

# AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

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Certification Administration: P.O. Box 12926 – Austin, TX 78711 – (512) 442-5202 – Fax (512) 442-5221  
Email Address: Certification@aanp.org

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program is pleased to report that we have completed a record year providing certifications to Adult, Family, and Gerontologic nurse practitioners. Nurse practitioners, (ANP, GNP, and FNP), who have completed an accredited masters, postmasters, or higher to include DNP are eligible to take the exams in their respective area of specialization. The examinations are developed in cooperation with Professional Examination Services (PES), a not for profit organization with well over 60 years of experience in the development and administration of national and international licensing and certification examinations specializing in health related fields. The certification programs are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and recognized by the State Boards of Nursing, Medicare, Medicaid, the Veterans Administration, private managed care organizations, health care institutions, and other agencies for credentialing purposes.

The examinations test clinical knowledge in the areas of assessment, diagnosis, formulation and implementation of treatment plans, and evaluation and follow up of primary health care issues. The family nurse practitioner examination covers knowledge in the area of prenatal, pediatric, adolescent, adult, geriatric, and frail elderly primary care. The adult nurse practitioner examination covers knowledge in the area of late adolescent, adult, geriatric, and frail elderly primary care. The gerontologic examination covers knowledge in geriatric and frail elderly primary care. Knowledge of health promotion and disease prevention, diagnosis, and management of acute episodic and chronic illness in the primary care setting is tested. Participants are expected to apply knowledge of pathophysiology, pharmacology, psychology, and sociology to the process utilized in the assessment, diagnosis, and management of patients in their care.

As of December 31, 2011 there were 32,768 AANPCP primary care certifications listed as active including 25,713 Family Nurse Practitioners, 6,837 Adult Nurse Practitioners, and 218 Gerontologic Nurse Practitioners. 246 nurse practitioners have dual certifications and one has certification in all three areas.

5,035 FNP, 1,177 ANP, and 77 GNP exams were taken in 2011. This number is reflective of a 20% increase over 2010 and an 80% increase over the same time frame 3 years ago. See the table below for the pass rate and ranking of individual scores on each type of examination.

Also in 2011, a full 90% of those certificants eligible to recertify did so, resulting in an all-time high recertification rate. Although we anticipate changes to the process, at this time we continue to do a 100% audit of all recertification applications and require documentation of current licensure as well as copies of all CE certificates for those re-certifying by CE and clinical practice hours. The ability to apply online has greatly enhanced our response time for those doing so.

The task analyses (role delineations) and exam blueprints for the FNP and ANP examinations were completed in 2011 and the current forms of those examinations reflect the content evidenced by those analyses. The practice analysis for the new Adult-Gerontology examination was begun in 2011 and will be completed in 2012 with the resultant examination and certification being available in January of 2013.

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As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 the commissioners of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board, Inc. include Mona Counts, PhD, FNP-C, FAANP, FAAN (Chair), Margaret Dean, MS, GNP-C, FAANP (Vice Chair), Wendy Thon, MS, FNP-C FAANP (Secretary), Mary Ellen Roberts, DNP, ANP-C, FAANP (Treasurer), Pat Bredenberg, PhD, ANP-C, Kathy Wheeler, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, Marianne Hurley, MS, GNP-C (Members at large), and Barbara Safriet, JD, LLM (Consumer Member), and Richard F. (Rick) Meadows, MS, ANP-C, FAANP, Executive Director (ex officio).

AANPCP would like to again express our appreciation to Dr. Lorna Schumann and Dr. Greg Holm for their considerable contributions as commissioners over the past several years. Their dedication to AANPCP has enabled a significant growth in the quantity and the quality of the certifications they represented while on the commission. They both continue to be involved in activities related to test construction and item development.



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## Passing Rate Report

For Exams Taken 01/01/2011 - 12/31/2011

### ADULT NURSE PRACTITIONER NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION SCORE REPORT

Score report indicates the standard state performance for the 2011 Adult Nurse Practitioners National Certification Examination. Standard scores are scores which permit comparison of performance among individuals taking the same examination.

### FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION SCORE REPORT

Score report indicates the standard state performance for the 2011 Family Nurse Practitioners National Certification Examination. Standard scores are scores which permit comparison of performance among individuals taking the same examination.

### GERONTOLOGIC NURSE PRACTITIONER NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION SCORE REPORT

Score report indicates the standard state performance for the 2011 Gerontologic Nurse Practitioners 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
700 and above	96
680	92
660	88
640	78
620	70
600	60
580	51
560	42
540	34
520	27
500	19
480	15
Total ANP Pass Rate 80.7%	

Total Test Standard Score	% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower
700 and above	94
680	88
660	81
640	70
620	60
600	50
580	41
560	30
540	23
520	17
500	11
480	07
Total FNP Pass Rate 89.3%	

Total Test Standard Score	% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower
700 and above	92
680	84
660	79
640	73
620	65
600	48
580	40
560	29
540	23
520	17
500	13
480	09
Total GNP Pass Rate 88.3%	