

Who are CRNAs?

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists



CRNAs administer nearly 58 million anesthetics yearly in the US.

Nurses have been providing anesthesia for patients for over 150 years.

The CRNA credential came into existence in 1956. Nurse Anesthetists have been board certified ever since.

- CRNAs are Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) with an expertise in anesthesia. They have completed post-graduate education and training and passed the National Certification Exam
- All Nurse Anesthesia Programs are required to be at a doctoral level for entry into practice since 2022.
- CRNAs are involved in every aspect of anesthesia service: from conducting pre-anesthesia assessments to administering the anesthetic, monitoring and interpreting a patient's vital signs to managing the patient throughout the surgery and into the recovery unit.

How many CRNAs are there?

Over 62,000 CRNAs in the U.S.

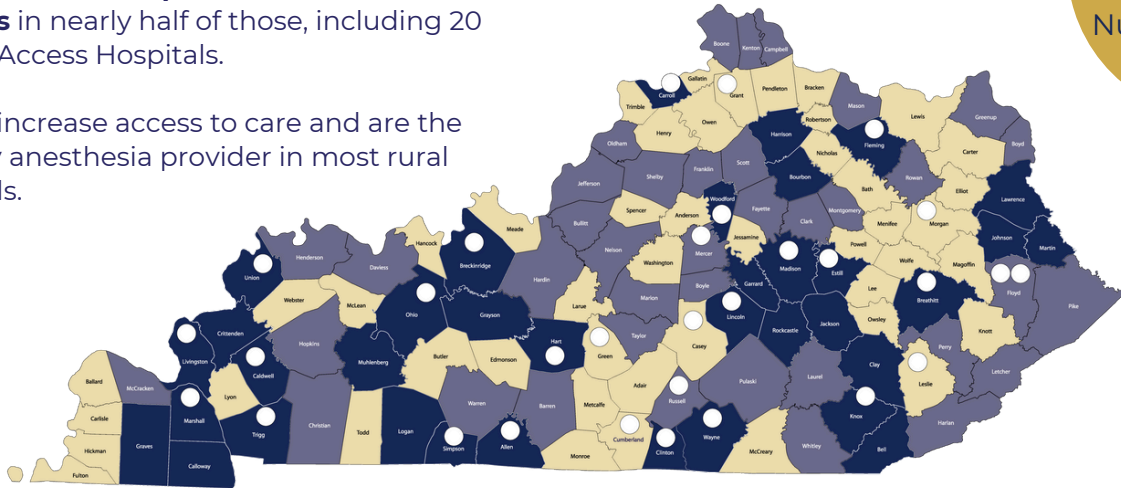
But more importantly

Over 1200 CRNAs practicing in Kentucky in both urban and rural settings.

Why are CRNAs so important to Kentucky?

- CRNAs provide anesthesia in every Kentucky county that offers surgical services.
- CRNAs are the **sole providers of anesthesia services** in nearly half of those, including 20 Critical Access Hospitals.
- CRNAs increase access to care and are the primary anesthesia provider in most rural hospitals.

CRNAs are growing in Kentucky. Our state has 4 Nurse Anesthesia Programs!



Kentucky CRNAs at a Glance

ANESTHESIA PROVIDER

 **CRNA/MDA**
○ 2 Critical Access Hospitals

 **CRNA only**
○ 20 Critical Access Hospitals

 **MDA Only**

 **No Surgical or Anesthesia Services**
○ 8 Critical Access Hospitals

