA meetings held in Nashville. These meetings are usually held on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in October. Each student is required to attend two of the three days of meetings. This will be discussed in more detail in the Professional Adjustment Class syllabus. Student research is presented at this meeting. Non-attendance is considered a personal day, and is subtracted from the bank of sick/personal days granted. These occasions will be announced in advance. A limited number of students will be able to attend state and national meetings and such attendance will be at the student's expense, with clearance from the clinical coordinator. Students in each class will nominate representatives to hold student positions on TANA committees.

- ◆ Attendance at specific group functions and evening lectures by guest speakers is mandatory, unless the student is on vacation, call, or out-of-town affiliation. Non-attendance is considered a personal day and is subtracted from the bank of sick/personal days granted. These occasions will be announced in advance.
- ◆ Students will keep a current Tennessee or Nurse Licensure Compact state nursing license and current licenses for any state in which the student affiliates on file in the office of the Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator. Failure to do so will lead to suspension from school until a current license is obtained. Any suspended time must be made up prior to graduation.
- ◆ Students will submit a copy of their Ohio license before the beginning of the second year. (This means making application late in the first year and at least two months before scheduled to affiliate there.) Students desiring to participate in a full affiliation or a Senior Elective in any state other than Tennessee or Ohio will present evidence of licensure in that state prior to full approval of that elective. Not having current licensure prior to these affiliations will result in withdrawal from the clinical site and may lead to an extension in the program.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BENEFITS:**

- ◆ Any veteran placed on academic probation for a period of one quarter and not successfully removed from that probation at the end of the quarter will lose VA benefits.
- ◆ Any veteran placed on clinical or general probation and not successfully removed from that probationary status in the stated probationary time will lose VA benefits.
- ◆ Any veteran who has lost VA benefits may be considered for renewal of VA benefits in the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia at the discretion of the Progressions Committee.

TRANSFERS

(To include credit granted for previous education)

Transfers to and from other anesthesia schools will be considered on the merits of each individual case in accordance with guidelines established by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA), MTSA, and the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS COC).

The transfer of credit from MTSA to another institution is controlled by the receiving institution. Accreditation does not guarantee transferability. Many institutions will accept credit which applies to their specific degree program.

Students seeking to transfer to the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia from other Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs must meet the following criteria before making application for admittance:

1. The same accrediting bodies which accredit MTSA must accredit the anesthesia school in attendance at the time of request: COA, state accreditation or approval, and regional accreditation.
2. Transcripts of course work completed must be transferable from the school in attendance.
3. Clinical experiences must be documented and verified by the transferring school.
4. Recommendations are required from the school administrator and educational and clinical instructors.
5. All other policies and procedures for acceptance into MTSA must be met before review for admissions by the Admissions Committee of MTSA.

MTSA may consider applicants for admission who have been terminated from other programs of nurse anesthesia. The same steps and process will be followed for these applicants as for any applicant wishing to transfer from another Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs to MTSA.

All students accepted into MTSA from other programs, whether transfer, withdrawal, or termination from another program, will be expected to meet the same criteria for graduation as traditional MTSA students and will receive the Master of Science (MS) degree. The time commitment for completion of the program for these students will be determined on an individual basis. These students will be evaluated in their clinical rotations to determine how their performance compares to MTSA traditional students at the same level. The academic curriculum design of MTSA may be different from the previous program; therefore, time spent in academics at MTSA prior to graduation will need to be determined on an individual basis.

Steps for transferring to MTSA from another school of nurse anesthesia are as follows:

- The student will notify the initial Program Director in writing for the reason of transfer.
- The Program Director to whom the student is making application will request a transcript of all experiences.
- The Program Director of the current school will remit the transcript of all academic and clinical experiences and other appropriate data within 30 days.
- The accepting program will determine the transfer credit, and will notify in writing the transferring student and the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) of the decision within 30 days.

The term, Program Director, as used above, would indicate the Vice-President/Dean for the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia.

PROGRESSION POLICY

Advancement of each student to the next higher level of anesthesia training and responsibility is made at quarterly intervals by recommendation from the Clinical Faculty Committee and is a primary function of the Progressions Committee. Students must meet all clinical objectives for the current level and pass all academic classes for advancement to the next level.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and meet all assigned clinical schedules. Any absences must be arranged with the instructor, with the Dean informed. **Any absences from assigned classes may be considered as personal days, at the discretion of the instructor and the Dean. Any absence from clinical obligation will be considered a personal day.** An absence from a clinical assignment when the student is assigned to take **call** will be considered as **two personal days**. This includes weekend and daily 16- or 24-hour "call" shifts at Vanderbilt or any other affiliate. Any absences in excess of specified vacation, holidays, sick, or personal days will result in a delay in graduation of an equal number of days. Any time a student is unable to go to a clinical assignment, the School, affiliate, and the Dean must be notified by the student as soon as possible. Any clinical absence while on affiliation at Vanderbilt will be made up at Vanderbilt. This will be arranged with the Vanderbilt coordinator and may be scheduled on weekends.

ABSENCES

Twelve holidays are granted each student for the 28-month program. If a student is scheduled on a holiday, a compensatory day will be granted. Vacation time of 15 days the first year and 10 days the second year, is granted during the course. Vacations during the first year are scheduled by MTSA, prior to the students' entrance, and are granted during designated breaks in the academic schedule. The first week of senior vacation is scheduled by MTSA at the beginning of the second year. There is a "relief student" assigned in the senior year to cover for vacations. This is coordinated by the School's Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator. **Vacation days and holidays for the first year must be taken during that year. No vacation or holidays from the first year may carry over to the second year.**

A bank of seven (7) days of sick/personal leave shall be granted each student during the 28-month course. These days may be taken for true illness, emergencies and/or inclement weather. Students may be requested to submit a physician's report documenting illness. Any other use of these days must be pre-scheduled with permission from the affiliate where the student is assigned during the time the absence occurs. If they are requested any less than 48 hours in advance, two days will be subtracted from this bank of sick/personal days.

These days may not be taken during exam weeks to study for exams. Sick days during exam weeks will be evaluated carefully. The student may be requested to submit a physician's report and/or be required to use two sick/personal days for time taken during exam week.

Students affiliating at sites where they are scheduled 24 hours on and 48 hours off are charged two days for each personal or compensatory day taken while at that affiliation.

Absences in excess of authorized time off must be arranged with the Dean and be made up at the end of the course (example: maternity leave, personal leave, military leave). If the absence has been longer than one month, the faculty will evaluate the returning student's clinical performance to determine if a "re-orientation" to clinical practice is needed. If re-orientation is determined to be necessary, the time will be added to the time absent. Completion of time absent, re-orientation time, and time remaining will be necessary for graduation. Absences from meetings that require attendance (e.g., guest lectures) will be charged as personal days unless the student is at an out-of-town affiliation.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

There are no days off for inclement weather. Students are to use their judgment regarding travel, either to affiliations or to class. However, should students elect not to attend clinical or class, they will be charged a personal day for the absence. If the student is unable to travel to a clinical assignment, the student must notify the School, the affiliate, and the Dean as soon as possible.

SABBATH (SATURDAY) SCHEDULING POLICY

No class will be scheduled from sunset Friday until sunset Saturday, in keeping with the Seventh-day Adventist belief that this time is set aside by God as the Sabbath. MTSA recognizes many students choose another day as a day of worship (typically Sunday). To respect students' religious choice, class functions scheduled on Sunday are held to a minimum, being reserved for approximately two seminars in the program. Any class scheduled on Sunday will be digitally recorded. The student may elect to not attend the Sunday scheduled class, but is responsible for viewing the DVD and making up any assignments missed.

COMPENSATORY DAYS

Compensatory days (comp days) are those days earned for working on a scheduled holiday. Usually one student is scheduled as a relief student, and this person can assume another student's position in an assigned affiliate on the day they need off (weekends excluded). Comp days may be earned only when approved by the MTSA Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator. Earned comp days may be taken off as the schedule permits. Earned comp days off must be scheduled in advance and coordinated through the MTSA Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator, with signed approval from the affiliate where the student is assigned when the absence occurs. Only one student at a time may take a comp day in any affiliate, and then only with permission from the affiliate. If comp days are requested any less than 48 hours in advance, two days will be subtracted from this bank of sick/personal days. Detailed specific procedures for compensatory days are described in the *Student Handbook*.

RELIEF STUDENT

Each month, the School attempts to have a senior relief student available, whose function is to replace senior students at an affiliate who have gone through the appropriate channels to be able to take compensatory day(s) off. When these relief students are not occupied replacing students for comp days, they are available to replace students who may call in sick. When neither of these needs arise, the relief student will go to the pre-assigned base affiliate. Examples are included in the *Student Handbook*.

STUDENT SERVICES

The goal of Student Services at MTSA is to help new students make the transition into life in a rigorous 28-month program of nurse anesthesia easier and more enjoyable. In addition, it seeks to assist graduating seniors by posting and distributing job opportunities and through clinical elective arrangements.

ORIENTATION AND ADVISEMENT

◆ **“Big Sibling” Program**

A "Big Sibling" program is operational at MTSA where upper-class students choose new enrollees as "Little Siblings." The "Big Sibling" is then available to answer questions and give advice about life at MTSA to the "Little Sibling." For this reason, as soon as an applicant is accepted, a passport photo is required, helping current students identify individuals they may have met at interviews or during a "shadowing" experience.

◆ **Apartment Information**

MTSA sends accepted students information relative to apartments in the vicinity of the School, **upon request**.

◆ **School-related accidental/injury insurance policy**

MTSA provides a personal school-related accidental/injury insurance policy; however, it does **not** assume the student's medical care nor provide health insurance. This coverage applies only to school related activities. The student must carry personal health insurance.

◆ **Academic and Clinical Schedules**

Complete daily schedules of class and clinical assignments for the first year are given each student upon entry. Vacations for the first year are listed on this schedule.

◆ **Broadfields Orientation**

All new students will complete a six-week Broadfields Orientation program which introduces them to both the academic and clinical segments of the School. This prepares them for entrance into the clinical area.

◆ **Senior Elective Program**

MTSA incorporates a Senior Elective clinical experience during the final three months of the program. Each student must participate in a Senior Elective. The student may select and be approved for one of the current elective sites. Alternatively, the student may work with the Dean to develop a new site. A complete description of the process is found in the Student Handbook. In many instances, graduating seniors have the ability to orient to places of future employment through this experience.

◆ **Student Advisement**

The CRNA Student Evaluation Advisors review progress with each student in both the academic and clinical areas. These evaluations are summaries of Daily Case Evaluations, Quarterly Evaluations, and the Academic Record. While the MTSA Dean is the full-time MTSA administrator who has the primary responsibility for student advisement, the President and the Associate Vice-President for Institutional Effectiveness are also present at MTSA on a full-time basis and are available for student advisement. All three of these administrators are available for informal discussions with students. Their offices are in close proximity to the classrooms, and dialogue is encouraged.

◆ **Grant Applications**

The School completes applications for Nurse Anesthesia Traineeship Grants, Faculty Fellowship Grants, and Educational Program Grants, for the school, faculty, and students' benefit.

◆ **Student Finance Department**

Enrollment in a 28-month continuous course of full-time study during a period of extremely limited financial income may place immense strain on students and their families. Financial difficulties can have an adverse effect on academic endeavors. Applicants are advised to plan their sources of financial support very carefully prior to entry into the program, since most students are able to work very little, if at all, throughout the program. In light of this 28-month period of drastically decreased income, applicants who are accepted to MTSA should plan to adjust their lifestyles accordingly. Although MTSA prefers that applicants be financially stable, the School maintains a Student Finance Office to assist students with obtaining financial assistance. For more details, please refer to page 40.

◆ **Dislocation Allowances for Selected Distant Clinical Affiliations**

MTSA provides a one-time dislocation allowance to students who are assigned and scheduled to affiliate at specified distant clinical rotations. For more details, please refer to page 25.

◆ **Internet and Cable Service at Selected Distant Clinical Affiliations**

MTSA recognizes that all students need the ability to maintain regular communication with the School while assigned to be away at distant clinical affiliations. Therefore, MTSA supplies the high-speed internet and basic cable service at the affiliate-sponsored housing at selected distant clinical sites.

◆ **Card Key Access**

Students are given electronic card keys with which they may access one entrance to utilize the student mailroom and student lounge after regular class hours.

◆ **Student Lounge**

The student lounge was completed and opened for use in March, 2006. The lounge has tables and chairs, microwave ovens, television, sink, dishwasher, refrigerator, and snack machines for students' use.

◆ **Periodically Hosted Meals**

On a quarterly basis, MTSA hosts a junior class luncheon and a senior class supper. In addition, the School periodically provides lunch or refreshments to students for special occasions, such as National CRNA Week.

◆ **Prayer Board**

For over a decade, MTSA has had a prayer board posted in the primary classroom where the junior class meets daily. Once each week during regular class sessions, the prayer board is updated to include all current requests and praises from students, staff, faculty, alumni, and other community members who often call in to have their requests included.

◆ **Job Opportunities for Graduates**

MTSA posts job opportunities in the school paper, the *AIRWAYS*, as a service to students in considering their future employment as Graduate Registered Nurse Anesthetists (GRNAs) and as CRNAs.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER (LRC)

The Nelda Faye Ackerman Learning Resource Center has a collection of textbooks and anesthesia-specific journals for student use. The LRC is open during the business hours of the School, as well as all times that classes are in session. The schedule of classes varies from quarter to quarter, and the LRC hours are adjusted accordingly. It is closed on Saturdays and opens only by appointment on Sundays.

Adjacent to the LRC is a computer lab equipped with a wireless internet connection and 12 – 16 laptop computers for use by students, staff, and faculty.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND SALARIES

All graduates of MTSA have found employment as Graduate Registered Nurse Anesthetists, typically before completion of the program, but at least within six months of graduation, often due to personal choice and timing of the National Certification Examination and APN licensure (state-specific). Continued employment in many practice settings is determined upon successful completion of the National Certification Examination to become a CRNA and APN licensure (state-specific). There is every indication that the placement outlook for our graduates will continue to be favorable.

Beginning salary levels for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists vary considerably, depending on institutional policies, fringe benefits, and call pay. In Middle Tennessee, recent graduates are receiving beginning full-time salaries in the range of \$110,000 - \$130,000 annually, plus call pay. Some sites offer significant “sign-on bonuses”, as well as reimbursement for tuition charges.

STUDENT PLACEMENT POLICY

MTSA does not have a student placement service; however, it welcomes any information regarding position openings or job opportunities. When contacted by hospitals, anesthesia practice groups, or recruiters regarding positions open, the School copies the information and places it on the bulletin board in the student lounge for a period of 90 days. These groups have the option to place an ad in the school newsletter, *AIRWAYS*. The School retains a copy in a binder for any future references a student or graduate may need. All graduates seeking employment have been employed upon graduation.

APN LICENSE IN TENNESSEE

Due to the institution of the Advanced Practice Nurse License in Tennessee in 2005, some sites do not allow new Graduate Registered Nurse Anesthetists to practice until they have completed the National Certification Examination and obtained their APN license. This regulation varies by hospital and anesthesia group and is completely beyond the control of MTSA. Therefore, it is advisable to inquire about such details when interviewing for job placement.

CURRICULUM AND CLINICAL PRACTICUM

The program consists of **nine quarters - a 28-month program**. The first four quarters are devoted to classroom studies and a carefully supervised, graduated introduction to performance of clinical practice. The following five quarters provide a period of advanced clinical experiences, and as the major academics are completed, full participation at clinical affiliations. The total program provides an unusually rich variety of anesthetic experiences and cases. Seminars and case studies are held throughout the **28-month program**.

CHANGES

In keeping with its philosophy of offering a program of the highest quality, MTSA continually evaluates its educational program via its institutional effectiveness process, and reserves the right to make changes in the policies, curriculum, or practicum at any time to include any fees or costs related to these changes. Such changes are expected to be minimal. Students will receive notification of these changes and are expected to abide by them.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION; ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL PROGRESSION

MTSA is organized on an academic quarter basis for a total of 9 quarters and one month (28 months). The first month is almost entirely devoted to academic studies, with limited progression into clinical practicum. An every other morning clinical schedule is maintained, with every other morning reserved for study.

During the first through fourth quarters, students continue academic studies while increasing involvement in supervised anesthesia practicum. During this time, an every-other-morning clinical schedule and every-other-morning for study continues. Also during this time, students will participate in call at Skyline Medical Center, General Hospital and Hendersonville Medical Center.

The fifth through ninth quarters are devoted to clinical practicum in a variety of affiliating hospitals, with limited academics. The final quarter (three months) is the Senior Elective. Students' rotations through the various affiliates are planned to provide a logical progression for continuing professional growth and maturity. Clinical case studies are held throughout the 28-month program. In addition, senior students take weekly Senior Board Review tests, participate in a Board Review Course totaling 24 hours, and complete comprehensive examinations.

SPIRITUALITY

On occasion, applicants ask if “it helps” to be a Seventh-day Adventist. MTSA does a “Spirituality Evaluation” in the fourth quarter, where students are asked (**not required**) to list their church affiliation. Those results are shown here to help answer that question.

Religion	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Baptist	3	5	8	5	9	11	8	9	6
Free Will Baptist	NA	3	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Catholic	2	1	5	1	2	5	5	1	1
Church of Christ	NA	NA	4	3	3	3	1	3	2
Latter Day Saints	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA
Methodist	3	1	2	2	3	2	1	NA	NA
Nazarene	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
SDA	NA	NA	6	3	5	2	7	1	NA
Presbyterian	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Unitarian	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA
Non-denomination	NA	NA	5	7	4	`	4	NA	NA
“Protestant”	NA	NA	1	2	1	3	4	NA	NA
Other	1	NA	6	4	3	1	NA	7	14
No reply	7	4	4	12	5	8	4	15	12

INSTITUTIONAL STATISTICS

<i>CLASS OF 04-06</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 2004	64
Withdrawals	1
Graduated	63
Employed Upon Graduation (& APN in TN)	63
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	*
Passed a Subsequent Examination	*
*As of 2/1/07, MTSA had not received final official notification of board scores from graduates in this class who took the National Certification Examination.	

<i>CLASS OF 03-05</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 2003	50
Withdrawals	2
Graduated	48
Employed Upon Graduation	48
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	45 (94%)
Passed a Subsequent Exam within 6 months	3 (100%)
Nine had scores of 600.	

<i>CLASS OF 02-04</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 2002	50
Withdrawals	1
Graduated	49
Employed Upon Graduation	49
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	48 (97%)
Passed a Subsequent Examination	1 (100%)
Twenty- four had scores of 600.	

<i>CLASS OF 01-03</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 2001	44
Withdrawals	2
Graduated	42
Employed Upon Graduation	42
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	41 (97%)
Passed a Subsequent Examination	1 (100%)
Seventeen had scores of 600.	

<i>CLASS OF 00-02</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 2000	40
Withdrawals	2
Graduated	38
Employed Upon Graduation	38
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	37 (97%)
Passed a Subsequent Examination	1 (100%)
Twenty-five had scores of 600.	

<i>CLASS OF 99-01</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 1999	38
Withdrawals	3
Graduated	35
Employed Upon Graduation	35
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	35 (100%)
Passed a Subsequent Examination	NA
Seven had scores of 600.	

<i>CLASS OF 98-00</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 1998	36
Transfer	1
Withdrawals	0
Graduated	37
Employed Upon Graduation	37
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	33 (89%)
Passed a Subsequent Examination	4 (100%)
Six had scores of 600.	

<i>CLASS OF 97-99</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 1997	36
Withdrawals	2
Graduated	34
Employed Upon Graduation	34
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	30 (88%)
Passed a Subsequent Examination	4 (100%)
One had a score of 600.	

<i>CLASS OF 96-98</i>	<i>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</i>
Enrolled in 1996	41
Withdrawals	0
Graduated	41
Employed Upon Graduation	35
Passed Certifying Examination 1st Time	38 (92%)
Passed a Subsequent Examination	3 (100%)
Twenty-eight had scores of 600.	

ACADEMIC COURSE SEQUENCING BY QUARTER

Junior Year

Broadfields Orientation	July 24 – August 31, 2007	Qtr Hrs
ANPR 500 Broadfields Orientation		10
ANPR 510 Basic Arrhythmia/12-Lead EKG/BLS/ACLS/PALS		3
		13
First Quarter	September 3 – November 16, 2007	
ANAP 500 Physiology I		3
ANPH 500 Pharmacology I (Anesthetic Drugs)		4
ANPR 520 Principles of Anesthesia (Fundamentals) I		2
ANPR 525 Applied Principles of Anesthesia (Fundamentals) I		1
ANPR 535 Equipment and Technology in Anesthesia		1
ANPR 555 Physical Principles of Anesthesia and Equipment		1
ANPR 540 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Regional Anesthesia) I		1
ANSM 500 Clinical Seminar (Case Conference)		1
AREL 500 Religion		1
ANHS 500 Professional Aspects: Historical, Ethical, & Legal Aspects Adjustments		2
ANED 520 Education		1
		18
Second Quarter	November 19, 2007 – February 15, 2008	
ANAP 505 Respiratory Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathophysiology		3
ANAP 510 Physiology II		3
ANPH 510 Pharmacology II (Accessory Drugs)		3
ANPR 520 Principles of Anesthesia (Fundamentals) II		2
ANPR 525 Applied Principles of Anesthesia (Fundamentals) II		1
ANPR 545 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Regional Anesthesia) II		2
ANSM 500 Clinical Seminar (Case Conference)		1
AREL 500 Religion		1
ANHS 500 Professional Aspects: Historical, Ethical, and Legal Aspects Adjustments		2
ANED 500 Foundations of Evidence-Based Nurse Anesthesia Practice I		3
		21
Third Quarter	March 3 – May 16, 2008	
ANAP 520 Physiology III		3
ANPH 520 Cardiovascular Pharmacology		2
ANPH 530 Pharmacology III		3
ANPR 560 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Cardiovascular)		2
ANPR 525 Applied Principles of Anesthesia (Fundamentals) III		1
ANSM 500 Clinical Seminar (Case Conference)		1
AREL 500 Religion		1
ANED 510 Foundations of Evidence-Based Nurse Anesthesia Practice II		3
		16
Fourth Quarter	June 2 – August 8, 2008	
ANAP 530 Physiology IV		3
ANPR 530 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Obstetrical Anesthesia)		2
ANPR 550 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Pediatric Anesthesia)		2
ANPR 570 Anesthesia and Co-existing Disease (Path Management)		4
ANPR 580 Pain Management		1
AREL 500 Religion		1
ANED 520 Education		1
		14

COURSE SEQUENCING BY QUARTER
Senior Year

Fifth Quarter

Comprehensive Examination #1	1
ANPR 515 Advanced ACLS-EP	1
ANSM 515 Senior Board Review I	1
ANCL 520 Practicum V	<u>8</u>
	10

Sixth Quarter

Valley Review Seminar	
ANPR 585 Senior Case Study I	1
ANSM 515 Senior Board Review II	1
ANCL 525 Practicum VI	<u>8</u>
	10

Seventh Quarter

Comprehensive Examination #2	
ANPR 585 Senior Case Study II	1
ANSM 515 Senior Board Review III	1
ANCL 530 Practicum VII	<u>8</u>
	10

Eighth Quarter

Comprehensive Examination #3	
ANPR 585 Senior Case Study III	1
ANSM 515 Senior Board Review IV	1
ANCL 535 Practicum VIII	<u>8</u>
	10

Ninth Quarter

ANCL 540 Practicum IX	8
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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

***ACADEMIC
AND
CLINICAL***

BROADFIELDS ORIENTATION

ANPR 500 *Broadfields Orientation* – *Mary DeVasher, CRNA, MEd, MS, APN; Alescia D. Bethea, MS, CRNA, APN; Bernard DeVasher, MS, CRNA, MS; Tiffany Horton, MS, CRNA, APN; Lin Sherrill, MS, CRNA, APN; William O.T. Smith, MD; John Shields, CRNA, APN, MS* **10 Qtr. Hrs.**

This introductory anesthesia class covers principles of pre-anesthetic assessment, airway management, monitoring, charting, equipment function, and IV cannulation. Practicing skills on models is required prior to hands-on in clinical areas. The practicum orientation is structured with laboratory experiences in the Simulation Skills Center where students can become familiar with charting, equipment use, and basic anesthesia skills such as mask ventilation and intubation. The student also is provided with HIPPA instruction and orientation to anesthesia in various clinical affiliate sites.

ANPR 510 *Basic Arrhythmia/12-Lead EKG/BLS/ACLS/PALS* **3 Qtr. Hrs.**

Basic Arrhythmia course presents an overview of cardiac arrhythmias, beginning with a review of basic electrophysiology. The course presents a systematic method for interpreting disturbances in cardiac rhythm including sinus, atrial, junctional, and ventricular arrhythmias and conduction abnormalities.

Twelve-lead electrocardiography reviews interpretation of the lead systems and normal QRS morphology in the various leads.

(BLS) Basic Life Support is a prerequisite to ACLS. Some of MTSA's clinical sites wish to have students present their up-to-date card on arrival in clinical.

(ACLS) Advanced Cardiac Life Support course presents essential aspects of emergency cardiac care including airway support, treatment of acute myocardial infarction, treatment of life-threatening arrhythmias, cardiac drugs, and defibrillation.

(PALS) Pediatric Advanced Life Support course presents aspects of emergency pediatric care including airway management, recognition of respiratory failure and shock, newborn resuscitation, fluid therapy, emergency medications, and prevention of cardiopulmonary arrest.

PHYSIOLOGY

ANAP 500 Physiology I – Larry Lancaster, RN, EdD

3 Qtr. Hrs.

This course focuses on concepts foundational to an understanding of human physiology, including functional systems of the cell, cell metabolism, cell membrane transport, membrane potentials, action potentials, and cell receptors, and cell markers. Understanding these concepts is prerequisite to a comprehension of all cell, tissue, organ, and system physiology and pathophysiology. This content serves as a basis for everything else discussed in other physiology courses.

ANAP 505 Respiratory Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathophysiology – John Shields, CRNA, APN, MS

2 Qtr. Hrs.

This course will introduce the student to human respiratory anatomy and physiology and will include basic physiologic concepts such as pulmonary mechanics, control of ventilation and oxygen diffusion and transport. In addition, these concepts will be incorporated into clinical application involving respiratory physiology and anesthesia.

ANAP 510 Physiology II – Larry Lancaster, RN, EdD

5 Qtr. Hrs.

This course is designed to discuss concepts related to anatomy and physiology of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nervous system, autonomic nervous system, neurotransmitters, receptors, and synapses; physiology of skeletal muscle contraction, neuromuscular synapse, and smooth muscle contraction; and physiology of pain transmission.

ANAP 520 Physiology III – Larry Lancaster, RN, EdD

4 Qtr. Hrs.

This course is designed to discuss concepts related to physiology of the heart; systemic and pulmonary circulations; microcirculation, hematopoietic system; inflammatory-immune system; hemostasis/blood coagulation; and renal system. Selected pathophysiologic examples are integrated.

ANAP 530 Physiology IV – Larry Lancaster, RN, EdD

3 Qtr. Hrs.

This course focuses on concepts related to physiology of acid-base balance; integrated mechanisms of blood pressure regulation; the endocrine system; the gastrointestinal system, including nutrient digestion and absorption, the liver and the pancreas. Selected pathophysiologic examples are integrated.

PHARMACOLOGY

ANPH 500 Pharmacology I (Anesthetic Drugs) – Lewis McCarver, 4 Qtr. Hrs.
BS, CRNA, APN and Michael Pilla, MD

Presents general physiological properties of individual anesthetic agents and their absorption rate and excretion. Principles governing uptake and distribution of inhalation agents are covered along with specific effects of the agents on organs and systems. Signs and stages of the depth of anesthesia are included.

ANPH 510 Pharmacology II (Accessory Drugs) – Lewis McCarver, 3 Qtr. Hrs.
BS, CRNA, APN and Michael Pilla, MD

The applied science of the use, action, and effects of medicinal agents, particularly as related to anesthesia. Information is designed to acquaint the student with relationships between the medications utilized and physiologic and biochemical actions of the medications. Intravenous induction agents, narcotics, muscle relaxants, and vasoactive drugs are included as well as interactions with prescription and non prescription drugs the patient may be currently taking.

ANPH 520 Cardiovascular Pharmacology – Michael Pilla, MD 2 Qtr. Hrs.

This course addresses the most common pathophysiologic manifestations of the cardiovascular system, and builds on the foundation taught in ANAP 520. A prime focus of this course is on pharmacologic agents used to care for patients presenting with these disease states. Also, commonly employed anesthetic agents and adjunct drugs used in these patients are presented. Transfusions, fluid management, and anesthetic implications of street drugs will be covered in additional lectures. As a prelude to the Path Management course taught in the 4th quarter, ANPR 570, students will be responsible for case presentations and discussions as outlined in the course syllabus and demonstrated during the first class.

ANPH 530 Pharmacology III – Larry Lancaster, RN, EdD 3 Qtr. Hrs.

This course is designed to discuss concepts related to Pharmacotherapeutics of frequently prescribed, but anesthesia non-specific, drugs at subcellular, cellular, organ, and systems levels. Many patients receiving anesthesia will be using drugs from one or more of the categories discussed.

PRINCIPLES OF ANESTHESIA

- ANPR 515 Advanced ACLS-EP (Experienced Provider)** **1 Qtr. Hr.**
- The ACLS-EP Course was designed for experienced ACLS providers to learn and be challenged in critical thinking skills beyond the regular ACLS algorithms.
- ANPR 520 Principles of Anesthesia (Fundamentals I & II) –** **4 Qtr. Hrs.**
Alescia DeVasher Bethea, MS, CRNA, APN
- Basic concepts of anesthetic management are stressed. Anesthetic equipment, its proper function, operation, and maintenance are stressed. Patient safety and anesthetic effectiveness are integrated with theory and practice of pre-anesthetic, anesthetic, and post-anesthetic management. The course spans two quarters, with separate grades given in each quarter.
- ANPR 525 Applied Principles of Anesthesia I, II, & III (Simulation in Anesthesia) -** **3 Qtr. Hrs.**
Alescia DeVasher Bethea, MS, CRNA, APN and Bernard DeVasher, MS, CRNA, MS, APN
- This course spans three quarters, with one quarter hour credit awarded and with separate grades given in each quarter. The first two quarters are companions to ANPR 520, using simulation for students to demonstrate basic skills. Third quarter is also an extension of ANPR 520, but it incorporates advanced airway skills, with simulated learning to reinforce topics learned in the first two quarters. Students practice fiberoptic intubations, jet ventilation, and pneumothorax decompression on SimMan.
- ANPR 530 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Obstetrical) –** **2 Qtr. Hrs.**
Karla Underwood, MS, CRNA, APN
- The unique aspect of administering anesthesia to the pregnant female is discussed with special emphasis on alterations in physiology in the pregnant state, common pathophysiologic states seen in the pregnant state, and the effects on the neonate of labor, delivery, and anesthesia. Specific techniques are outlined for all of the alternative courses that may be required in the anesthesia care of the pregnant female and techniques for emergency care of the newborn are outlined.
- ANPR 535 Equipment and Technology in Anesthesia –** **1 Qtr. Hr.**
Rob Taylor, MD
- This course is designed to explain and discuss the function of the anesthesia machine and ancillary equipment, such as tools for securing the airway. It covers the principles of ventilation, anesthetic gas elimination and carbon dioxide absorption. In addition, the various breathing systems and non-re-breathing valves are discussed.
- ANPR 540 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Regional Anesthesia I) –** **2 Qtr. Hrs.**
Lin Sherrill, MS, CRNA, APN
- A description of those regional blocks used in daily practice and methods of administration are described or demonstrated. Spinal anesthesia, epidural anesthesia, Bier block, and axillary block, etc., are included in this series.

ANPR 545 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Regional Anesthesia II) - TBA **2 Qtr. Hrs.**

Lectures related to the use of regional anesthesia, pharmacologic principles of regional anesthesia, and a description and demonstration of regional anesthesia techniques such as interscalene, supraclavicular and infraclavicular blocks, as well as lower extremity blocks are included.

ANPR 550 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Pediatric Anesthesia) – Dina Velocci, MS, CRNA, APN **2 Qtr. Hrs.**

Unique aspects of administering anesthesia to children are discussed with special emphasis on alteration in physiology of the child. Specific principles for anesthetic management and maintenance of homeostasis in children are covered.

ANPR 555 Physical Principles of Anesthesia and Equipment – Bernard DeVasher, MS, CRNA, MS, APN **1 Qtr. Hr.**

This course relates the physical principles and laws of the universe to the science and practice of anesthesia. The student is then shown how the physical forces of matter and energy may be controlled, regulated, and applied in the form of scientific and efficient anesthesia administration. A review of drug related mathematics is a part of this class.

ANPR 560 Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (Cardiovascular Anesthesia) – David Netterville, MD & Mark Spencer, CRNA **2 Qtr. Hrs.**

This course discusses anesthesia for vascular, thoracic, and cardiac surgery, and current literature about vasopressors, cardiac and respiratory physiology, and hemodynamic monitoring. It serves as a necessary foundation to administer anesthesia to patients with sick hearts for cardiac and non-cardiac surgery.

ANPR 570 Anesthesia and Co-Existing Disease (Path Management) – Michael Pilla, MD **4 Qtr. Hrs.**

Presents advanced clinically oriented topics, including advanced principles of management and techniques. Application of these principles to patients with difficult or unusual conditions is covered.

ANPR 580 Pain Management – TBA **1 Qtr. Hr.**

This course prepares the student for a role beyond the operating room to include the management of both acute and chronic pain. It focuses not only on the technical aspects of pain management, such as nerve blocks and epidural or subarachnoid catheter placement, but relates to utilization of diagnostic skills as well. It helps the student develop an understanding of the pharmacologic principles and broad medical knowledge in formulating a rational treatment plan for complex pain problems.

ANPR 585 Senior Case Study I, II, & III

3 Qtr. Hrs.

This course is designed to have students prepared to complete an in-depth case study on the first senior assignment in a specialty area, major surgery/trauma/neuro; cardiac, regional; obstetrical; pediatric. The case study will be expected to be completed using a specified format to include significant patient history data, laboratory and X-ray findings, and an in-depth review of the physiologic findings for the chosen patient. It will also require an in-depth review of all current medications as well as the pharmacologic agents which were used in the case. Any potential drug/anesthetic interactions must be described in detail. For more detailed information about the senior case study, please refer to page 54.

ANPR 600 Comprehensive Examinations

Three Comprehensive Examinations will be regularly administered to assist in evaluation of students' knowledge in anesthesia. Students are required to attain a passing score of 70% on two of the three regular Comprehensive Exams or attain an average score of 70% on all three regular exams. The grade for the first of these exams will be an average of the percentile score on the nationally-composed and administered Self-Evaluation Examination (SEE) and the score on the first Comprehensive Exam. The Comprehensive Exams are composed by a part-time MTSA faculty member.

If a student fails to attain a passing score of 70% on two of the three regularly scheduled Comprehensive Examinations, and/or fails to attain an average score of 70% on all three regular examinations, he/she may be allowed to take continuing special examinations at monthly intervals. The cost for taking the first special examination is \$100. If needed, additional special examinations will be administered at monthly intervals after the date of the third comprehensive examination. However, if additional special examinations are needed, the cost will double with each additional examination (i.e. the second additional special examination will cost \$200; the third additional special examination will cost \$400, etc.).

In any additional examinations, the student must either:

- a. pass both the final special examination and one of the regular examinations with a score on both not less than 70%; or,
- b. make a passing average of 70% calculated by averaging the two highest regular examination scores and the score on any special examinations.

If these conditions are met, the student is allowed to graduate with his class. If the student fails to attain a passing score on the regularly administered comprehensive examination and the special additional comprehensive examinations prior to graduation, the student may not be allowed to graduate with his/her class, and may be terminated at this point. However, with the permission of the Progressions Committee, the student may extend in the program and continue to take comprehensive examinations as scheduled every month until the conditions of passing two, or an average of 70% on three, comprehensive examinations are met.

Comprehensive exams are typically scheduled in April and August. Any request to take additional comprehensive exams before the regularly scheduled time is subject to a decision by the Progressions Committee. During the time between comprehensive exams, even though the student is studying for the comprehensive exam, the student will continue to have clinical assignments.

SEMINARS

ANSM 500 Clinical Seminar (Case Conference)

3 Qtr. Hrs.

Presents clinically oriented topics with problem solving and demonstration format. Utilizes case review, morbidity and mortality reports, and journal reviews. Affords students the opportunity for literature review and class presentation. In addition, certain class periods will be spent with students discussing clinical experiences and their feelings about progress in the clinical area. This group interaction is encouraged with the belief that verbalizing stress is a mechanism to manage it.

ANSM 510 Seminars in Anesthesia

This seminar is delivered to help prepare students to be successful on the MTSA Comprehensive Exams. Juniors and Seniors attend an external comprehensive anesthesia seminar brought to MTSA each year. These seminars are presented in the third and seventh quarters. The specific schedules and locations for these seminar sessions are to be announced to the class at a later date. These seminars are to affirm basic and advanced anesthesia principles presented by MTSA, and to focus on current trends in anesthesia.

ANSM 515 Senior Board Review I-IV – David Murphy, MS,CRNA,APN

4 Qtr. Hrs.

Monthly reading assignments are made for seniors from textbooks used in the junior year and the most current Valley Review and Memory Master. At the end of each month, a test will be given over the material. While course grades are Pass/Fail, students making a failing grade on any test will be required to write answers to all missed questions and document references in order to pass the test. This fosters independent study, while preparing students for the National Certification Exam. This course spans four quarters during the senior year, and separate grades are given for one hour's credit each quarter.

RELIGION

AREL 500 Religion – Lynn Schlisner, BA, MDiv

4 Qtr. Hrs.

The MTSA philosophy is that true education involves the growth of the spiritual, intellectual, and physical aspects of the student. This course is designed as a forum to assist in addressing the spiritual aspect. It is recognized that the intellectual progress of the student receives major attention throughout the curriculum.

These classes, held during Broadfields Orientation and the first four quarters, consist of a devotional talk and expose students to Christian philosophy from a Seventh-day Adventist perspective. While a relationship with Christ is a major topic, there will be discussion of Seventh-day Adventist doctrines. Many of these are held in common with most other churches, some will be held by only a few churches, and only one is unique to Seventh-day Adventists.

HISTORY

ANHS 500 Professional Aspects: Historical, Ethical, and Legal Aspects of Anesthesia, & Professional Adjustments ***– Mary DeVasher, CRNA, MEd, MS, APN***

4 Qtr. Hrs.

This course presents the development of relief from pain for surgical and medical treatment, from the primitive ages to modern time. Historical background and functions of local, state, and national professional organizations are presented. Included is the development and function of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists and its four councils.

It also presents the inter-relationship of medicine and law with special emphasis on the impact of the law on all aspects of medical practice. Basic concepts of the legal responsibility of the medical practitioner, along with some of the problem areas and legal pitfalls of the practice of anesthesia, as well as topics related to cultural sensitivity are presented. Professional responsibility and ethical relationships with patients and peers is covered.

Students attend one week-end professional meeting of the Tennessee Nurse Anesthesia Association (TANA). This meeting may not be coincident with the actual time the class is delivered. During this meeting students present research from MTSA and other Tennessee schools. Students are encouraged to participate in the discussions related to issues that are current within the profession.

SPECIAL AFTERNOON/EVENING GUEST LECTURERS

These are announced in advance and are part of MTSA's program. Attendance is required unless the student is on vacation or at an out-of-town affiliation. Failure to attend will result in Progressions Committee action, not to exceed a one day extension in the program for each missed event.

Special Note:

Every effort is made to adhere to class and clinical schedules. Class hours, course sequencing, clinical seminars, and clinical practicum hours have been estimated carefully, but are dependent on day-to-day situations at each affiliation, and should, therefore, be recognized as estimates that are subject to alteration to meet daily situations. Many classes are taught by instructors who hold CRNA/MDA positions in other facilities. When obligations in these facilities, such as "call," prohibit the instructor from meeting class on a particular day, the class will be rescheduled. This rescheduling will be done as far in advance as possible. All subject matter may change to benefit the student and/or MTSA. Students scheduled for class and not for clinical will be expected to adjust to changes in academic scheduling.

EDUCATION

ANED 500 Foundations of Evidence-Based Nurse Anesthesia Practice I – Michael Vollman, RN, PhD **3 Qtr. Hrs.**

This course is the first in the research sequence and is designed to prepare students to understand, critique, evaluate, and utilize research, as the foundation for evidence based nurse anesthesia practice. The specific foci of this course will include the foundations of knowledge development, research design, measurement issues, interpretation of research results, and research ethics. By the conclusion of this course, students will be able to read, critically evaluate, and select studies with scientific and clinical merit in order to apply research findings to the practice of nurse anesthesia. This course uses a hybrid delivery system containing both in-class and on-line lectures using the web-based system, Blackboard.

ANED 510 Foundations of Evidence-Based Nurse Anesthesia Practice II – Larry E. Lancaster, RN, EdD and Michael Vollman, RN, PhD **3 Qtr. Hrs.**

This course is the second in the research sequence and is designed as a capstone experience in research utilization for evidence-based nurse anesthesia practice. Each student or small group of students will select a salient, specific phenomenon of interest related to clinical anesthesia; do a theoretical/conceptual and research literature review; explicate the conceptual/theoretical basis; and critically analyze, integrate, and evaluate related research; and synthesize the body of knowledge. Based on the synthesis of the body of knowledge, recommendations will be made for applications to evidence-based nurse anesthesia practice. In addition, implications for anesthesia education will be suggested, and additional research needed to expand understanding of the phenomenon of interest will be proposed. The culminating experience for the course is dissemination of findings and recommendations in a formal presentation to faculty, peers, and invited guests.

ANED 520 Education – L. Phil Hunt, RN, EdD **4 Qtr. Hrs.**

This course focuses on various areas of higher education, including professional ethics, accreditation, curriculum development and evaluation, individual and group personality types, and various roles of anesthesia professionals in the community. This course also reviews teaching methods, learning styles, classroom participation and management techniques, and evaluation and supervision. During this course, an ethicist will also present a four hour discussion on ethics in the practice of anesthesia and anesthesia education.

CLINICAL PRACTICUM

<i>ANCL 500</i>	<i>Practicum I</i>	<i>2 Qtr Hr</i>	<i>50 Qtr. Hrs.</i>
<i>ANCL 505</i>	<i>Practicum II</i>	<i>2 Qtr Hr</i>	
<i>ANCL 510</i>	<i>Practicum III</i>	<i>2 Qtr Hr</i>	
<i>ANCL 515</i>	<i>Practicum IV</i>	<i>4 Qtr Hrs</i>	
<i>ANCL 520</i>	<i>Practicum V</i>	<i>8 Qtr Hrs</i>	
<i>ANCL 525</i>	<i>Practicum VI</i>	<i>8 Qtr Hrs</i>	
<i>ANCL 530</i>	<i>Practicum VII</i>	<i>8 Qtr Hrs</i>	
<i>ANCL 535</i>	<i>Practicum VIII</i>	<i>8 Qtr Hrs</i>	
<i>ANCL 540</i>	<i>Practicum IX</i>	<i>8 Qtr Hrs</i>	

Practica are designed to provide carefully supervised practice of anesthesia and patient management that corresponds closely to academic advancement. Progress is from simple to complex experience, allowing students to develop initiative and independent judgment in a progressive manner. Pre- and post-anesthetic patient management and emergency call are important elements of clinical practicum. Students' performance is evaluated at each affiliate. Students often have a meeting with the affiliate site Clinical Coordinator or designee at the affiliate during the last week of the month, or more frequently if indicated, to discuss their performance.

Students should expect to participate in all aspects of the anesthetic as assigned, and to complete all academic assignments made by the affiliate coordinator designee. If, at any time, the affiliate clinical faculty assesses clinical inadequacies relative to the student's level of training, they are asked to address this to the student and notify MTSA. It is the student's responsibility to keep accurate timely records of clinical experience on the forms provided. The Clinical Evaluation Coordinator will check these records monthly. The student may be suspended from clinical participation for incomplete records. Suspended days will be made up terminally. As a graduation pre-requisite, the student must successfully complete all assigned affiliations. Students will make written care plans in all affiliations.

A letter grade for Practica I-VIII will be recorded on the transcript and factored into the cumulative GPA. Practicum IX will receive clinical credit with a pass/fail grade.

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

The program is 28-month (Broadfields Orientation and 9 quarters) duration. Of these 28-months, 25 days are allotted for vacation, 12 for selected legal holidays, and 7 for sick/personal leave. For any other absences, the time will be made up terminally. For extended absences, there will be a reorientation period, with the length of time for this reorientation being determined by the Progressions Committee of the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia.

As graduation exercises occur only once in the program, students completing all aspects of the academic and clinical program are required to march in a graduation ceremony concurring with their completion of the program.

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EdD, Andrews University

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Certificate, Madison Hospital School of Anesthesia
BA, Ottawa University
MEd, Tennessee State University
MS, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia
Additional Study:
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Tennessee State University
Capella University

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Licensed Advanced Practice Nurse (Tennessee)

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Fellowship – Comprehensive Pain Management, Loma Linda University

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MD, University of Puerto Rico Medical School

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MSN, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

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EVALUATION ADVISOR***

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MS, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia

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Western Carolina University

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Licensed Advanced Practice Nurse (Tennessee)

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Licensed Advanced Practice Nurse (Tennessee)

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MD, University of Tennessee

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MICHAEL PILLA, BS, BA, MD **INSTRUCTOR**

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BA, Widener University
MD, University of Pennsylvania

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MDiv, Andrews University

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PhD, Vanderbilt University

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Vic Briggs, CRNA
Jennifer Bruss, CRNA
Tom Coghlan, CRNA
Kenny Dudley, CRNA
Debbie Ferguson-Cox, CRNA
Allen Fraser, CRNA
Henry Garcia, MS, CRNA, APN
Jeff Harmon, MS, CRNA, APN
Annie Hohl, CRNA
Beth Holtz, CRNA
Jim Maddox, CRNA, MS, APN
Christy Mennano, MS, CRNA, APN

Doug Morris, CRNA
Jeff Pope, MS, CRNA, APN
Ken Ramsey, CRNA
Lori Rivard, CRNA
Troy Sasser, MS, CRNA, APN
Jimmy Schuler, CRNA
Justin Sexton, CRNA

SOUTHERN TENNESSEE MEDICAL CENTER

WINCHESTER, TN

Matthew Arant, MS, CRNA, APN
Linda Clemens, CRNA
Jeremy Gilbert, MS, CRNA, APN
Penny Green, MS, CRNA, APN
Greg Motley, CRNA
Chris Will, MS, CRNA, APN

SUMMIT MEDICAL CENTER

HERMITAGE, TN

Sean Burch, MS, CRNA, APN
Marsha Chiles, CRNA
Jim Cook, MS, CRNA, APN
Arlene Cooper, CRNA
Patty Cornwell, CRNA
Leanne Fergusson, MS, CRNA, APN
Max Harper, CRNA
Steve Hawks, CRNA
Rachel Hester, MS, CRNA, APN
Susan Loudon, CRNA
Rose Mays, CRNA
Michael McGinley, MS, CRNA, APN
Joel Meredith, MS, CRNA, APN
Tom Neumaier, MS, CRNA, APN
Sarah Palazola, MS, CRNA, APN
Steve Plaxco, CRNA
Nina Porter, MS, CRNA, APN
Kent Price, CRNA
Lee Simmons, CRNA

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

NASHVILLE, TN

Warren Amyx, MS, CRNA, APN
Robert Atwood, CRNA
B.J. Barker, CRNA
Vicky Bates, CRNA
Ron Bell, MS, CRNA, APN
Steve Blanks, CRNA
Paul Bonner, MS, CRNA, APN
Kevin Burns, MS, CRNA, APN
John Butorac, MS, CRNA, APN
Stella Dellavedova, CRNA
Susan Dixner, CRNA
Ken Donnell, MS, CRNA, APN
Barbara Doring, CRNA
Patty Durchsprung, CRNA
Richie Flowers, MS, CRNA, APN
Jeff Ford, MS, CRNA, APN
Melanie Francis, MS, CRNA, APN

Tammy Freehling, CRNA
Lisa Glassford, MS, CRNA, APN
Lisa Gonzales, CRNA
Lenee Greer, MS, CRNA, APN
Eileen Griffin, CRNA
Mark Haffey, CRNA
Jan Hardison, MS, CRNA, APN
Sherry Harmon, MS, CRNA, APN
Richard Mark Hester, MS, CRNA, APN
Sally Holzapfel, CRNA
Jerry Ishee, CRNA
Mike Jacob, MS, CRNA, APN
Patricia Juozza-Clark, CRNA
Susan (Buffy) Krauser, MS, CRNA, APN
Melanie Lawless, MS, CRNA, APN
Rick Lyle, MS, CRNA, APN
Alison Martin, CRNA
Lewis N. McCarver, BS, CRNA, APN
Judy McKelvey, MS, CRNA, APN
David Moriarty, MS, CRNA, APN
Edith Newberry, CRNA
Veronica Nylander, MS, CRNA, APN
Shuhanna O'Bryan, MS, CRNA, APN
Brian Reid, CRNA
Chris Reid, MS, CRNA, APN
Carolyn Richmond, CRNA
Todd Rushing, MS, CRNA, APN
Lee Rutledge, MS, CRNA, APN
Charles Sharbel, CRNA
Bridget Sharp, CRNA
John Shields, CRNA, APN, MS
Sheila Sitarich, CRNA
Amy Smith, CRNA
Ki Szmyd-Hogan, CRNA
Debbie Temple, MS, CRNA, APN
Rhonda Tucker, MS, CRNA, APN
Jim Vandergrift, MS, CRNA, APN
Dina Velocci, MS, CRNA, APN
Dana Willis, MS, CRNA, APN
Paul Wilson, MS, CRNA, APN

FULL-TIME MTSA ADMINISTRATORS

L. Phil Hunt, RN, EdD	President
Mary E. DeVasher, CRNA, MEd, MS, APN, ABD	Vice President/Dean
James B. Closser, BA, CFRE	Vice-President for Advancement & Alumni
Alescia L. DeVasher Bethea, MS, CRNA, APN, ABD	Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness
Christopher Gustin, BS	Director of Operations

FULL-TIME MTSA EMPLOYEES

Mitzi Birdwell	Clinical Schedule and Contract Coordinator
Joanna Hayes Dickens	Interim Student Finance Coordinator
Jim Dukes	Technology Assistant
Candace Foreman, AD	Advancement Assistant
Amy C. Gideon, RHIA, MS	LRC & Information Systems Support Director
Martie Hansen	Administrative Assistant
Linda Jones	Academic & Clinical Assistant
Rita McGuffey	Alumni Assistant
Pam Nimmo	Admissions Coordinator & Medatrax Assistant
Debbie Rose	Operations Assistant/Student Recruitment Coordinator
Carol H. Stinson	Academic Coordinator
Dolores Underhill, BS	Receptionist/Clinical Evaluation Coordinator

PART-TIME MTSA EMPLOYEES

Jimmy Closser	Office Clerk
Thomas Erickson	Office Clerk
Andy Kurzynske	Office Clerk
Karin Vilanova	Academic Assistant

Institutional Calendar 2007-2009

July 24, 2007	Enrollment (Class of 2009)
July 24 – Aug. 31, 2007	Broadfields Orientation (Class of 2009)
Aug. 6 – 17, 2007	BLS/ACLS/EKG/PALS (Class of 2009)
Aug. 3, 2007	Fourth Quarter ends (Class of 2008)
Aug. 12, 2007	Comprehensive Exam (Classes of 2007 & 2008)
Aug. 13 – 19, 2007	Vacation, 1 st Group (Class of 2008)
Aug. 20 - Aug. 26, 2007	Vacation, 2 nd Group (Class of 2008)
Sept. 3, 2007	Labor Day – NO CLASS
Sept. 3 – Nov. 16, 2007	First Quarter (Class of 2009)
October 19 - 21, 2007	TANA Annual Meeting
Nov. 19 – Dec. 21, 2007	First part of Second Quarter (Class of 2009)
November 22, 2007	Thanksgiving Day – NO CLASS
Nov. 29, 2007 @ 6pm	Graduation Class of 2007
Dec. 4 – 5, 2007	Regular Interviews for Class of 2008-2010
Dec. 24 – 30, 2007	Vacation, 1 st Group (Class of 2009)
Dec. 25, 2007	Christmas – NO CLASS
Dec. 31, 2007 – Jan. 6, 2008	Vacation, 2 nd Group (Class of 2009)
Jan. 1, 2008	New Year's Day – NO CLASS
Jan. 7 – Feb. 15, 2008	Second half of Second quarter (Class of 2009)
Feb. 18 – 24, 2008	Vacation, 1 st Group (Class of 2009)
Feb. 25 – Mar. 2, 2008	Vacation, 2 nd Group (Class of 2009)
Mar. 3 - May 16, 2008	Third quarter (Class of 2009)
April 2008 – Dates TBA	Valley Review – Mandatory attendance for most in-town Juniors and Seniors. The dates and locations are assigned by MTSA. Primary Location: MTSA campus

Institutional Calendar 2007-2009 (continued)

April 20 or 27, 2008 - TBA	Comprehensive Exam (Classes of 2007 & 2008)
May 4, 2008	MTSA Annual Alumni Dinner
May 5, 2008	MTSA Annual Alumni Golf Tournament
May 12 or 19, 2008 - TBA	Orientation Day (Class of 2008-2010)
May 19 – 25, 2008	Vacation, 1 st Group (Class of 2009)
May 26 – June 1, 2008	Vacation, 2 nd Group (Class of 2009)
May 26, 2008	Memorial Day – NO CLASS
June 2 – Aug. 8, 2008	Fourth Quarter (Class of 2009)
July 4, 2008	Independence Day – NO CLASS
July 2008 - TBA	Enrollment (Class of 2010)
July 21 – Aug. 29, 2008	Broadfields Orientation (Class of 2010)
August 11 - 15, 2008	Clinical & Comprehensive study (Class of 2009)
August 17, 2008	Comprehensive Exam (Classes of 2008 & 2009)
Aug. 18 – 24, 2008	Vacation, 1 st Group (Class of 2009)
Aug. 25 – 31, 2008	Vacation, 2 nd Group (Class of 2009)
Dec. 4, 2008 @ 6pm	Graduation (Class of 2008)
July 20 or 27, 2009 - TBA	Broadfields Starts (Class of 2009 – 2011)
August 16, 2009	Comprehensive Exam (Classes of 2009 & 2010)
September 2009 – TBA	Vacation (Class of 2009)
September 2009 - TBA	Senior Electives Start (Class of 2009)
December 3, 2009	Projected Graduation (Class of 2009)

The above dates are projected dates, and selected ones may change.

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