



Gerontology Examination to be Offered by American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program Inc

A task analysis has been completed for the implementation of a gerontology nurse practitioner examination. The examination will be offered to candidates who have completed a masters, postmasters or doctoral level gerontologic nurse practitioner program. Individuals who are certified as adult and family nurse practitioners may sit for the examination after documentation of greater than 1,000 hours of clinical practice in gerontologic care settings beyond their preparation as family or adult nurse practitioners. For further information, watch our website at www.aanpcertification.org. Applications to sit for this examination will be available in the fall of 2006. The first testing window is anticipated to be in the January to April 2007 testing window.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Essentials and Competencies Under Consideration

Coalitions of nurse practitioners have been participating in the examination of competencies that would be included in the implementation of developing DNP programs for nurse practitioners. NONPF has spearheaded a task force that has developed the conclusions and recommendations that may be found on the Certification website at aanpcertification.org under News and Updates. The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program has participated in these deliberations. Likewise a discussion paper regarding the concept of the doctor of nursing practice has been published by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. It emphasizes the need for maintaining the current high clinical standards of our masters and post masters programs, and that masters and postmasters prepared nurse practitioners not be disenfranchised as transitions are made to DNP programs. A review of the eight discussion points may also be found on the certification website at aanpcertification.org.

The family and adult nurse practitioner examinations offered by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program Inc. are clinical examinations. Doctorally prepared nurse practitioners may currently sit for the family and adult nurse practitioner examination offered by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program. There are no anticipated changes in requirements for Master's or Postmaster prepared nurse practitioners to sit for these examinations in the foreseeable future. In conjunction with appropriate testing standards these examinations are based on regularly conducted role delineation studies that determine the test blue prints for the examination.

APN Task Force Continues Discussion Related to Credentialing NP Subspecialties

A task force made up of organizations from the Alliance for Advanced Practice Accreditation has been meeting for several months to consider a number of advanced practice issues including credentialing nurse practitioner subspecialty preparation. Recommendations for classification and recognition are currently being considered by this group who are examining the issue from a regulatory perspective as well. A joint meeting with NCSBN is scheduled for April to discuss these issues further.

EXAMINATION DATES

Computer-Based Examination The National Certification Computer-Based Examination is offered during three 10-week windows each year—February-April, June-August, and September-November. The schedule for 2006 is:

Window	Deadline	Late Deadline
January 30 – April 8, 2006	12/31/05	1/28/06
June 1 – August 10, 2006	4/22/06	5/27/06
September 11 – November 21, 2006	7/22/06	8/26/06

For more information on dates and available sites, visit our website at www.aanpcertification.org or call 512 442-5202.

CERTIFICATION COMMISSIONERS

Dr. Patricia Bredenber, ANP, Chair, Cape Elizabeth, Maine; Dr. Lorna Schumann, FNP Treasurer, Post Falls, ID; Dr. Gregory Holm, ANP, Secretary, Tampa, Florida; Wendy Thon, FNP, Vice President, Eagle River, Alaska; Richard Meadows, ANP, Denver, Colorado; Vickie Anderson, FNP, Provo, UT; Tara Federici, Consumer Member, Washington, DC, and Dr. Jan Towers, FNP, Director, Washington, DC.

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION SCORE REPORT

Score report indicates the standard score performance for the year 2005 for the Family Nurse Practitioner National Certification Examination. Standard scores are scores, which permit comparison of performance among individuals taking the same examination.

Total Test Standard Score	% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower
740 and Above	100
720	99
700	97
680	91
660	84
640	76
620	69
600	56
580	48
560	39
540	29
520	23
500	16
480	11
460	07
440	05
420	03

Total Family Nurse Practitioners tested in 2005 were 1762

ADULT NURSE PRACTITIONER NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION SCORE REPORT

Score report indicate the standard score performance for the year 2005 for the Adult Nurse Practitioner National Certification Examination. Standard scores are scores, which permit comparison of performance among individuals taking the same examination.

Total Test Standard Score	% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower
750	100
740	99
720	98
700	96
680	92
660	85
640	76
620	65
600	54
580	46
560	38
540	30
520	24
500	16
480	14
460	10
440	04

Total Adult Nurse Practitioners tested in 2005 were 521

RECERTIFICATION

Continuing competency is necessary for nurse practitioner practice. Documenting this through recertification is an important requirement for the maintenance of specialty credentialing for family and adult nurse practitioners. The accepted time frame for recertification for nurse practitioners is at least every five years. At that time AANPCP certificants may elect to recertify by examination or to recertify by documenting continuing education and clinical practice as family or adult nurse practitioner. To recertify by examination, applications are processed according to the appropriate deadlines in the last testing window before the expiration date of the current certification. Certificants applying through clinical practice and continuing education must have completed 1,000 hours of nurse practitioner clinical practice and 75 contact hours of nurse practitioner related continuing education. For further information regarding the recertification process visit our website at www.aanpcertification.org.

Draft NCSBN Vision Paper Circulated Among Stakeholders

A controversial draft of a vision paper for advanced practice nursing education and credentialing has been released by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (a voluntary organization consisting of state boards of nursing throughout the country). Major organizations representing all advanced practice nursing groups have expressed serious concern over the presented rationale for the vision and the consequences implementation of the recommendations being made could have on the future and quality of advanced practice nursing. Links to organizational responses to this document including those of both the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program may be found on the certification website www.aanpcertification.org under News and Updates. Your help may be needed to discuss the profession's concerns over the proposals being suggested in this document.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE RECENTLY?

www.aanpcertification.org is the address of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program Inc website. If you have not visited it recently, we invite you do so. The website provides information regarding the certification program. It includes a downloadable application, a complete list of testing sites, information about testing windows and fees, frequently asked question, news and updates and links to regulation, policy and practice information applicable to our certificants. We invite you to visit the site and provide suggestions for things you would like to see on this site in the future.

Accreditation and Recognition

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program is fully accredited by NCCA the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, and is recognized by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

Nondiscrimination Policy

The Certification Program does not discriminate against an individual with respect to age, sex, color, race, religion, national origin, sexual preference, marital status or disability.

