

APRN Faculty Tool Kit

ANCC Certification Overview



ANCC

AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER



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



Organizational Credentials

Individual Credentials



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 valued.



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.



[Back to Overview page](#)

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.

Credentialing Research



[Back to Overview page](#)

Accreditation

ANCC certifications are accredited by:



[Back to Overview page](#)

International Standards Organization (ISO)



ANCC is the only nurse credentialing organization to successfully achieve ISO 9001:2015

[Back to Overview page](#)

All Certification Programs

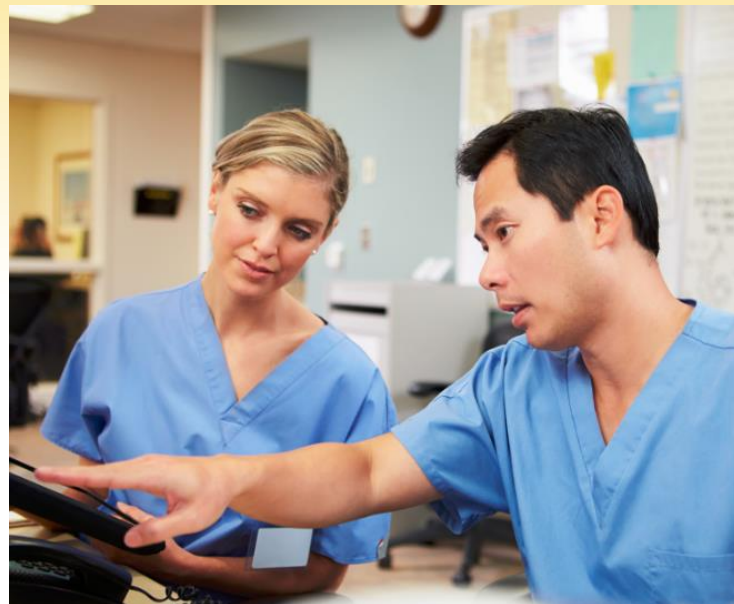
Types of Certifications

[Interprofessional](#)

[Nurse Practitioner](#)

[Clinical Nurse Specialist](#)

[Specialty](#)



[Back to Overview Page](#)

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
(Across the Lifespan)
- [Family NP](#) FNP-BC

Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

- [Adult-Gerontology CNS](#) AGCNS-BC

Specialty

- [Nurse Executive, Advanced](#) NEA-BC

[Back to Overview page](#)



Consensus Model for APRN Regulations



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.

[Back to Overview 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

Certifying Through ANCC



[Back to Overview page](#)

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.

[Back to Certifying Through ANCC page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

Steps for Students to Apply

Create an [ANCC account](#).

Submit official transcripts and [Validation of Advanced Practice Nursing Education Form](#).

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.

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.

Once you receive your **Authorization to Test** letter, schedule your exam through [Prometric](#).

Take your exam. The results are available to you immediately after testing.

Become certified once you pass the test or degree is conferred (if you test prior to degree conferral date).

Renew your ANCC certification every five years.

[Back to Certifying Through ANCC page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

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](#).

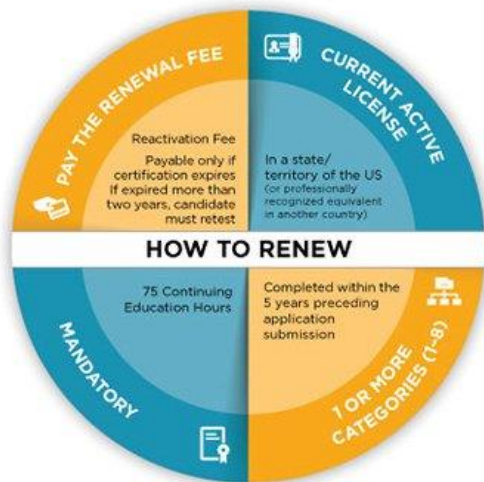


[Back to Certifying Through ANCC page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

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.

[Back to Certifying Through ANCC page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

Why Become ANCC Certified?

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.

[Back to Certifying Through ANCC page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

Benefits of Becoming ANCC Certified



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.



[Back to Certifying Through ANCC page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

Information for Faculty

How to help your
APRN graduate
students:

Steps to Complete the Validation of Education (VOE) Form

Steps to Verify Student Certifications

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[Back to Overview page](#)


Steps to Complete the Validation of Education (VOE) Form




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



[Back to Information for Faculty page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

Steps to Verify Student Certifications

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

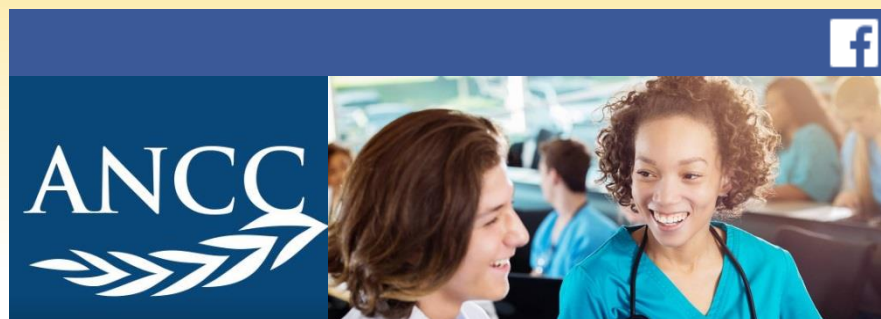
6) Be sure to *only* enter state abbreviations.



[Back to Information for Faculty page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

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Visit our main Facebook page, [ANCC Certification](#) and learn about the benefits of becoming ANCC certified.

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[ANCC: PreceptorMatch.com Facebook Group](#)



[ANCC: Graduate Student Facebook Group](#)



[ANCC Twitter Page](#)



[ANCC LinkedIn Page](#)

[Back to Information for Faculty page](#)

[Back to Overview page](#)

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free webinars.

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- [LinkedIn](#)

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grad promo codes.



[Back to Information for Faculty Page](#)

[Back to Overview Page](#)

Have Additional Questions?



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