ANCC Program Requirements

ACCREDITATION

MAGNET RECOGNITION®

PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE®

CERTIFICATION
The ANCC Accreditation Program identifies organizations worldwide that demonstrate excellence in continuing nursing education (CNE). ANCC-accredited organizations provide nurses with the knowledge and skills to help improve care and patient outcomes through continuing nursing education (CNE) and skills-based competency programs.

**Purpose:** To be able to determine the Baccalaureate Degree Eligibility Requirement for foreign-educated nurse (FEN) leaders in organizations applying for ANCC Accreditation Programs.

## SUB-PROGRAMS

1. **Practice to Transition Program or PTAP™** - This program sets the global standard for residency or fellowship programs that transition registered nurses (RNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) into new practice settings. ANCC accredits the following types of transition programs:
   - RN Residencies (For nurses with less than 12 months’ experience)
   - RN Fellowships (For experienced nurses to master new clinical settings)
   - APRN Fellowships (For newly certified advanced practice nurses)

2. **Nursing Skills Competency Program** - ANCC offers course recognition, an independent national standard to measure the quality of courses designed to validate a nurse’s skill or skill set in the clinical setting. Courses must be designed according to ANCC criteria, which include selecting qualified faculty and demonstration of validity and reliability in the evaluation process.

3. **Primary Accreditation** – This program identifies organizations worldwide that demonstrate excellence in continuing nursing education (CNE). Providers are organizations in any country that develop CNE activities using ANCC criteria. Approvers are organizations in the US that approve CNE providers for compliance with ANCC criteria.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Nurse Leaders of organizations intending to apply for Practice to Transition Program or PTAP™
- Nurse Leaders of organizations applying for the Nurse Skills Competency Program
- Nurse Leaders of organizations applying for the Primary Accreditation Program
REQUIREMENTS

1. Bachelor’s degree in Nursing; Master’s degree preferred
2. Active and unencumbered nursing license/s
MAGNET RECOGNITION®

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The Magnet Recognition Program® recognizes health care organizations for quality patient care, nursing excellence and innovations in professional nursing practice. Consumers rely on Magnet designation as the ultimate credential for high quality nursing. Developed by ANCC, Magnet is the leading source of successful nursing practices and strategies worldwide.

SUB-PROGRAMS

1. Magnet Recognition Program® -- Magnet requires organizations to develop, disseminate and enculturate evidence-based criteria that result in a positive work environment for nurses and, by extension, all employees.

The Magnet Recognition Program® advances 3 goals within health care organizations:

1. Promote quality in a setting that supports professional practice
2. Identify excellence in the delivery of nursing services to patients/residents
3. Disseminate best practices in nursing services.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) - A CNO is responsible for overseeing and coordinating an organization's overall nursing department and its daily operations.

Nurse Managers - A Registered Nurse with 24/7 accountability for the overall supervision of all Registered Nurses and other healthcare providers.

Nurse Leaders - Nurse leaders may have clinical oversight and responsibility for nurse managers or for other nurses who influence clinical care (e.g. Nurse Educator, RN director of risk management or quality, RN director of nursing informatics, infection preventionists, and wound ostomy nurses.)
CNO must hold at a minimum, a Master’s degree at the time of application. If the master’s degree is not in nursing then either a baccalaureate degree or doctoral degree must be in nursing. The requirement must be maintained throughout the application phase, review phase, and designation as a Magnet organization. Appointees as interim CNOs must also comply with this requirement.

At time of application, 100% of Nurse Managers must have a degree in nursing (baccalaureate or graduate degree)

At time of application, 100% of Nurse Leaders must have a degree in nursing (baccalaureate or graduate degree)
PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE®

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The Pathway to Excellence Program® is the premier designation for healthy work environments and recognizes health care organizations and Long-Term Care organizations for positive practice environments where nurses excel.

SUB-PROGRAMS

1. The Pathway to Excellence Program® - Pathway Standards are based upon expert nurse input, nursing literature and research that supports the qualities of a positive practice environment. All 6 standards apply to health care organizations and long-term care institutions.

   Pathway Standard 1 – Shared Decision-Making
   Pathway Standard 2 – Leadership
   Pathway Standard 3 – Safety
   Pathway Standard 4 – Quality
   Pathway Standard 5 – Well-Being
   Pathway Standard 6 – Professional Development

TARGET AUDIENCE

Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) - A CNO is responsible for overseeing and coordinating an organization's overall nursing department and its daily operations.

Director of Nursing for Long Term Care

Nurse Manager - A registered nurse responsible for the supervision of registered nurses and other health care providers who deliver nursing care in an inpatient or outpatient area. The term “nurse manager” is not synonymous with the chief nursing officer. In long-term care, “nurse manager” may be used interchangeably with “associate director,” “charge nurse,” or “supervisor.”
CNO must have a bachelor’s degree or higher in nursing (i.e., BSN, MSN, MN, PhD, DNSc, DNP). The requirement must be maintained throughout the application phase, review phase, and designation as a Pathway organization. Appointees as interim CNOs must also comply with this requirement.

The DON must have a bachelor’s degree or higher in nursing (i.e., BSN, MSN, MN, PhD, DNSc, DNP). The requirement must be maintained throughout the application phase, review phase, and designation as a Pathway organization.

At time of application, 100% of Nurse Managers must have a degree in nursing (baccalaureate or graduate degree)
CERTIFICATION – NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DISASTER

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The Certification Program is trusted for its commitment to quality and nationally renowned as a true gauge of a nurse's ability to provide excellent care. Colleagues and employers respect ANCC-certified nurses as experts in their specialties. There are four categories of certification: Inter-professional Certification (National Healthcare Disaster Certification), Specialty Certifications, Nurse Practitioner Certifications, Clinical Nurse Specialist Certifications.

SUB-PROGRAMS

1. National Healthcare Disaster Certification - is a competency based inter-professional entry level examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the knowledge, skills and competencies of healthcare professionals relevant to all phases of the disaster preparedness, mitigation, and response and recovery cycles. The goal is to promote successful outcomes for the public, disaster responders, and healthcare professionals involved in a disaster.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered Nurse, with a current, active RN license within a state or territory of the United States APRN, with a current, active RN and/or APRN license to practice as an APRN within a state or territory of the United States

REQUIREMENTS

I. Have minimum of 3 years of disaster experience in the last 10 years
II. Have documentation of one of the following, within the last 24 months:
   - Participation in a disaster that required activation of an emergency operations plan, OR
   - Completed one of the following disaster exercises:
     1. Full-scale
     2. Functional
     3. Table-top
III. Hold a Certificate of Completion in all of the following FEMA Emergency Management Courses:
   - IS-100.b: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS 100;
   - IS-200.b: ICS for Single Resource and Initial Action Incidents;
   - IS-700.a: National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction; and
   - IS-800.b: National Response Framework, An Introduction
CERTIFICATION – GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

2. Gerontological Nursing - The ANCC Gerontological Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the gerontological specialty after initial RN licensure.
Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the gerontological specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.
II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.
III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in the specialty area of gerontological nursing within the last 3 years.
IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in gerontological nursing within the last 3 years.
CERTIFICATION – AMBULATORY CARE NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

3. Ambulatory Care Nursing - The ANCC Ambulatory Care Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the ambulatory care specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the ambulatory care specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country

II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.

III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in ambulatory care and/or telehealth nursing within the last 3 years.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in ambulatory care and/or telehealth nursing within the last 3 years.
CERTIFICATION – CARDIAC-VASCULAR NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

4. Cardiac-Vascular Nursing - The ANCC Cardiac-Vascular Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the cardiac-vascular specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the cardiac-vascular specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.
II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.
III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in cardiac-vascular nursing within the last 3 years.
IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in cardiac-vascular nursing within the last 3 years.
CERTIFICATION – FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

5. Faith Community Nursing - The ANCC Faith Community Nursing board certification through portfolio assessment provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the faith community nursing specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the faith community nursing specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of at least two years full time as a registered nurse.

III. Have a minimum of 1,000 practice hours in the specialty area of faith community nursing in the past 3 years.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in faith community nursing in the past 3 years.

V. Fulfill two additional professional development categories, to be selected from the following list:
   - Academic Credits
   - Presentations
   - Publication or Research
   - Preceptor
   - Professional Service
**CERTIFICATION – ADVANCED FORENSIC NURSING**

**SUB-PROGRAMS**

6. Advanced Forensic Nursing - The ANCC Advanced Forensic Nursing board certification through portfolio assessment provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the forensic nursing specialty after initial RN licensure and graduate education.

Credential: Advanced Forensic Nursing-Board Certified (AFN-BC)

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

Registered nurses in the forensic nursing specialty after initial RN licensure and graduate education.

**REQUIREMENTS**

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of at least two years full time as a registered nurse.

III. Hold a graduate degree in nursing or forensic nursing.

IV. Have a minimum of 2,000 practice hours in the specialty area of forensic nursing within the last 3 years.

V. Have completed a minimum of 30 continuing education hours in the specialty area of forensic nursing within the last 3 years.

VI. Fulfill two additional professional development categories, to be selected from the following list:

- Academic Credits
- Presentations
- Publication or Research
- Preceptor
- Professional Service
CERTIFICATION – ADVANCED GENETICS NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

7. Advanced Genetics Nursing - The ANCC Advanced Genetics Nursing board certification through portfolio assessment provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses practicing in the genetics nursing specialty after initial RN licensure and graduate education.

Credential awarded: Advanced Genetics Nursing - Board Certified (AGN-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses practicing in the genetics nursing specialty after initial RN licensure and graduate education.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of at least two years full time as a registered nurse.

III. Hold a graduate degree in nursing.

IV. Have a minimum of 1,500 practice hours in the specialty area of advanced genetics nursing in the past 3 years.

V. Have completed a minimum of 30 continuing education hours in advanced genetics/genomics applicable to nursing within the last 3 years.

VI. Fulfill two additional professional development categories, to be selected from the following list:

- Academic Credits
- Presentations
- Publication or Research
- Preceptor
- Professional Service
8. Hemostasis Nursing - The ANCC Hemostasis Nursing board certification through portfolio assessment provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the hemostasis nursing specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the hemostasis nursing specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of at least two years full time as a registered nurse

III. Have a minimum of 2,000 practice hours in the specialty area of Hemostasis Nursing within the last 3 years

IV. Have completed a minimum of 30 continuing education hours in the specialty area of Hemostasis Nursing within the last 3 years

V. Fulfill two additional professional development categories, to be selected from the following list:
   - Academic Credits
   - Presentations
   - Publication or Research
   - Preceptor
   - Professional Service
CERTIFICATION – INFORMATICS NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

9. Informatics Nursing - The ANCC Informatics Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the informatics specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the informatics specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a bachelor's or higher degree in nursing or a bachelor's degree in a relevant field.

III. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in informatics nursing within the last 3 years.

V. Meet one of the following practice hour requirements:

VI. Have practiced a minimum of 2,000 hours in informatics nursing within the last 3 years.

VII. Have practiced a minimum of 1,000 hours in informatics nursing in the last 3 years and completed a minimum of 12 semester hours of academic credit in informatics courses that are part of a graduate-level informatics nursing program.

VIII. Have completed a graduate program in informatics nursing containing a minimum of 200 hours of faculty-supervised practicum in informatics nursing.
CERTIFICATION – MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

10. Medical-Surgical Nursing - The ANCC Medical-Surgical Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the medical-surgical specialty after initial RN licensure. Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the medical-surgical specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license within a state or territory of the United States or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country
II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.
III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in the specialty area of medical-surgical nursing within the last 3 years.
IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in medical-surgical nursing within the last 3 years.
11. Nurse Executive - The ANCC Nurse Executive board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of the nurse charged with the managing the daily operations of a unit or service line.

Credential awarded: Nurse Executive-Board Certified (NE-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the medical-surgical specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license within a state or territory of the United States or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country

II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.

III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in the specialty area of medical-surgical nursing within the last 3 years.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in medical-surgical nursing within the last 3 years.
CERTIFICATION – NURSE EXECUTIVE, ADVANCED

12. Nurse Executive, Advanced – The ANCC Nurse Executive board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of the nurse charged with the managing the daily operations of a unit or service line.

Credential awarded: Nurse Executive Advanced-Board Certified (NEA-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurse at the executive level or a nurse faculty teaching in the graduate programs.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master's or higher degree in nursing, or hold a bachelor's degree in nursing and a master's in another field.

III. Have held an administrative position at the nurse executive level, or a faculty position teaching graduate students executive-level nursing administration full-time for at least 24 months (or the equivalent) in the last 5 years.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in nursing administration within the last 3 years. This requirement is waived if you hold a master's degree in nursing administration.
13. Nursing Case Management - The ANCC Nursing Case Management board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the nursing case management specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the nursing case management specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.

III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in nursing case management within the last 3 years.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in nursing case management within the last 3 years.
CERTIFICATION – NURSING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SUB-PROGRAMS

14. Nursing Professional Development - The ANCC Nursing Professional Development board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the nursing professional development specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the nursing professional development specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a bachelor’s or higher degree in nursing.

III. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.

IV. Have a minimum of 4,000 hours of clinical practice in nursing professional development within the last 5 years.

V. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in nursing professional development within the last 3 years.
CERTIFICATION – PAIN MANAGEMENT NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

15. Pain Management Nursing - The ANCC Pain Management Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the pain management specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the pain management specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.

III. Have practiced in a nursing role that involves aspects of pain management nursing (e.g., pain assessment and management, pain management nursing education, research) for at least 2,000 hours in the 3 years prior to applying to take the examination.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in the 3 years prior to taking the exam, of which a minimum of 15 hours must be related to pain management.
16. Pediatric Nursing - The ANCC Pediatric Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the pediatric specialty after initial RN licensure.
Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE
Registered nurses in the pediatric specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS
I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.
II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.
III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in the specialty area of pediatric nursing within the last 3 years.
IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in pediatric nursing within the last 3 years.
17. Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing - The ANCC Psychiatric–Mental Health Nursing board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the psychiatric–mental health specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the psychiatric–mental health specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full-time as a registered nurse.

III. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in psychiatric–mental health nursing within the last 3 years.

IV. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in psychiatric–mental health nursing within the last 3 years.
18. Advanced Public Health Nursing - The ANCC Advanced Public Health Nursing board certification through portfolio assessment provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the public health nursing specialty after initial RN licensure and graduate education.

Credential awarded: Advanced Public Health Nursing-Board Certified (APHN-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the public health nursing specialty after initial RN licensure and graduate education.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have practiced the equivalent of at least two years full time as a registered nurse

III. Have a minimum of 2,000 practice hours in the specialty area of advanced public health nursing in the past 3 years.

IV. Hold a graduate degree (master's, postgraduate certificate, or doctoral degree) in nursing. OR

V. Hold a graduate degree (master's, post-graduate or doctorate) in public health and a bachelor's in nursing.

VI. Have completed a minimum of 30 continuing education hours in advanced public health applicable to nursing within the last 3 years.

VII. Fulfill two additional professional development categories, to be selected from the following list:

- Academic Credits
- Presentations
- Publication or Research
- Preceptor
- Professional Service
CERTIFICATION – RHEUMATOLOGY NURSING

SUB-PROGRAMS

19. Rheumatology Nursing - The ANCC Rheumatology Nursing board certification through portfolio assessment provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of registered nurses in the rheumatology nursing specialty after initial RN licensure.

Credential awarded: Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Registered nurses in the rheumatology nursing specialty after initial RN licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Have a minimum of 1,500 hours of clinical practice in rheumatology nursing in the last 3 years.

III. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in rheumatology/rheumatology nursing within the last 3 years.

IV. Fulfill two additional professional development categories, to be selected from the following list and described in the Certification Through Portfolio Application Requirements:
   - Academic Credits
   - Presentations
   - Publication or Research
   - Preceptor
   - Professional Service
CERTIFICATION – ADULT-GERONTOLOGY ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER

SUB-PROGRAMS

20. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner - The ANCC Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner board certification examination is a competency based entry-level examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the clinical knowledge and skills of the nurse practitioner.

Credential awarded: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner-Board Certified (AGACNP-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from an adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner program accredited by CCNE, or ACEN (formerly NLNAC). A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours must be included in the adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner role and population.

III. Three Separate, Comprehensive Graduate-Level Courses In:

- Advanced physiology/pathophysiology, including general principles that apply across the life span
- Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches
- Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents

IV. Content In:

- Health promotion and/or maintenance
- Differential diagnosis and disease management
CERTIFICATION – ADULT-GERONTOLOGY PRIMARY CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER

SUB-PROGRAMS

21. Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner - The ANCC Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of nurse practitioners.

Credential awarded: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner-Board Certified (AGPCNP-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from an adult–gerontology primary care nurse practitioner program accredited by CCNE or ACEN A minimum of 500 faculty–supervised clinical hours must be included in the adult–gerontology primary care nurse practitioner role and population.

III. Three Separate, Comprehensive Graduate-Level Courses In:

   - Advanced physiology/pathophysiology, including general principles that apply across the life span
   - Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches
   - Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents

IV. Content In:

   - Health promotion and/or maintenance
   - Differential diagnosis and disease management, including the use and prescription of pharmacologic and nonpharmacological interventions.
CERTIFICATION – FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

SUB-PROGRAMS

22. Family Nurse Practitioner - The ANCC Family Nurse Practitioner board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of nurse practitioners.

Credential awarded: Family Nurse Practitioner-Board Certified (FNP-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from a family nurse practitioner program accredited by the CCNE or ACEN. A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours must be included in your family nurse practitioner program.

III. Three separate, comprehensive graduate-level courses in:
   - Advanced physiology/pathophysiology, including general principles that apply across the life span
   - Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches
   - Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents

IV. Content in:
   - Health promotion and/or maintenance
   - Differential diagnosis and disease management, including the use and prescription of pharmacologic and nonpharmacological interventions.
CERTIFICATION – PEDIATRIC PRIMARY CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER

SUB-PROGRAMS

23. Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner - The ANCC Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of nurse practitioners.

Credential awarded: Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner-Board Certified (PPCNP-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from a pediatric primary care nurse practitioner program accredited by CCNE or ACEN. A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours must be included in your pediatric primary care nurse practitioner program.

III. Three separate, comprehensive graduate-level courses in:

- Advanced physiology/pathophysiology, including general principles that apply across the life span
  - Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches
  - Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents

IV. Content in:

- Health promotion and/or maintenance
- Differential diagnosis and disease management, including the use and prescription of pharmacologic and nonpharmacological interventions.
CERTIFICATION – PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER

24. Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner - The ANCC Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of nurse practitioners.

Credential awarded: Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner-Board Certified (PMHNP-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner program accredited by CCNE or ACEN. A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours must be included in your psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner program.

III. Three separate, comprehensive graduate-level courses in:
   - Advanced physiology/pathophysiology, including general principles that apply across the life span
   - Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches
   - Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents

IV. Content in:
   - Health promotion and/or maintenance
   - Differential diagnosis and disease management, including the use and prescription of pharmacologic and nonpharmacological interventions
   - AND clinical training in at least two psychotherapeutic treatment modalities.
CERTIFICATION – EMERGENCY NURSE PRACTITIONER

SUB-PROGRAMS

25. Emergency Nurse Practitioner - The ANCC Emergency Nurse Practitioner board certification through portfolio assessment provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of nurse practitioner in the emergency nursing specialty after initial NP certification and licensure.

Credential awarded: Emergency Nurse Practitioner-Board Certified (ENP-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

Nurse practitioners in the emergency nursing specialty after initial NP certification and licensure.

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold current licensure (RN or APRN) plus national certification in one of the following nurse practitioner populations: Acute Care, Adult, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, Family, Pediatric Acute Care, Pediatric Primary Care

III. Hold a masters, post-graduate, or doctorate in one of the nurse practitioner populations as enumerated above.

IV. Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years full time as a nurse practitioner in the past 3 years.

V. Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of advanced practice in the specialty area of emergency care in the past 3 years (up to 50% (or 1,000) practice hours may be advanced practice clinical hours from an emergency care fellowship/residency program).

VI. Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in advanced emergency care in the past 3 years. VII. Fulfill two additional professional development categories*, to be selected from the following list: Academic credits, Presentations, Publication or research, Preceptor, or Professional service
CERTIFICATION – ADULT CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

SUB-PROGRAMS

26. Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist - The ANCC Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of clinical nurse specialist.

Credential awarded: Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist-Board Certified (ACNS-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from an adult health clinical nurse specialist program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) (formerly NLNAC | National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission). A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours in the adult health clinical nurse specialist role and population must be included in the educational program.

III. The adult health clinical nurse specialist graduate program must include three separate, comprehensive courses in:

- Advanced physical/health assessment
- Advanced pharmacology
- Advanced pathophysiology
CERTIFICATION – ADULT-GERONTOLOGY CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

SUB-PROGRAMS

27. Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist - The ANCC Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of clinical nurse specialists.

Credential awarded: Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist-Board Certified (AGCNS-BC)

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master's, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from an adult-gerontology clinical nurse specialist program accredited CCNE or ACEN. A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours in the adult-gerontology clinical nurse specialist role and population. The adult-gerontology clinical nurse specialist program must include content across the health continuum from wellness through acute care.

III. Three Separate, Comprehensive Graduate-Level Courses In:

- Advanced physiology/pathophysiology, including general principles that apply across the life span
- Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches
- Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents.

IV. Content In:

- Health promotion and/or maintenance
- Differential diagnosis and disease management, including the use and prescription of pharmacologic and nonpharmacological interventions.
CERTIFICATION – ADULT PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

SUB-PROGRAMS

28. Adult Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist - The ANCC Adult Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of clinical nurse specialist.


TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from an adult psychiatric–mental health clinical nurse specialist program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) (formerly NLNAC | National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission). A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours in the adult psychiatric–mental health clinical nurse specialist role and population must be included in the educational program.

III. Three Separate, Comprehensive Graduate-Level Courses In:

- Advanced physical/health assessment
- Advanced pharmacology
- Advanced pathophysiology
- AND clinical training in at least two psychotherapeutic treatment modalities.
CERTIFICATION – CHILD/ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

SUB-PROGRAMS

29. Child/Adolescent Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist - The ANCC Child/Adolescent Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of clinical nurse specialist.


TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master’s, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from a child/adolescent psychiatric–mental health clinical nurse specialist program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) (formerly NLNAC | National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission). A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours in the child/adolescent psychiatric–mental health clinical nurse specialist role and population must be included in the educational program.

III. The child/adolescent psychiatric–mental health clinical nurse specialist graduate program must include three separate, comprehensive courses in:

- Advanced physical/health assessment
- Advanced pharmacology
- Advanced pathophysiology
- AND clinical training in at least two psychotherapeutic treatment modalities.
CERTIFICATION – PEDIATRIC CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

SUB-PROGRAMS

30. Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist - The ANCC Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist board certification examination is a competency based examination that provides a valid and reliable assessment of the entry-level clinical knowledge and skills of clinical nurse specialist.

Credential: Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist-Board Certified (PCNS-BC).

TARGET AUDIENCE

All APRN clinicians (NP and CNS)

REQUIREMENTS

I. Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or hold the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

II. Hold a master's, postgraduate, or doctoral degree* from a pediatric clinical nurse specialist program accredited by CCNE or ACEN. A minimum of 500 faculty-supervised clinical hours must be included in the pediatric clinical nurse specialist role and population. The pediatric clinical nurse specialist program must include content across the health continuum from wellness through acute care.

III. Three separate, comprehensive graduate-level courses in:
   - Advanced physiology/pathophysiology, including general principles that apply across the life span
     - Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches
     - Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents

IV. Content in:
   - Health promotion and/or maintenance
   - Differential diagnosis and disease management, including the use and prescription of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions.