APRN Faculty Tool Kit

ANCC Certification Overview
The mission of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), is to promote excellence in nursing and health care globally through credentialing programs. Learn about:

- ANCC Programs
- Credentialing Research
- Accreditation
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- All Certification Programs
- Certification Programs for Advanced Practice
- Consensus Model for APRN Regulations

Also learn about:

Certifying through ANCC
Information for Faculty
ANCC Programs

The Magnet Recognition Program® is the most prestigious distinction a healthcare organization can receive for nursing excellence. Magnet organizations are recognized for superior nursing processes, structures, and outcomes, leading to high-quality patient care.

The Pathway to Excellence® and Pathway to Excellence in Long Term Care™ programs credential healthcare organizations’ commitment to creating a positive nursing practice environment. Pathway’s focus on collaboration, career development, and accountable leadership ensures that nurses are prepared.

Accreditation demonstrates an organization’s commitment to quality continuing nursing education (CNE), ANCC-accredited organizations and programs provide nurses with the knowledge and skills to stay at the top of their profession.

ANCC Certification validates nurses’ specialty knowledge and enhances their professional satisfaction. Our exams incorporate the latest national nursing practice standards, focusing on the skills nurses need to succeed.
The ANCC Institute for Credentialing Research supports research-related processes and activities for ANCC organizational and individual credentialing programs:

- Accreditation
- Certification
- Pathway to Excellence®
- Magnet Recognition Program®

Externally, the Institute works to promote the growth of credentialing research. Credentialing is:

- An umbrella term that includes accreditation, licensure, professional certification, and education.
- The process by which an authorized and qualified entity grants formal recognition, or records the recognition status of individuals, organizations, institutions’ programs, processes services or products that have met predetermine standards.
- The process used by hospitals and facilities to validate and recognize healthcare providers.
ANCC certifications are accredited by:

- National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCCA)
- Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNCC)
ANCC is the only nurse credentialing organization to successfully achieve ISO 9001:2015
All Certification Programs

Types of Certifications

- Interprofessional
- Nurse Practitioner
- Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Specialty

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Certification Programs for Advanced Practice

Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP (AGACNP-BC)
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP (AGPCNP-BC)
- Psychiatric-Mental Health NP (PMHNP-BC)
- Family NP (FNP-BC)

Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
- Adult-Gerontology CNS (AGCNS-BC)

Specialty
- Nurse Executive, Advanced (NEA-BC)
Goals
The Consensus Model supports the goals of the ANCC APRN certification process and will align the inter-relationships among licensure, accreditation, certification, and education to create a more uniform practice across the country.

Taking Charge
ANCC is leading the way to ensure that certification bodies are involved in shaping this transformative model and guiding the implementation process.

FAQs
ANCC looks forward to the progress and opportunities the consensus model will provide for the profession, APRNs, and patients. For additional information, please visit the FAQs page.
ANCC's internationally renowned credentialing programs certify and recognize individual nurses in specialty practice areas. The program recognizes healthcare organizations that promote nursing excellence and quality patient outcomes, while providing safe, positive work environments. Take advantage of becoming ANCC Certified. Learn about the application process and the benefits:

- Licensure
- Steps for Students to Apply
- Steps for Students to Renew
- About Certification Renewal
- Why Become ANCC Certified?
- Benefits of Becoming ANCC Certified
Licensure

When applying to test for an ANCC Certification, be sure to review eligibility criteria for each application, including the required licensure. Learn what a licensure is:

Processes by which an agency of a state government grants permission to an individual to engage in the practice of a profession e.g. nursing and prohibits all others from legally practicing in that profession.

Authorizes the use of a particular title, such as Registered Nurse (RN), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), etc. For purpose of ANCC exams we typically require a RN license.

Licensure protects the public by ensuring an entry level of professional competence.
Steps for Students to Apply

1. Create an ANCC account.
2. Submit official transcripts and Validation of Advanced Practice Nursing Education Form.
3. When ready to test, complete and submit your application through Our Certifications page.
   - Apply for your verification so that it will be generated as soon as you become certified. The first verification is free.
4. View the study aids that are available for each certification by visiting the main Our Certifications page, click on your certification specialty, and scroll to the bottom.
5. Once you receive your Authorization to Test letter, schedule your exam through Prometric.
6. Take your exam. The results are available to you immediately after testing.
7. Become certified once you pass the test or degree is conferred (if you test prior to degree conferral date).
8. Renew your ANCC certification every five years.

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Steps for Students to Renew

Renewal is due every 5 years.

Certification can be renewed through various professional development and practice activities.

View the certification renewal requirements.
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About Certification Renewal

Professional development activities can be entered in your ANCC online account or you may renew via mail.

When renewal is due, your professional milestones are available in your account for your convenience.

Apply online and record your achievements throughout your renewal cycle. You must renew your certification at the designated periods.
Certified nurses are increasingly in demand. Through ANCC certification programs, a nurse can validate their contributions to efficient patient care and become recognized as experts in their field. Our certifications:

- Incorporate the latest evidence-based practice criteria to ensure that nurses have demonstrated knowledge and documented experience in their specialties.
- Bring professional and personal satisfaction.
- Inspire confidence while giving the first impression employers seek.
- Are an indicator of life-long learning and maintenance of competence.
ANCC is the world’s largest and most prestigious nurse credentialing organization.

ANCC has certified more than 233,000 nurses.

ANCC offers an Expedite Review Procedure.

ANCC exams are developed by volunteer subject matter experts and maintained at ANCC headquarters.

Applicants are able to test before graduating.
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Information for Faculty

How to help your APRN graduate students:

- Steps to Complete the Validation of Education (VOE) Form
- Steps to Verify Student Certifications
- Follow Us on Social Media
- Learn about Promotions via Social Media
1) Faculty complete the VOE form.

2) Faculty perform GAP analysis, if needed.

3) All courses listed on the form must appear on a transcript with a grade.

4) Faculty can send the form electronically to aprnvalidation@ana.org or via mail to:

American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
Attn: Certification Registration
8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
1) Request to set up an account by contacting us at certificationoutreach@ana.org

2) Log into the free verification portal

3) Enter “username” and “password” provided by ANCC representative.

4) Enter demographic information indicated.

5) Last name is required

6) Be sure to only enter state abbreviations.
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Follow Us on Social Media

Visit our main Facebook page, ANCC Certification and learn about the benefits of becoming ANCC certified.

Join our Facebook Groups:

ANCC: PreceptorMatch.com Facebook Group

ANCC: Graduate Student Facebook Group

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Learn about Promotions via Social Media

Learn about upcoming free webinars.

Follow us on all social media platforms:
- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn

Get an even higher discount through ANA membership.

Take advantage of new grad promo codes.

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Have Additional Questions?

Contact our Customer Service Center at 1.800.248.2378 or via email at certificationoutreach@ana.org.