

ACNPC™ Certification Renewal Requirements

Eligible candidates for ACNPC renewal must:

- hold current, unencumbered RN or APRN licensure in the United States; **and**
- have been actively involved in the care of acutely and/or critically ill patients, *as an acute care nurse practitioner*, for a minimum of 2,000 hours over the five-year certification period, with a minimum of 400 of those hours completed in the last 12 months of the five-year certification period in the United States or any of its territories (faculty hours spent supervising ACNP students in clinical practice also count toward ACNPC renewal eligibility); **and**
- successfully pass the ACNPC certification exam **or** attain 150 CE Renewal Points outlined as follows:

I. ACUTE CARE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

At least 100 of the 150 required CE points must be in this category.

This category encompasses acute and critical care programs granting contact hours or CE. These programs must address subjects that have direct application to the needs of the acutely ill patient or family.

Acceptable programs must possess one of the following characteristics:

- Have direct application to meeting the needs of the acutely ill patient or patient's family across the healthcare continuum.
- Address clinical knowledge, skills and abilities utilized by acute care NPs.

These programs need NOT be approved by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses and may be offered by hospitals, professional associations, or independent educational groups. Home study or self-study programs from professional journals and other sources that grant contact hours apply to this category. If a course is taken for academic credit, but is specific to patient care, CE can be awarded in Category A.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) may only account for 75 of the 150 required CE points.

II. OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Publications

Only 50 of the 150 required CE points may be in this category

Responsibility in the publication may be authorship, co-authorship or editorial. The item to be published may be a book, chapter in a book, paper, article, abstract, book review, etc. Professionally authored multimedia aids are acceptable (points for joint authorships are determined by dividing the number of points to be awarded by the number of authors).

Editorial in a journal	2
Write a column for journal.....	5

Article in a local newsletter or AACN chapter newsletter or <i>AACN News</i>	1
Original research article (peer reviewed).....	15
Textbook or chapter author or editor.....	2 points / 10 pages (max 30)
Professionally authored multimedia aids.....	15
Research Abstract.....	5
Journal article – peer reviewed.....	10
Journal Reviewer (review of articles or book chapters).....	5
Book Reviews.....	2
Unpublished masters thesis	10
Doctoral dissertation.....	30
Service on editorial boards.....	5 points per board per year

Professional Presentations

Only 50 of the 150 required CE points may be in this category

Encompasses the certificant's participation as an instructor delivering content to nurses, other health care professionals or the public. The presentation must be delivered within a structured framework of teaching/learning. A presentation includes seminar, in-service, a clinical conference, patient/family educational program, consumer education program, AACN chapter educational activities, and/or presenting an original paper or poster presentations. The participation may be as a primary instructor, member of a team, guest lecturer, panel participant, etc. Three (3) points are granted for each contact hour of lecture given. No credit is given for repeat presentations of the same content. If the program is co-taught, the number of points to be awarded is determined by dividing points by the number of instructors.

*Note: Activities regularly completed as the focus of your role may not be counted. For example if you regularly teach in your hospital's orientation program, you may not count those presentations; however you may count presentations given on a newly researched topic for NTI or your Chapter, etc.

Precepting or Volunteer Activities

Only 50 of the required CE points may be in this category from any combination of these two activities.

- Participating in activities/teams/committees that solve or prevent complex problems, improve care, across many participants, multiple departments, settings, facilities or regions such as spearheading a major patient care improvement; and leading an interdisciplinary team to solve a problem – 5 points / year
- Participation with leadership responsibilities or committee involvement on a chapter/regional level – 8 points per committee / per year
- Leadership responsibilities of committee involvement in professional or health-related organizations – 8 points per committee per year.
- Preceptorship/mentorship – A minimum of 80 hours per year of preceptorship activity must be obtained in order for points to be granted - 3 points per year