Anesthesiology Residency Training
C.K. Lineberger, MD
Anesthesia Interest Group June 2006

Anesthesiology is in the **regular match program**.

**Types of programs**

- Categorical: includes an internship
- Advanced: anesthesiology training only, must find separate internship

**Clinical Base Year**

Usually completed before the start of anesthesia training
Look for a robust year that will prepare you well for your residency

- Preliminary year in medicine, surgery, peds
- Transitional Year: Look for critical care, medicine, surgery
- Categorical: built into residency program

**Clinical Anesthesia training (CA-1, CA-2, CA-3 Years)**

- Structure varies from program to program
- Three years of clinical training with progressive responsibilities
- Usually a month-long orientation program
- Didactic series
- Other educational activities: simulator, practice oral exams, anatomy labs
- Work 1:1 with faculty, less often with peers

**Suggested 4th year electives**

- Clinical anesthesia: early, before interview season
- Critical Care
- Medicine or subspecialties
- Radiology
  Don’t do more than 1-2 months of anesthesia!
  Away rotations are not required, and not advised, with rare exceptions

**Application**

- Application via ERAS (Electronic Residency Application Service)
- Earlier is better
- Anesthesiology is very competitive these days
- USMLE Part One is essential: Most programs have cut-off score of 210-230, but not absolute.
• Letters of recommendation: you need 3-4 overall, in addition to the MSPE. One from anesthesiology, research year, and others who know you well. Diversity is good – shows that you can be successful with a variety of people in a variety of situations. Be sure to waive your right to review the letters.
• Strategy: you want to end up being able to rank 8-12 anesthesiology programs, which you would be at least content with. This means interviewing at more than 8-12 programs, and applying to even more than that!

**Essential Attributes for Anesthesiology**

• Intelligence
• Compassion
• Communication Skills
• Team Player
• Detail-oriented
• Precision
• Endurance
• Self-starter, eventual independent practice
• Multitasking
• Technical skills
• Poise under stress
• Concentration
• Quick decision-making

**Useful websites**

[www.acgme.org](http://www.acgme.org): look under Anesthesiology Residency Review Committee and program requirements for a description of minimal training requirements. The accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education is responsible for accrediting residency programs.

[www.asahq.org](http://www.asahq.org): the American Society of Anesthesiologists is a group dedicated to education, continuing education, patient safety, research. This site would give you some idea of various educational offerings and issues that are important to anesthesiologists.

[www.seahq.org](http://www.seahq.org): the Society for Education in Anesthesia is a group of anesthesia faculty educators and some residents, who have interest in the process of medical student and resident education. Drs. King and Lineberger have been or are officers. Check with Dr. King’s office to see a copy of the Medical Students’ Guide to Anesthesiology Residency Programs, which has a lot of useful information.

[www.abanes.org](http://www.abanes.org): website for the American Board of Anesthesiology which certifies individuals as diplomats of the specialty.

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### Other useful contacts

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### Teaching Scholars for 2006-2007

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