





As you prepare to pursue accreditation of your APP fellowship program, we recommend completing the tools in the readiness bundle to aid in identification of gaps in your program. This analysis will reveal opportunities for program improvement, which will lead to action plan development and the best chance for accreditation success.

Additionally, we recommend completing this review annually in your strategic planning for program revisions.

STEP 1

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

Key eligibility components for program accreditation

STEP 2

#### **GAP ANALYSIS**

Identification of gaps in program that need to be closed to meet requirements for accreditation

STEP 3

#### **ACTION PLAN**

Detailed plan for closing gaps in order to meet accreditation standards



# Is my APP fellowship program eligible for accreditation?

### **CATEGORY: PROGRAM**

The program is an organized, time- or competency-bound, and consistently conducted in all sites and specialty(ies)/service line(s) during which PAs and/or APRNs may acquire and demonstrate the knowledge and skills to deliver safe and quality care. Components may include but are not limited to:

OMPONENT	EXAMPLE	COMMENTS
Orientation (see glossary)	Organization orientation, APRN/PA specific orientation, onboarding structured time.	
Didactic/ Classroom	Classroom setting introduction, online courses, seminars.	
Simulation	Creation of patient scenario intended to teach the learner a specific skill or set of skills. For example: therapeutic communication or myocardial infarction.	
Organizational Enculturation	Specific practices and expectations of the learner's role with patients, safety, or key processes in the organization.	
Practice-Based Learning (see glossary)	Learning done in the clinical or work setting with a preceptor or other experienced professional. Working with specific patient populations, diagnosis, etc.	

## **CATEGORY: PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

One individual who serves as Program Director and is accountable for ensuring program compliance with the standards.

#### PROGRAM DIRECTOR REQUIREMENTS

COMMENTS

Is a current PA or APRN licensed professional.

Possesses a national or international certification as PA or APRN.

Has education experience in adult learning principles.

Maintains accountability and oversight of all participating sites/specialties.

Serves as primary point of contact for the program.

Maintains accountability for the education design process (development, design, implementation, and evaluation) of the program.

## **CATEGORY: PROGRAM TYPE**

APP Fellowship

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLE
Is designed for PAs and/or APRNs.	A nine-month curriculum including orientation, performance opportunities in the workplace setting, and additional seminars for professional development.
Has a duration of at least <u>nine months</u> .	
May include orientation; must include practice-based learning and supplemental activities to promote professional development.	

COMMENTS

## CATEGORY: LEARNER(S) & COHORT

Program Director ensures learners in the program meet the requirements.

#### LEARNER(S) REQUIREMENTS

COMMENTS

Graduated from accredited PA or APRN program.

Current license as PA or APRN.

Hold national certification as PA or APRN.

Must be paid at least minimum wage requirements as part of employment.

Cannot be required to pay to participate in program.

#### PROGRAM DIRECTOR REQUIREMENTS

Program Director must verify that a minimum of one learner has completed the program before applying for accreditation.

#### **COHORT REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum of one learner who has completed entire program.

Indicate total number of learners who have participated in the program in the previous 12 months.

## **CATEGORY: SITE(S)**

Program Director must identify participating sites when applying.

#### **SINGLE SITE** (see glossary)

SITE(S)/SERVICE LINE(S)COORDINATOR(S) (SLC) (see glossary)

Program has one location with single or multiple specialties/service lines.

Program has multiple locations at more than one address and may have more than one specialty/service line.

A minimum of one learner must have completed the program at each site within 24 months prior to application submission. Must maintain a license and certification as PA or APRN and have education or experience in adult learning principles.

COMMENTS

## CATEGORY: SPECIALTY(IES)/SERVICE LINE(S)

Program Director identifies participating specialty(ies)/service line(s) where the program is operationalized.

SPECIALTY: The area in which a PA or an APRN in a fellowship program practices.

#### SPECIALTY(IES)/SERVICE LINE(S) REQUIREMENTS

COMMENTS

Clinical environment or may include leadership, management, research, and other areas.

Standardized educational design across all sites and specialties.

#### SPECIALTY(IES) REQUIREMENTS

Complete one program cohort in all participating specialties.

Maintain program structures and processes in all participating specialties.

Maintain single Program Director oversight and accountability in all participating specialties.

A minimum of one learner must have completed each specialty in the program within a 24-month time frame prior to application submission.

#### SPECIALTY COORDINATOR(S) (SC) — OPTIONAL (see glossary)

The role may be utilized and ensure program consistency.

Must be licensed PA or APRN with certification and have education or experience in adult learning principles.

## **CATEGORY: COMPLIANCE**

Program Director maintains oversight of program compliance.

#### PROGRAM DIRECTOR MUST ENSURE

COMMENTS

Disclosure of previous program denials, suspensions, or revocation of any ANCC credential or any other accrediting bodies.

Compliance with APPFA requirements and standards

Compliance with all regulation bodies that pertain to ability of site(s) and specialty(ies) to meet APPFA requirements.

Compliance with regulation bodies pertaining to equal opportunity employment.

Compliance with all laws and regulations and must not be excluded or barred by federal law.





# GAP ANALYSIS TOOL

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

The Gap Analysis tool should help you identify missing components or areas to improve upon as you begin vour journey to accreditation. Program domains and focus points are listed to aid in your review, and space is provided to include gap details as well. As you investigate the details of your gap, you will notice the tool uses a "structure" or "curriculum" flag. This flag will assist you as you move to your action plan phase. You'll be able to consider whether this gap requires a structure change, which may involve a multitude of stakeholders and financial resources, or is it a curriculum gap in which the Program Director has the authority to implement changes quickly?



# **PROGRAM LEADERSHIP**

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Program Director has roles and responsibilities throughout the program.  Focus points include:  Fiscal accountability  Advocation for resources  Strategic planning  Succession planning	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Program operationalized consistently throughout all sites and/or specialties/ service lines.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO NO		
Orientation of stakeholders involved in the program.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		

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# **PROGRAM GOALS & OUTCOMES MEASURES**

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Program SMART goals and outcome measures  Focus categories include:  Learner professional development  Learner competency  Self-reported measure (learner focused)  Financial	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Program operationalized consistently throughout all sites and/or service lines.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Orientation of stakeholders involved in the program.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		



# **ORGANIZATIONAL ENCULTURATION**

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Learner assimilation Focus points include: Program orientation Specialty standards of practice introduction	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Learner regulatory introduction  Focus points include:  State and regulatory requirements  Credentialing and privileging	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO NO		
Introduction to provider performance metrics.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		



# **DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN**

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Program competency infrastructure Focus points include:  Learner evaluation competency tools  Competency formative and summative feedback  Competency gap identification	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Program competency curriculum Focus points include: Competency development General competencies Specialty competencies	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Interprofessional team members are integrated into the program. Program faculty Focus points include: Faculty selection Faculty evaluation	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		



#### **DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN CONTINUED**

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Program preceptors Focus points include: Preceptor selection Preceptor education Preceptor evaluation (by program director/ designee and by learner)	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		

# PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Supportive guidance Focus points include:  Mentorship Peer support Interprofessional teaming	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		



#### PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING CONTINUED

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Learner well-being is incorporated in the program.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Practice efficiency is integrated in the program.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		
Practice setting learning Focus points include:  Communication Critical thinking Ethics	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		



#### PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING CONTINUED

APPFA DOMAIN REQUIREMENT	GAP?	GAP DETAILS			IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION FOR DESIRED STATE	ACTION PLAN
Social determinants of health are integrated throughout the program.	YES NO	Structure Curriculum Other NOTES	YES YES YES	NO NO		