AARA American Association of NURSE ANESTHESIOLOGY

JOB SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

"What are some questions you wish you had asked hospitals during interviews for your first CRNA job?"

Credit to Dr. Ashley Showers DNP, CRNA, FAANA

Position Requirements

- + What kind of case mix is there?
- + Do the CRNAs do all types of cases?
- + Who makes the assignments? When are they made?
- + Are there any call requirements? How are nights/weekends/holidays covered?
- + Is call part of your workweek, or in addition to regularly-scheduled OR hours?
- + Is call from home, or is it in-house? How is the next day handled?
- + Do CRNAs provide anesthesia at one facility, or multiple locations? Do CRNAs have to travel to all hospitals in the health system, and if so, in the same day?

Anesthesia Department/Group Information

- + Are the CRNAs hospital employees, group employees, or 1099 independent contractors?
- + How many CRNAs are affiliated with the hospital? Any anesthesia assistants? Any anesthesia technicians?
- + Is there an anesthesia residency program? A CRNA educational program? An AA program?
- Is there a head CRNA/chief CRNA? How long have they been with the group?
- + How long does it take to get credentialed with the hospital/facility?
- What is the turnover for CRNAs in your group/department?

Practice-Related Information

- + Is there any orientation period? How long?
- + Is your group/department comfortable/experienced with taking a new graduate?
- + If in an opt-out state, confirm that facility bylaws do not require supervision to align with state law.
- + How are CRNA services billed (e.g., medical direction or QZ)?
- + Which types of blocks are CRNA credentialed and privileged to do?

- + Is there a pre-anesthesia clinic where patients are seen prior to surgery? Who sees the patients?
- Is there opportunity for invasive line placement? Which ones? Are there any invasive lines CRNAs do not place?
- + What kind of relationship does the anesthesia department have with the surgeons?
- + How quick is the room turnover between cases? Is there support for room cleaning, anesthesia equipment setup, etc?
- + Are CRNAs responsible for covering the PACU? ICU? ED?

Compensation & Benefits

- + Are the CRNAs paid hourly or salaried? How many hours do the CRNAs typically work in a week?
- + What is the scheduling like? What kind of flexibility is there in scheduling?
- + Is this 1099 or W-2?
- + How much vacation is included? Do the CRNAs need to find their own vacation coverage?
- + Is there any continuing education reimbursement (meetings, professional dues, etc)? Is time off provided for continuing education?
- + How are sick days vs. vacation days vs. holidays vs. CME days handled?
- + Is insurance provided (Life insurance, short-term and long-term disability insurance)?
- + Is medical insurance provided? Dental? Vision? How comprehensive is the coverage?
- + How is malpractice insurance handled?
- + Is parking included, or is it paid by the employee?
- + What sort of retirement plan is in place for CRNAs (401k vs. 403b vs. pension vs. profit-sharing)?
- + Is there any reimbursement/assistance for relocation?

Check out the AANA resources below for quick, trusted support and guidance.

- Practice Management
- 1099 CRNA Institute
- Contact Services MAP

