



Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs)

- **CRNAs** are highly educated, advanced practice registered nurses who deliver anesthesia to patients in exactly the same ways, for the same types of procedures, and just as safely as physicians anesthesiologists.
- **100% of all Montana counties** with obstetrical, surgical, procedural, pain management, and trauma stabilization services rely on CRNAs while **82% of counties** rely on CRNAs **SOLELY**.
- **Every hospital in Montana**, except for a few, uses only CRNAs.
- **Montana Veterans Hospitals** are staffed by CRNAs for their anesthesia care. CRNAs are also the primary providers of anesthesia care to active U.S. military personnel domestically and in surgical teams worldwide.
- **CRNAs are SAFE.** There are no differences in patient safety outcomes when CRNAs provide anesthesia services, physicians, or CRNAs supervised by physicians. (Dulisse, 2010 Health Affairs)
- **CRNAs provide high-quality, cost-effective** services. They are critical to the provision of rural surgical and obstetric care, and to the sustainability of rural hospitals.
- **Increased utilization of CRNAs** in all Montana healthcare facilities would increase access to quality care and help **reduce unnecessary healthcare spending**.