



**CIRCLE
OF EXCELLENCE 2026**



AACN Chapter at Keck Medical Center
Excellence in Promoting the Value of Certification

The AACN Chapter at Keck Medical Center, Los Angeles, demonstrates excellence in promoting certification through creativity, collaboration and a sustained commitment to removing barriers for nurses seeking professional certification. Guided by AACN Certification Corporation's vision that all nurses who care for acutely and critically ill patients and their families are certified, the chapter focused on increasing access, confidence and support throughout the certification process. Partnering with a local medical center, chapter leaders identified key barriers, including lack of preparation, limited reimbursement for review courses and fear of failing the exam. In response, the chapter hosted two CCRN/PCCN review courses in November 2023 and July 2025 and offered full reimbursement for the courses if members took the exam within three months, regardless of outcome. Together, the courses supported more than 130 nurses and resulted in 40 newly certified nurses, demonstrating measurable success in advancing certification in the chapter and the local nursing community.