APRN CERTIFICATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR STUDENTS

Which APRN certifications are offered by AACN Certification Corporation (AACN-CC)?

We offer four APRN certification programs:

- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNPC-AG)
- Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist (ACCNS-AG)
- Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (ACCNS-P)
- Neonatal Clinical Nurse Specialist (ACCNS-N)

Are AACN-CC APRN certifications just for critical care nurses?

No, AACN-CC's APRN credentials are for all nurses whose ACNP or CNS graduate program aligns with national standards, including the APRN Consensus Model. ACNPC-AG is for acute care NPs educated to care for acutely ill patients, while ACCNS-AG, ACCNS-P and ACCNS-N are for CNSs educated across the spectrum of wellness through acute care.

What are the benefits of partnering with AACN-CC for my APRN certification?

- Personalized service – A dedicated certification nurse specialist guides you through the process
- Speedy turnaround – Eligibility is evaluated within two to three days of documentation being received
- *Free* year of AACN membership – Includes unlimited CE, online journals and valuable discounts
- *Free* practice exam questions – Available to ACNPC-AG, ACCNS-AG and ACCNS-P applicants
- *Free* online exam review course – Available to ACNPC-AG and ACCNS-AG applicants

Are AACN-CC APRN credentials accepted in all states?

Our Consensus Model-based board certifications are accepted for APRN licensure or designation in all 50 states.

At what point may I submit my exam application?

You may apply any time *before* or *after* graduation at www.aacn.org/APRN.

What documents are needed with my application?

Official, final transcripts for all graduate-level nursing courses may be emailed from your school to APRNcert@aacn.org or mailed from your school, sealed. We will contact your program director to request completion of your *Educational Eligibility Form*.

Am I able to test prior to receiving my final transcript?

Testing before we receive your final transcript may be an option. Email APRNcert@aacn.org for more information.

What if I don't pass the exam?

You may request a free exam counseling session with a certification nurse specialist to discuss your scores and study methods. Candidates may test up to four times in 12 months and are eligible for a discounted retest fee.

How long is the certification period and what is needed for renewal?

AACN-CC's APRN certifications are granted for five years. Renewal requires Pharmacology CE plus two of the following: practice hours, CE points and/or exam.



QUESTIONS?

Contact us at APRNcert@aacn.org,
call 800-899-2226
or visit us at www.aacn.org/APRN

AACN
CERTIFICATION
CORPORATION

Certification Organization for the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses

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