CE Credit Requirements to Practice as a CRNA in Ohio

NBCRNA At-A-Glance

The National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) is the governing body which certifies Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). CRNAs who wish to practice in Ohio, must hold the CRNA certification, issued by the NBCRNA.

In order to keep the CRNA certification, CRNAs must complete continuing education credits (CE credits) each year. In 2016, the NBCRNA modified its certification program (known as the CPC). The program now consists of 8-year periods, and each period is comprised of two 4-year cycles. Some CRNAs entered the program in 2016, while others entered in 2017 or 2018. Every two years CRNAs will check in through a simple, online process known as the 2-year Check-In. In addition to practice and license requirements, the program includes these main components:

https://www.nbcrna.com/continued-certification/cpc-faqs

**This graphic represents the 8 year program period with two 4 year cycles. Source: NBCRNA.com/continued-certification

### Continuing Education Credits (CE Credits)

- Class A Credits (assessed CE): 60 credits per 4 year cycle
- Class B Credits (professional development): 40 credits per 4 year cycle
- Core Modules (4): Every 4 years. Not required until the 2nd 4 year cycle. These DO count as Class A credits, i.e. ‘double dip.’
- Assessment: Every 8 Years. Not required until the 2024-25 cycle. First performance standard does not impact certification

What is Class A?

Typical education or classroom-based CE courses such as OSANA Conferences.

What is Class B?

Class B are more flexible professional development credits. A list of examples can be found on the NBCRNA website (https://www.nbcrna.com/docs/default-source/continued-certification/class-b-reporting/classbtable.pdf?sfvrsn=16a4e221_54)

Class A credits in excess of 60 credits per 4 year cycle CAN be used as Class B credits. Excess Class B credits CANNOT be used as Class A credits.

The actual dates for the program will vary depending on if the CRNA renewed in 2016, 2017, or 2018. A personalized tool kit to determine your dates can be found at: https://www.nbcrna.com/continued-certification/toolkit
APRN-CRNA License

House Bill 216, effective April 6, 2017, established licensure for APRNs and imposed CE requirements for APRN licensure renewal, in addition to RN licensure renewal. In summary, all CRNAs, except those who are newly licensed out of school, transitioned from a COA to an APRN licensure. CRNAs are now recognized as APRN-CRNA.

Q: In 2019, what are the CE requirements to renew as an APRN-CRNA?
A: For the first period of renewal immediately following the initial issuance of the APRN licensure, a licensee is not required to complete any contact hours of CE (Ohio Revised Code Rule 4723-8-10(B)(3). CRNAs must still meet the requirements to maintain their NBCRNA certification.

Q: In 2021, what are the CE requirements to renew as an APRN-CRNA?
A: CE contact hours must be obtained between November 1, 2019 and October 31, 2021 in order to renew an APRN-CRNA license by October 31, 2021. Starting November 1, 2019, APRNs must complete 24 hours of CE for their APRN license. The 24 hours of CE are in addition to the 24 hours of CE needed to renew their RN license (see below). For the APRN-CRNA licensure, there is no additional requirement for pharmacology CE. APRN-CNP, APRN-CNS and APRN-CNMs all have to complete 12 additional CE hours of pharmacology because they have prescriptive authority. APRN-CRNAs do not have prescriptive authority in Ohio.

Q: Can I use the same CE credits earned for my NBCRNA recertification for my APRN-CRNA licensure renewal?
YES! The Ohio Board of Nursing will accept BOTH Class A and Class B credits required for NBCRNA certification, as CE for the APRN-CRNA licensure. (Source: Lesleigh Robinson, Program Manager; Licensure, Certification, and Continuing Education; Ohio Board of Nursing)

RN Licensure

Registered Nurses must complete at least 24 contact hours of CE during each licensure period to renew an RN license. For every renewal, at least one of the 24 contact hours must be a Category A Course, not to be confused with the NBCRNA Class A. This Category A course is commonly known as the ‘Ohio Law Course’ and must be on a topic related to the Ohio Nurse Practice Act.

Q: As an RN, will I renew in the same year as the new APRN-CRNA renewal?
No, not necessarily. RN license period is dependent upon your initial licensure as an RN, therefore some RN renewals will be in odd years and some will be in even years.

Q: Can CE credits count towards both my RN and my APRN-CRNA renewal?
No. However, Class A or Class B credits earned as part of your CRNA recertification can also count towards your RN or APRN-CRNA renewal.
Putting it all together....

- Remember, the new APRN-CRNA licensure renewal requirements do not start until after November 1, 2019.
- Continue with the RN license requirements (24 CE including 1 law every 2 years) in even or odd years.
- Between 11/1/19 and 10/31/21 obtain 48 CE (24 for RN and 24 for APRN-CRNA) including 1 law credit.
- Be aware that if your CPC program started in 2016, you will recertify for the NBCRNA in even years and for Ohio APRN-CRNA licensure in odd years. If your CPC program started in 2017, you will do both in odd years.

Additional Resources

NBCRNA Recertification
https://www.nbcrna.com/continued-certification

APRN-CRNA and RN Licensure Renewal
http://www.nursing.ohio.gov/PDFS/Education/CE_FAQ_APRNs.pdf

Ohio Board of Nursing Category A
http://nursing.ohio.gov/PDFS/Education/Category_A_Law_Rules.pdf

NBCRNA Class B Credit
https://www.nbcrna.com/docs/default-source/continued-certification/class-b-reporting/classbtable.pdf?sfvrsn=16a4e221_54

Core Module Providers
https://www.nbcrna.com/continued-certification/vendors/core-module-providers

NBCRNA CPC Assessment Content Outline
https://www.nbcrna.com/exams/cpce/faqs