LETTER OF INTENT – 1

(New Certificate or Degree Program)

1. Institution submitting request: Arkansas State University
2. Education Program Contact person/title: Dr. Jill S. Detty Oswaks, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Nursing Programs, Interim Director of the DNP Program, Director, Nurse Anesthesia Program
3. Telephone number/e-mail address: (870) 972-2814/jdettyoswaks@astate.edu
4. Proposed Name of Certificate or Degree Program: Doctor of Nursing Practice
5. Proposed Effective Date: January 01, 2018
6. Requested CIP Code: 51.3804
7. Program Description:

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP): Nurse Anesthesia Option program will be offered as a post Registered Nurse nursing degree. The practice-focused doctoral program will prepare registered nurses for the nurse anesthesia role at the highest level of clinical nursing practice. In 2004, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) proposed that the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) will be the entry level for advanced practice nursing. In 2009, the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) mandated that all nurse anesthesia programs must be at the doctoral level by 2025. In October 2015, the COA mandated that all accredited programs must offer a doctoral degree for entry into practice by January 1, 2022. This proposed program’s structure will demonstrate compliance with *The American Association of College of Nursing’s Essentials of Doctor Education for Advanced Nursing Practice, The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Program’s 2015 Practice Doctorate Standards for Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing’s 2013 Standards and Criteria for Clinical Doctorate.*

The DNP: Nurse Anesthesia Option program will require full-time study and completion of the degree prior to being eligible to sit for the National Board of Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetist’s National Certifying Examination. Students must be registered nurses (RN) who hold an unrestricted RN license and a minimum of a bachelor’s of science in nursing (BSN) degree for admission. The curriculum is 36 months in duration, 114 credit hours with 2,820 clinical clock hours over 9 semesters. Admission into the DNP for entry into nurse anesthesia program will occur annually for the fall term. The entry-into-practice competencies for the nurse anesthesia professional prepared at the practice doctoral level builds upon the competencies of the BSN prepared registered nurse and are those required to provide safe, competent and ethical anesthesia and anesthesia-related care to patients for diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical procedures. By being prepared at the highest level of education, graduates have the potential to transform health care delivery, improve outcomes and increase access at the local, regional and national level through the education that will allow graduates to incorporate systems-focused care.

1. Mode of Delivery (mark all that apply):

**\_\_\_\_\_On-Campus –** All didactic courses will be held on the Jonesboro campus

**\_\_\_\_\_Off-Campus Location** **–** The program will use clinical sites at off campus location for clinical courses. These clinical sites include health care facilities throughout the Mississippi River Delta area – Jonesboro, Memphis, NW Mississippi and central Arkansas

Provide address of off-campus location-Current Affiliate Organizations include:

1. Arkansas Children’s Hospital, Little Rock, AR

2. Arkansas Medical Center, Paragould, AR

2. Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, TN

3. Baptist Women’s Hospital, Memphis, TN

4. Baptist Collierville Hospital, Collierville, TN

5. Baptist Memorial Hospital – Union County, New Albany, MS

6. Baptist Memorial Hospital – Desoto, Southaven, MS

7. Conway Regional Medical Center, Conway, AR

8. Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare System

a. LeBonheur Children’s Hospital

b. Methodist University, Memphis, TN

c. Methodist Germantown, Germantown, TN

d. Methodist North, Memphis, TN

e. Methodist South, Memphis, TN

9. National Park Medical Center, Hot Springs, AR

10. NEA Baptist Hospital, Jonesboro, AR

11. Ortho AR Surgery Center, Jonesboro, AR

12. Outpatient Surgery Center, Jonesboro, AR

13. Regional One Medical Center, Memphis, TN

14. Saline Memorial Hospital, Benton, AR

15. St. Bernard’s Medical Center, Jonesboro, AR

16. St. Francis Hospital – Bartlett, Bartlett, TN

17. St. Francis Hospital – Park, Memphis, TN

18. St. Vincent’s – Hot Springs, Hot Springs, AR

19. St. Vincent’s – Little Rock, Little Rock, AR

20. Veteran Affairs’ Medical Center, Memphis, TN

21. White County Medical Center, Searcy, AR

Provide a copy of the e-mail notification to other institutions in the state notifying them of the proposed program. Please inform institutions not to send the response to **“Reply All”**. If you receive an objection/concern(s) from an institution, reply to the institution and copy ADHE on the email. That institution should respond and copy ADHE. If the objection/concern(s) cannot be resolved, ADHE may intervene.

Submit copy of written notification to Higher Learning Commission (HLC) if notification required by HLC for a program offered at an off-campus location.

\_\_\_\_\_\_Indicate distance of proposed site from main campus.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_Distance Technology** (50% of program offered by distance technology)

Submit copy of written notification to HLC if notification is required by HLC for a program offered by distance technology.

1. List existing certificate or degree programs that support the proposed program:

RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Associate of Applied Science in Nursing.

1. President/Chancellor Approval Date:
2. Academic Affairs Officer: Date: