Celebrating 25 YEARS OF NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATION

AANPCB 2018 Annual Report

25th Anniversary Edition
1993-2018
This report summarizes our annual activities, which are particularly significant as 2018 marked our 25th Anniversary of Certifying NPs. The AANPCB year-end number of certifications and exams administered, financial overview, and examination passing rate report, as well as featured events that occurred in 2018 are presented.

AANPCB is actively involved in representing our certificants in areas of NP practice, education, regulation, and certification accreditation. We participate and provide leadership on committees with the LACE Network for APRNs, our accrediting organizations ABSNC and NCCA, the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, the National Credentialing Forum, and the International Nurses Council/APRN group. There is also on-going networking with our affiliate membership organizations, AANP and AAENP. Through sponsorship of events and exhibits at NP educational conferences, AANPCB has gained visibility nationally and internationally.

The AANPCB mission is to serve the public and the nurse practitioner community through excellence in testing and certification for NPs. Initial and renewal certifications are offered for Family Nurse Practitioners (FNP), Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioners (A-GNP) and Emergency Nurse Practitioners (ENP) as a specialty certification. Certification renewal continues to be available for AANPCB-certified Adult Nurse Practitioners (ANP) and Gerontologic Nurse Practitioners (GNP).

2018 Statistics:

- Number of active NP certifications (Total 120,851):
  - FNP 100,818
  - ANP 8,295
  - A-GNP 11,058
  - ENP 495
  - GNP 185

- Number of Initial Exams and Pass Rates (Total 21,848):
  - FNP 18,995/ 85% (A-GNP 2,526 / 83%)
  - ENP 327/ 87%

- Number of all Exams administered (Total 25,687):
  - FNP 22,297
  - A-GNP 3,040

- Recertification rate for all programs: 94%

Our core values of accountability, quality and transparency, coupled with our highly valued competency-based examinations, has made AANPCB the leading certifier of primary care NPs. We wish to thank the many clinical expert volunteers who have contributed to test development activities in 2018. Their dedication to excellence in certification serves to advance NP practice.

Mary Ellen Roberts, DNP, ANP-C, FNAP, FAANP, FAAN
2019 Commission Chair

Richard F. (Rick) Meadows
Rick Meadows, MS, RN, NP-C, FAANP
Chief Executive Officer
MISSION

Provide excellence in testing and certification for Nurse Practitioners

VISION

Adhere to and uphold the highest standards for the certification of Nurse Practitioners

CORE VALUES

ACCOUNTABILITY, QUALITY, and TRANSPARENCY support the mission and vision of the AANPCB

PURPOSE

Provide a valid and reliable program for nurse practitioners to recognize their education, knowledge, and professional expertise.

Provide a process for validation of an advanced practice registered nurses’ qualifications and knowledge for practice as a Nurse Practitioner
How Did We Start?

AANPCB was established in 1993 as a department within the AANP membership organization that offered national certification for Adult NPs and Family NPs. In 1999 AANPCB became a separately incorporated entity. The Gerontologic NP certification examination became available in 2007 and later retired in 2012 when the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP program was launched in 2013. To further comply with the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation (2008), the Adult NP certification examination was retired in 2016. The newest program is the Emergency NP specialty certification, which was launched in 2017.

The chart below shows our certification growth over the past 5 years.

HISTORICAL BRIEF: 25 years of Certifying NPs
AANPCB is an independent, separately incorporated, nonprofit organization overseen by a commission composed of nurse practitioners representative of the Certificants, and one public member. Elections are held annually in October; ballots are sent electronically to Certificants’ Online Profile email address. The commission governs all major decisions affecting the certification programs and processes, and offers input and guidance into organizational decisions.
2018 AT A GLANCE

TOTAL NUMBER OF NPS CERTIFIED - 120,851

TOTAL NUMBER OF EXAMS ADMINISTERED - 25,686

EMERGENCY NP UPDATE

During the first two years of the ENP program, 546 examinations have been administered and the overall pass rate remains 87%. The number of first-time testers and pass rates by ENP eligibility option* for 2018 were:

- **ENP-CE**: 236 / 85%
- **ENP-AP**: 86 / 93%
- **ENP-FP**: 5 / 80%

* ENP eligibility option: CE – Continuing Education; AP – Academic ENP Program; and FP – Fellowship Program
CANADIAN CERTIFICANTS

In addition to U.S. resident NPs, applicants who completed approved Canadian NP programs may take the AANPCB certification examinations.

Initial Applications from Canadian NPs over the past 5 years
## 2018 PASSING RATE REPORT

For exams taken 01/01/2018 - 12/31/2018

This Pass Rate Report indicates the standardized score performance for the 2018 Family NP, Adult-Gerontology NP, and Emergency NP Specialty National Certification Examinations. Standard scores permit comparison of the performance among individuals taking the same certification examination.

### PASS RATES BY EDUCATION CATEGORY

Since 2016, AANPCB has reported the certification examination pass rates of graduates by educational category of NP program completed. These comparisons are presented on our website under the About AANPCB tab. While the number of Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) graduates has increased each year, the percentage across educational categories remains stable with 90% of applicants completing Master’s level NP programs, and 5% who completed DNP and post-graduate programs, respectively.

#### Initial Exam Pass Rates by Education Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Category</th>
<th>FNP Pass Rate (Pass %)</th>
<th>A-GNP Pass Rate (Pass %)</th>
<th>Total Pass Rate (Pass %)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSN Graduates</td>
<td>17,130</td>
<td>2,120</td>
<td>19,250 (85%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Master’s</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>1,159 (76%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNP Graduates</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>1,112 (91%)</td>
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#### Family Nurse Practitioner

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<tr>
<th>Standard Score</th>
<th>% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>700+</td>
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<td>680</td>
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Total FNP Pass Rate 81%
Initial Exam Pass Rate 85%

#### Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner

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AGNP Pass Rate 78%
Initial Exam Pass Rate 83%

#### Emergency Nurse Practitioner

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Total ENP Pass Rate 87%
Initial Exam Pass Rate 87%
IN SUPPORT OF THE NP PROFESSION

AANPCB was pleased to have contributed to the Nurse Practitioner profession in 2018 by participating in Celebratory Activities, Sponsorship Events, and promoting our Certification Services at the following events:

January
» American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Doctoral Conference (Naples, FL)
» Full page ad in the Journal of Nurse Practitioners (JNP) recognizing 100,000 AANPCB Certifications

February
» American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) Health Policy conference (Wash DC)
» Annual Passing Rate & Certification Statistics Report sent to stakeholders and posted on website
» “How to Apply” videos became available at www.aanpcert.org

March
» 25th Anniversary branding campaign launched
» Sponsored luncheon at American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) in Savannah, GA

April
» 2017 Annual Report sent to stakeholders
» National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) exhibit and luncheon (Indianapolis, IN)

May
» JNP full page ad featuring FNP, A-GNP, ENP certification programs

June
» AANP National Conference (Denver, CO) exhibit
» AANPCB Report to AANP membership

July
» National Nurse Practitioner (NNP) Summit (Keystone, CO)

August
» Texas Nurse Practitioners (TNP) News Flash advertisement

September
» International Conference for Nurse Practitioners (ICN)/ Advanced Practice Nursing (APN) luncheon (Rotterdam, The Netherlands)
» APRN Reception co-sponsored by AANPCB, AAENP and Springer at Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) Conference (Pittsburgh, PA)

October
» Sponsored reception ABNS (Rosemont, IL);
» Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (JAANP) ENP and APRN Specialties themed issue

November
» Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) sponsored Research Activities award
» National Conference for Nurse Practitioners in Acute Care (NPAC) Emergency/ACNP conference (Las Vegas, NV);
» TNP News Flash ad

December
» Loretta Ford, Scholarship event (FL)
The Board of Commissioners (BOC) budgeted projections for 2018 remain conservative. Revenue sources are primarily from certification examination, employer verification, and recertification fees. Costs associated with exam development and administration (testing service fees) remain our greatest expense. This statement represents an unaudited income statement report for the Fiscal Year ending 12/31/2018.

AANPCB was pleased to have made the following contributions in support of credentialing services:

» American Board of Nursing Specialties - $10,000
» Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) - $10,000
NP-C is the registered certification mark and trademarked credential owned by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners National Certification Board, Inc. It is the credential authorized for use by those individuals who have met the standards, qualifications, testing requirements, and maintenance of certification requirements established by the AANPCB.

Individuals who allow their AANPCB board-certification to expire may not use the NP-C credential and may not represent themselves as being certified by AANPCB.
ACCREDITATION

Accreditation is a peer-reviewed mechanism that allows certifying organizations to obtain program accreditation by demonstrating compliance with the highest quality standards in the industry. To maintain accreditation, programs must exhibit continuing adherence to the standards set forth.

The AANPCB entry into advanced practice certification programs are accredited by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification, Inc. (ABSNC) and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

ABSNC, the only accrediting body specifically for nursing certification, provides a peer-review mechanism that allows nursing certification organizations to obtain accreditation of their certification programs by demonstrating compliance with the highest quality standards available in the industry.

www.absnc.org

NCCA, the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) accrediting body, serves to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the public through the accreditation of certification programs and organizations that assess professional competence. Accreditation by NCCA indicates AANPCB’s compliance with the NCCA Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs.

www.credentialingexcellence.org

2018 ACCREDITATION UPDATE

The Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner certification program was re-accredited by both the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

The Emergency Nurse Practitioner specialty certification program received initial accreditation from ABSNC and NCCA.

ACCREDITATION RENEWAL DATES

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<tr>
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<th>ABSNC</th>
<th>NCCA</th>
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<tr>
<td>A-GNP</td>
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<td>Jan 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENP</td>
<td>Oct 2023</td>
<td>Jul 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNP</td>
<td>Oct 2022</td>
<td>Nov 2022</td>
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AFFILIATIONS

AANPCB is affiliated with the following Membership Organizations:

**American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)**
The largest full-service national professional membership organization for NPs of all specialties. www.aanp.org

**American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners (AAENP)**
AAENP promotes high quality, evidence based practice for NPs providing emergency care for patients of all ages and acuities. www.aaenp-natl.org

RECOGNITION

AANPCB Certifications are recognized by all State Boards of Nursing, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Veterans Administration, private managed care organizations, institutions, and health care agencies for credentialing purposes.

AWARDS

In November 2018, AANPCB was presented with The Dennis Faulk Ambassador Award by the Institute for Credentialing Excellence at the ICE Exchange conference in Austin, TX. AANPCB received this distinguished award in recognition of supporting the ICE Research and Development Program best practices and outcome measures in certification and recertification. AANPCB has previously received this award in 2015 and 2017.

TEST DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING SERVICE

**PSI Services LLC (PSI)**
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WHAT’S AHEAD IN 2019?

RENEWAL NOTICES TO NEW CERTIFICANTS
Electronic and mailed notifications will be sent to new certificants six months after obtaining an initial certification. These notifications will inform the newly certified NPs of the renewal requirements, application process, and due date. Updating their Online Profile will be emphasized to ensure receipt of AANPCB Commissioner election information, announcements, and future recertification reminders.

FACULTY RESOURCE ACCESS
A portal will soon be available for faculty to access educational program information. The designated lead faculty member will receive login information. Access to the faculty resources portal will allow downloading annual program aggregate score reports, viewing faculty contacts, and submitting curricular-related information to ensure currency that will facilitate processing of program graduates’ applications.