

American Association of Critical-Care Nurses

Competencies for CE Contact Hour Activities

Purpose

- AACN is accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation (ANCC).
- Per ANCC, all activities awarding CE Contact Hours must be linked to an established professional competency and its originating professional source.
- Competencies establish a clear purpose for the education and connect it to real-world nursing care. They guide the development of learning outcomes and ensure the activity is relevant to the target audience.
- Educational activities are not intended to determine learner competency. The goal of selecting competencies is to ensure that educational content is relevant, actionable, and forward-looking.

Requirements

- The Nurse Planner must provide the established professional competency(ies) addressed by the activity and the professional source that developed them.
- The selected competencies must align with the professional practice gap and be appropriate for the target audience.

Example

Activity Title: Recognizing early warning signs of sepsis

Target Audience: Critical care nurses in the Chapter region

Established Professional Competency: The nurse obtains comprehensive data pertinent to the situation and/or patient's health.

Source: AACN Scope and Standards for Critical Care Nursing Practice, Standard 1.

AACN Professional Sources

Activities with a target audience of RNs in Critical and/or Progressive Care:

[The AACN Synergy Model for Patient Care](#)

[AACN Scope and Standards for Critical Care Nursing Practice](#)

[AACN Scope and Standards for Progressive Care Nursing Practice](#)

Activities with target audience of RNs in general practice and/or a variety of specialties:

[American Nurses Association](#)

Activities with target audience of RNs in other nursing specialties:

[Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists](#)

[Emergency Nurses Association](#)

[Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association](#)

[Association for Professionals in Infection Control and](#)

[Epidemiology](#)

[Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal](#)

[Nurses](#)

[Association of PeriOperative Registered Nurses](#)

[Academy of Medical Surgical Nurses](#)

[American Organization for Nursing Leadership](#)

[Oncology Nursing Society](#)

[Society of Pediatric Nurses](#)

[Association for Nursing Professional Development](#)

[Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society](#)

[Quality and Safety Education for Nurses](#)