



Celebrating 25 YEARS

OF NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATION

AANPCB

2018

Annual Report

25th Anniversary Edition

1993-2018

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Message to our Stakeholders

from the AANPCB Commission Chair and CEO

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):**

- **Number of NP Certificants by population/specialty area:**

FNP	100,818	ANP	8,295	A-GNP	11,058	ENP	495	GNP	185
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- **Number of Initial Exams and Pass Rates (Total 21,848):**

FNP	18,995 / 85%	A-GNP	2,526 / 83%	ENP	327 / 87%
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- **Number of all Exams administered (Total 25,687):**

FNP	22,297	A-GNP	3,040	ENP	350
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- **Recertification rate for all programs: 94%**

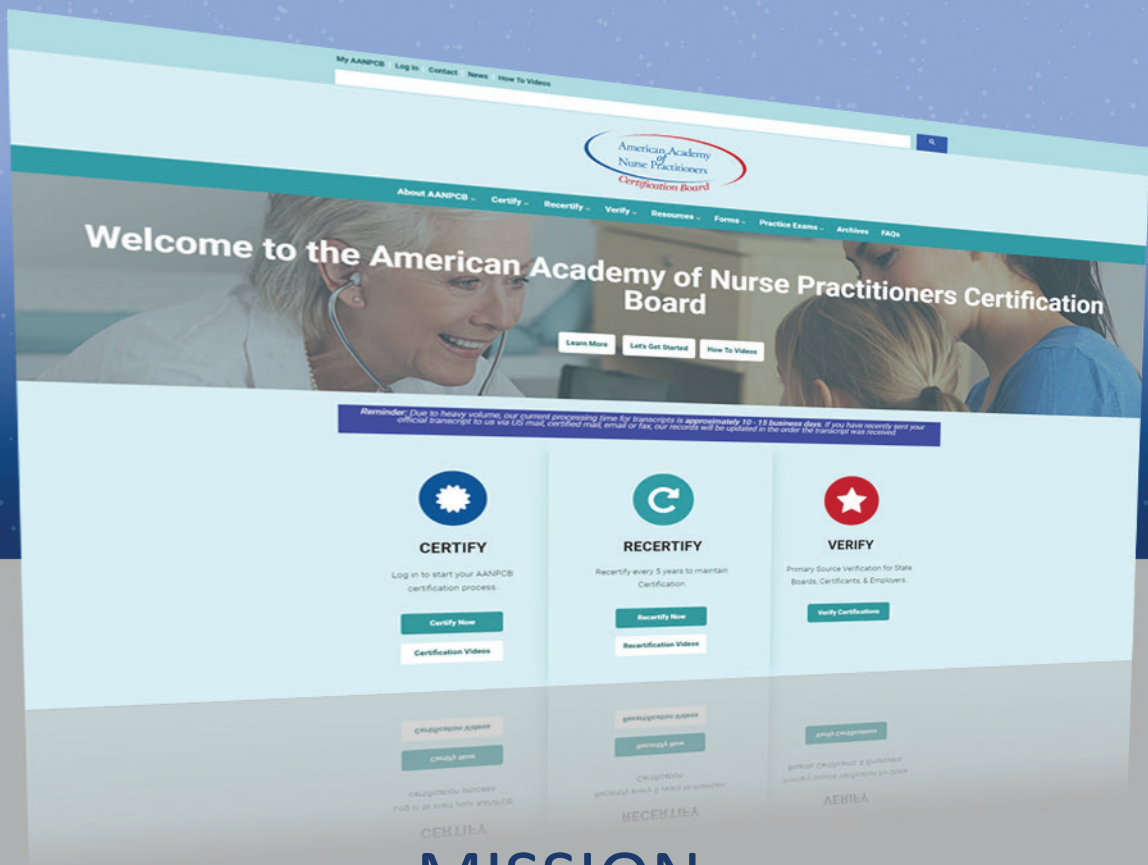
Our core values of accountability, quality and transparency, coupled with our highly valued competency-based examinations, has made **AANPCB the leading certifier of primary care NPs**. We wish to thank the many clinical expert volunteers who have contributed to test development activities in 2018. Their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

Mary Ellen Roberts

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



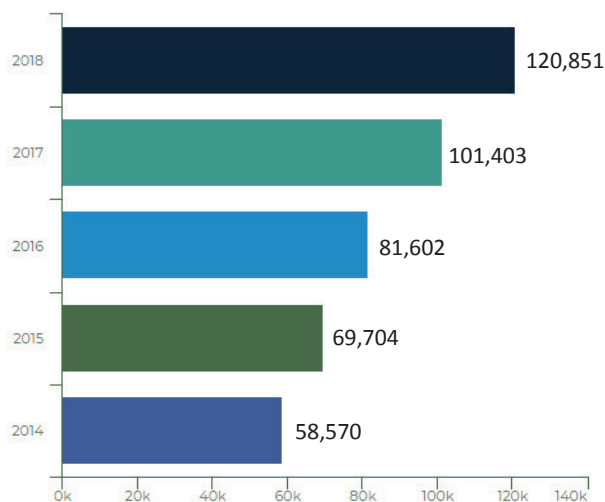
How Did We Start?

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

Number of Certificants



2018 COMMISSION

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.



Chair

Mary Ellen Roberts
DNP, RN, ANP-C, FNAP, FAANP, FAAN



Member at Large

Marianne Hurley
MS, FNP-C, GNP-C, CDOE, FAANP



Vice Chair

Lorna Schumann
PhD, FNP, NP-C, ACNS-BC, ACNP-BC,
CCRN-R, FAANP, FAAN



Member at Large

Kerri L. Rupe
DNP, ARNP, FNP-BC, FAANP



Secretary

Kathy Wheeler
PhD, FNP-BC, FNAP, FAANP



Member at Large

Susan D. Ruppert
PhD, RN, FNP-C, ANP-BC, FCCM,
FNAP, FAANP, FAAN



Treasurer

Dixie Harms
DNP, ARNP, FNP-C, BC-ADM, FAANP



Public Member

Barbara Safriet
JD, LLM, FAANP (H), FAAN (H)



Member at Large

Mona Counts
PhD, CRNP, NP-C, FNAP, FAANP, FAAN

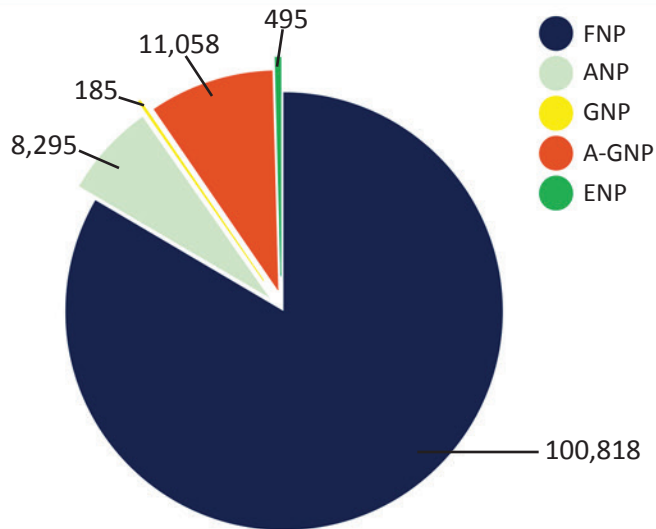


Ex-Officio, Chief Executive Officer

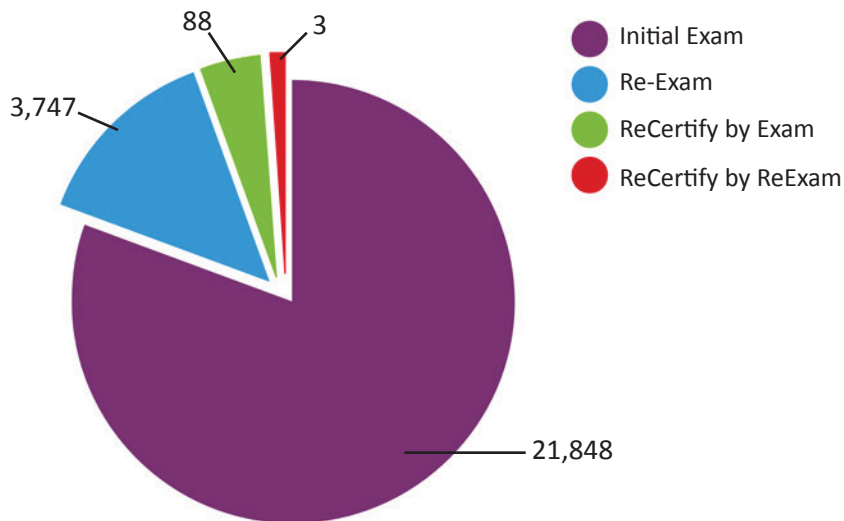
Richard F. (Rick) Meadows
MS, RN, NP-C, FAANP

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:

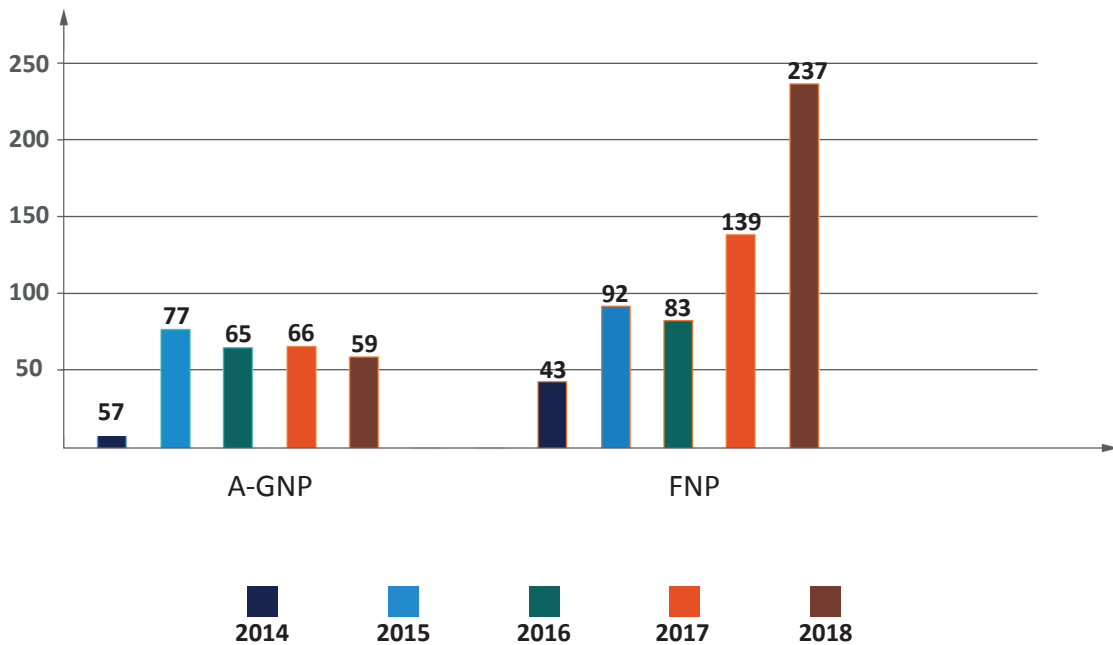
ENP-CE	236 / 85%
ENP-AP	86 / 93%
ENP-FP	5 / 80%

* 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.

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER		ADULT-GERONTOLOGY NURSE PRACTITIONER		EMERGENCY NURSE PRACTITIONER	
Total Test Standard Score	% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower	Total Test Standard Score	% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower	Total Test Standard Score	% of Examinees in Total Group Scoring Lower
700+	89	700+	95	700+	100
680	83	680	91	680	99
660	75	660	85	660	99
640	67	640	76	640	95
620	58	620	69	620	89
600	50	600	61	600	77
580	44	580	52	580	66
560	37	560	45	560	49
540	30	540	38	540	41
520	25	520	30	520	25
500	19	500	22	500	13
480	16	480	16	480	9
Total FNP Pass Rate 81%		AGNP Pass Rate 78%		Total ENP Pass Rate 87%	
Initial Exam Pass Rate 85%		Initial Exam Pass Rate 83%		Initial Exam Pass Rate 87%	

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

	FNP (Pass %)	A-GNP (Pass %)	Total (Pass %)
MSN Graduates	17,130 (85%)	2,120 (82%)	19,250 (85%)
Post-Master's	952 (76%)	207 (77%)	1,159 (76%)
DNP Graduates	913 (90%)	199 (93%)	1,112 (91%)

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

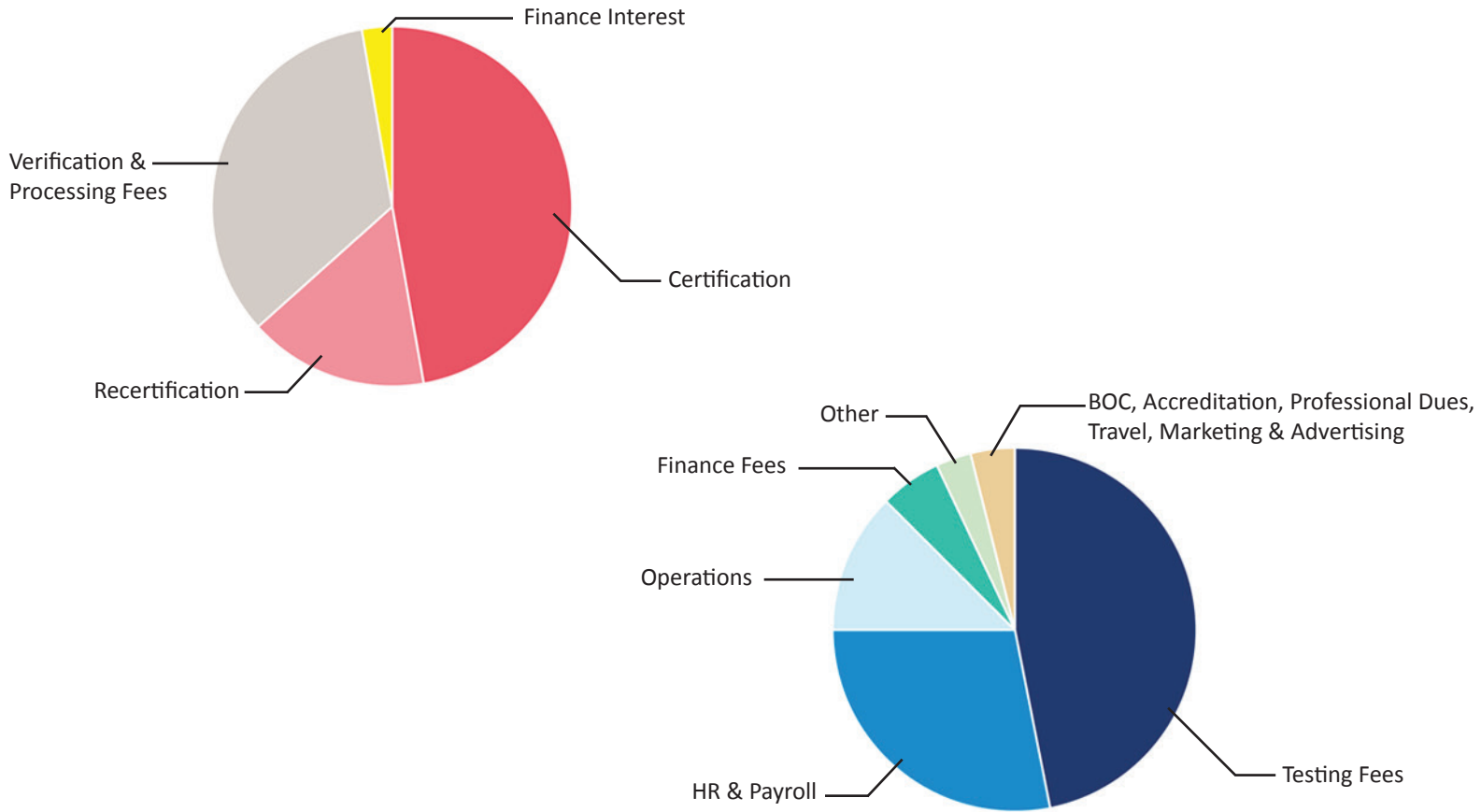
December

- » Loretta Ford, Scholarship event [FL]



Our 25th Anniversary
www.aanpcert.org

FINANCE REPORT



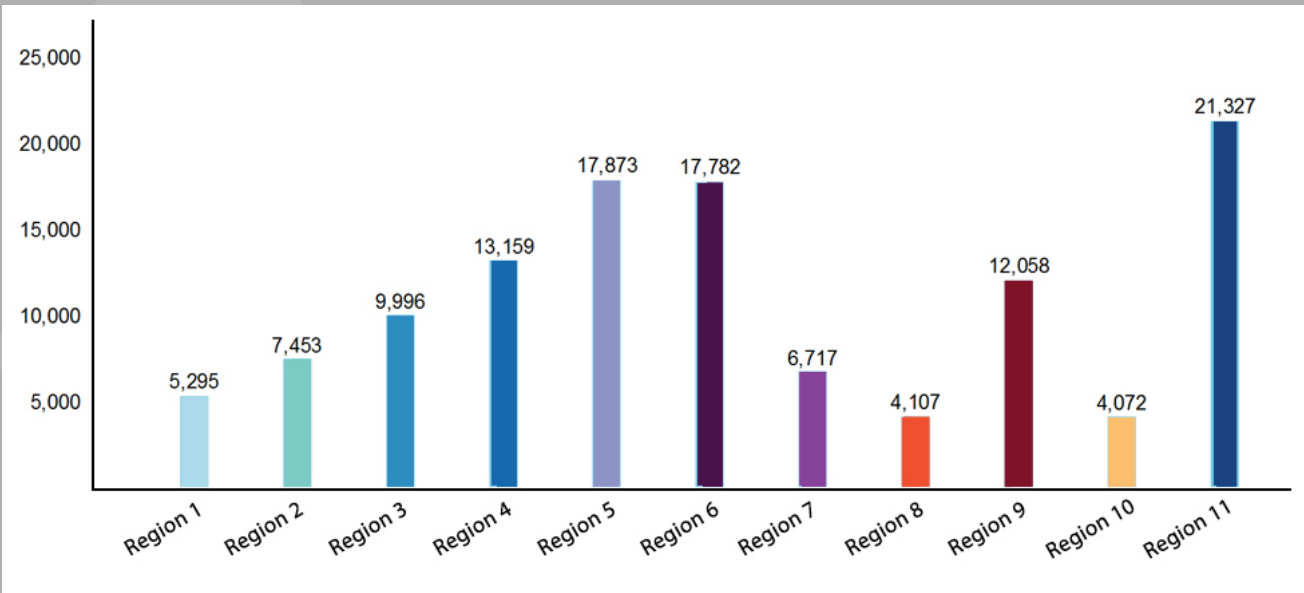
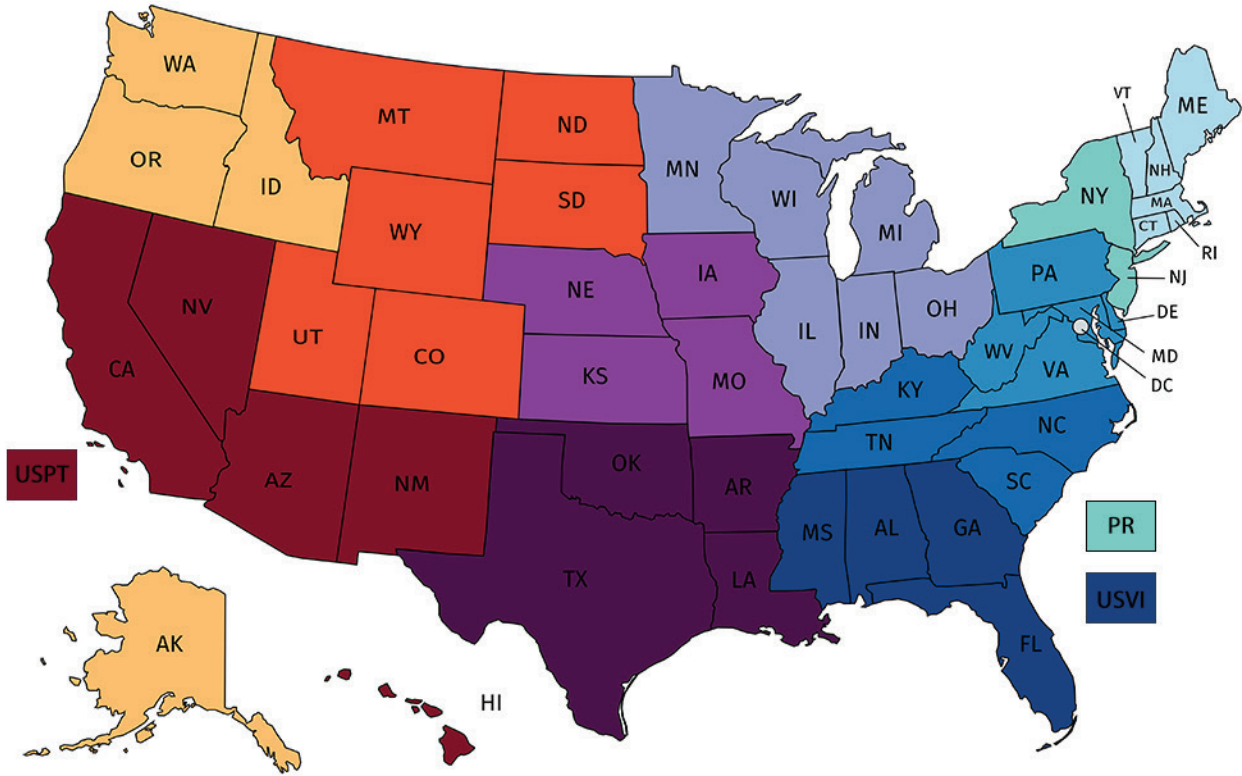
OUTLOOK FOR 2019

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

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS (AANP) MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION




[AANPCB-certified NPs by AANP Region](#)


NP-C

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.



Celebrating



25 YEARS
of
Nurse Practitioner Certification

Family NP
Adult-Gerontology PC NP
Emergency NP

www.aanpcert.org

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

	ABSNC	NCCA
A-GNP	Dec 2023	Jan 2024
ENP	Oct 2023	Jul 2023
FNP	Oct 2022	Nov 2022

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.

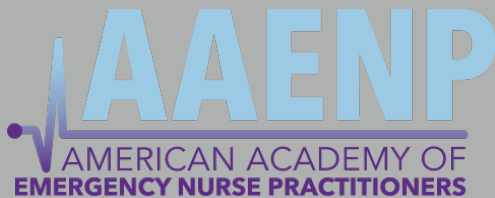
www.aanp.org



**American Association of
NURSE PRACTITIONERS™**

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

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PSI has over 70 years of experience providing worldwide testing solutions to corporations, federal and state government agencies, professional associations, certifying bodies and leading academic institutions.

www.psonline.com



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.



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