

March 4 - 10, 2018 (Sunday - Saturday)

REGISTERED NURSE FIRST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

**An Expanded Practice Course for Operating Room Nurses,
Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners**



*This course offers
six semester hours of
University credit for the student who
completes both the
didactic component and the
135 hour clinical component.*

Sponsored by Cone Health and the School of Nursing at
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University

THE PROGRAM

Based on the Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN) Core Curriculum, our program is one of only 15 approved programs nationwide that has met specific criteria and is recognized by Competency & Credentialing Institute as an acceptable program for Certified Registered Nurse First Assistant eligibility. As a Registered Nurse First Assistant (RNFA), your nursing role will be expanded and will require independent nursing judgment related to tissue handling, retracting, providing exposure, clamping, ligating, suturing, and providing hemostasis. Our RNFA program is designed to provide the perioperative nurse with the advanced knowledge and skill set to function at an advanced level.

Who Should Attend?

Registered nurses who practice operative nursing (BSN preferred).

Course Objectives

To provide the perioperative nurse with the knowledge and skills to:

- Describe factors influencing scope of practice for the RNFA
- Utilize the nursing process as a foundation for practice
- Apply principles of asepsis and infection control
- Describe surgical anatomy and physiology
- Utilize surgical techniques related to first assisting
- Recognize surgical hazards and initiate appropriate action
- Validate intraoperative nursing behaviors
- Apply principles of hemostasis, suturing and wound exposure in a laboratory setting
- Demonstrate appropriate techniques of knot tying
- Apply principles of first assisting in a laboratory setting
- Develop effective communication skills



Program Structure

Didactic

The didactic component of the program is designed to provide the student with the necessary knowledge to function as an RNFA. Teaching methodologies include lecture, discussion, independent study requirements, audiovisual aids, demonstration and return demonstration, and laboratory practicums. The student must attend one week of class at North Carolina A&T State University.

Clinical

The clinical component provides the student with the opportunity to gain the skills needed to perform as an RNFA. Prior to enrollment, the student must have two letters of agreement; one from a surgeon who will serve as a mentor, and one from the clinical practice site. The clinical consists of 135 hours in a hospital setting. The student has up to one year to complete the entire program, including Certified Nurse Operating Room (CNOR) certification.

Credit

This program offers six semester hours of University credit for the student who completes both the didactic component and the 135-hour clinical component (NURS 481 and NURS 491).

Faculty

Faculty will consist of master's prepared perioperative nurses, RNFAs and board certified surgeons.



Preadmission Requirements

The following information must be provided prior to enrolling in the program:

- Completed application and tuition fee
- Transcript copies (post-secondary)
- Curriculum vitae or resume
- Proof of RN licensure
- Licensure to practice as a registered nurse in the state in which the clinical internship will be accomplished
- Experience: must have 2 years of recent operative nursing experience. This experience must include demonstrated competency in the scrubbing, circulating, or first assisting roles of the intraoperative nursing dimension. (CNOR Eligible)
- For APNs without intraoperative experience, a peri-operative skills assessment will need to be submitted
- CNOR: Must be CNOR or eligible with CNOR status obtained before a certificate of program completion is awarded or
- Board certified or board eligible as an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN). APN Board certification must be obtained before a certificate of program completion is awarded.
- Proof of CPR or BCLS is required. ACLS is preferred.
- Proof of current personal professional liability insurance specific for RN first assistants.
- Two letters of recommendation to validate:
 - a. One's proficiency in the role of scrubbing, circulating
 - b. One's ability to perform effectively in stressful situations
 - c. One's ability to perform effectively and harmoniously as a team member
 - d. One's ability to perform effectively as a leader
- Should your employer require an affiliation agreement, please contact Pat White (whitep@ncat.edu) as soon as possible. This process requires some time to process through the legal departments at both institutions.

How to Register:

For program content contact:
Nicole Small, MSN, RN, RNFA, CNOR
Cone Health System
336.832.2575
Email: nicole.small@conehealth.com

North Carolina A&T State University
Cynthia Shores, Ph.D
School of Nursing
336.285.3572
Email: cishores@ncat.edu

For registration information contact:
Pat White, MS, CPP
North Carolina A&T State University
Office of Continuing Education
336.334.7810
Email: whitep@ncat.edu

Mail completed package to:

NC A&T State University
Office of Continuing Education
1601 E. Market Street
Wendover Bldg., Suite 101
Greensboro, NC 27411

Cost

The cost of the program is \$3,672

If you are interested in attending this program, send in the attached registration form with a \$300 non-refundable deposit.

Balance of tuition and all paper work is due February 5, 2018.

Preregistration is required. Class size is limited to 16.



Highlights of the Program

- Lectures by experienced and engaged surgeons
- Suturing and knot tying lab
- In-depth physical assessment lab
- Lectures on current laparoscopic surgeries
- Lectures (by experienced RNFA's) and discussion on the credentialing process
- Interactive laparoscopic lab
- Interprofessional collaboration across specialties
- Surgeon-led live porcine lab with specialty stations



About the Sponsors

Cone Health

Since opening its doors in 1953, The Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital has grown from a 51 bed, 200 employee facility into a multi-institutional health network. The hospital is one of five divisions in Cone Health, an organization whose services are provided by 500 private physicians and dentists and a staff of over 8,000 health-care professionals. Moses Cone Hospital remains the organization's flagship facility and is a recognized leader in cardiology, neuroscience, trauma and rehabilitation services.

North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University's School Of Nursing

The School offers a Bachelor's degree in nursing with three entry options: traditional, accelerated second degree; and BSN completion options. With a strong commitment to the non-traditional student, the School has been a pacesetter in North Carolina. The School of Nursing provides services to improve the health of communities locally and globally.

"This course was excellent."

"Good presentations by surgeons, especially from a RNFA prospective."

"A great program. Would highly recommend to peers"

"I feel this is an excellent program! The instructors were phenomenal."



**For Registration
Information:**
whitep@ncat.edu

Office: 336-334-7810
Fax: 336-334-7081

Registration Form

REGISTERED NURSE FIRST ASSISTANT
PROGRAM March 4 – 10, 2018

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone
(Home) _____ (Work) _____

(Cell) _____ (Email) _____

_____ ***\$300 Non-refundable Deposit Enclosed***

How To Register:

Registered Nurse First
Assistant Program:
NC A&T
State University

Office of
Continuing Education
1601 E. Market Street
Wendover Bldg., Rm. 101
Greensboro, NC 27411
Attn: Pat White

REGISTERED NURSE FIRST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

North Carolina A&T State University
Office of Continuing Education
1601 E. Market Street, Suite 101
Greensboro, NC 27411

