What Every NP Graduate Needs to Know before They Graduate

Dr. Monica Alman DNP, APRN, FNP-C

OUTLINE

• Certification
• Licensure
• Prescriptive Authority (Board of Nursing)
• Credentialing
• National Provider Number (NPI)
• Negotiating Nurse Practitioner Contract
• Landing that first job
• Full practice authority
• Ethical leadership
• Salary

Steps towards APRN Licensure in Texas

Obtain graduate degree in population focus

Earn National Certification through ANCC or AANP CB

Apply for APRN License
Common Questions

• Which certification exam am I eligible to sit for?
• What are the costs of the certification exams?
• When can I apply to sit for the ANCC or AANP board certification exam?

Getting started

ANCC NP Certifications

• Adult Gerontology Acute Care NP
• Adult Gerontology Primary Care NP
• Family NP
• Pediatric Primary Care NP
• Psychiatric Mental Health NP
• Emergency NP
AANP CB Certification

- Family Nurse Practitioner certification exam
- Adult Gerontology Primary Care NP certification exam
- Emergency Nurse Practitioner certification exam

http://www.graduatenursingedu.org/texas/

2017 Costs for NP Certification Exam

ANCC costs for initial certification exam:
- Nonmember 395
- ANA member 270
- AANP member 340
- AANP student member 290

AANP costs for initial certification exam:
- AANP nonmembers 315
- AANP members 240

Steps for Certification Exam

1. Find space to sit for the board exam
2. Once you applied to the certifying body (ANCC or AANPCP), they will review your application and notify you if you are pending or lacking any documentation.
3. When application is complete and all requirements have been met and approved, you will be given permission to sit for the exam.
4. Once you receive permission to test, you can schedule your exam date and time.
Successful completion of all didactic NP program coursework and all faculty supervised clinical practice hours required for the NP program

Successful completion of graduate level courses in advanced health assessment, advanced pharmacology and advanced pathophysiology

Current active RN license in a state/territory of the United States or respective province of Canada

Transcript showing academic “work-to-date,” or a final official transcript showing your degree awarded (conferred)

AANP CB Eligibility Requirements

Two pathways to certification

Clinical Hours Didactic hours Course numbers Course titles Dates Preceptors

Required Documentation

Once your application is completed, submitted, reviewed and cleared then you will be given permission/authorization to schedule your board certification exam

After you have graduated and completed all of your clinical and didactic work, your school will send the certifying body notice that your degree was conferred
For Exam: Preparation is Key

- Options include:
  - Purchase study books
  - Board certification exam review course
  - Consider the costs associated with each option and if time and travel expenses can be factored into your budget

http://www.graduate nurs ingedu.org/ texas/

NP Certification Exam Review

- Review books
- Live or recorded board review courses available, such as APEA Adult and Family NP review courses (Amalie Hollier) and Fitzgerald Health Education Associates NP Certification Exam Review (Margaret Fitzgerald)
- If purchasing a review course, recommend you schedule the course at least 3 months prior to graduation

http://www.npcentral.net/ce/review.shtml

Tips to scheduling your exam

1. Schedule the exam within a month of graduation
2. Schedule study time daily in the weeks leading up to the exam
3. Stop studying 24-48 hours before the exam
Your results

- You passed!!! Now begin the process of applying to your state board of nursing for your APRN license (if AANP CB, now use credential NP-C and remember to re-certify in 5 years)

- You did not pass - give yourself a few days to reflect on the results and then begin a new plan of study

Important to know about APRN Licensure

- Once your are certified in your specialty, you are considered certified but you are not licensed to practice
- You may not practice until you apply for and receive your APRN license from your state board of nursing

Texas APRN License

APRN Role & Population Focus
- Nurse Practitioner
- Certified Nurse Midwife
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists
- Clinical Nurse Specialists

APRN License Number
- Regardless of the role and population, approved applicants will receive one APRN License Number, for example, AP99999
Oklahoma APRN license

- Must have completed a graduate program
- Must hold current national certification in specialty area, i.e., CNP
- Application fee to OK BON: $70.00
- Must include official transcripts from University verifying degree conferred mailed from school to OK BON
- If you wish to obtain prescriptive authority then you must complete the Application for Prescriptive Authority

Oklahoma APRN application

- Complete application: https://www.ok.gov/nursing/licensing/app/index.php
- Verification of your current certification must be received directly from the national certifying body (http://nursing.ok.gov/prac-natlcert.pdf)
- Provide fingerprint images and criminal background check through MorphoTrust

Texas APRN application

- APRN license: $100.00
- APRN license with Rx authority: $150.00
- Must already have a current active Texas RN license
- Must have completed APRN accredited program
- Must have nati cert in role and population focus congruent with educational preparation
- Completion of minimum of 400 hours of practice in APRN role within the last 24 calendar months or completion of program in last 24 months
- Completion of minimum of 20 hours of CE in advanced role & population focus within last 24 mos.
Texas RN License

- If your RN license is about to expire, renew it which will cost around $100, for example $90 in Tennessee.
- If you are moving to a new state, you will need to become licensed as a registered nurse in the state where you plan to practice (unless you are licensed in a compact state and moving to another compact state).

Nurse Licensure Compact

- Agreement between states that allows a nurse to obtain an RN license in the nurse’s primary state of residence and allows the nurse to practice as an RN in any other Compact state without obtaining an RN license in that state.
- If you hold a current valid Compact RN lic, you are not req to obtain a TX RN license before applying for APRN licensure in Texas.

APRN license in other states

- Similar to how you have obtained a license to work as a registered nurse in your state, once you graduate from your NP program and receive certification, you must obtain a state advanced practice nursing (APN or APRN) license in the state you plan to practice.
Prescriptive Authority in Texas

- Prescriptive authority - optional authority for those who qualify and wish to write prescriptions
- Prescriptive authority agreements in Texas: APRNs and PAs are req. to have delegated authority agreements to provide medical aspects of patient care, i.e., protocol or other written authorization

Prescriptive Authority

- TMB Rule 193.6 physicians may delegate ordering and prescribing nonprescription drugs, prescription drugs and medical devices (dangerous drugs) and DME to an APRN
- Must be delegated by a physician to APRN through a written document (PAA or facility based protocols must have CSR #’s from DEA and DPS)
- Schedules III through V controlled substances can be rx’d
- What is a Dangerous Drug?

Required Elements of a Prescriptive Authority Agreement

1. Name, address, and all professional license numbers of all parties to the agreement
2. State the nature of the practice, practice location or practice settings
3. Identify the types of categories or drugs or devices that may be prescribed OR the types or categories of drugs or devices that may not be prescribed
4. Provide a plan for addressing consultations and referrals
5. Provide a plan for addressing patient emergencies
6. State the general process for communication and sharing information related to the care and treatment of patients
7. Describe a quality assurance and improvement plan and how it will be implemented. The plan must include plans for chart reviews and periodic face to face meetings
Create a binder

- In your new setting, place your PAA, your training and certificates and your evidence of weekly or monthly meetings with your supervising physician(s) in the event that you will need.

Who can RX Schedule II drugs under physician delegation?

- APRNs or PAs can rx schedule II drugs:
  - in a hospital facility-based practice, in accordance with policies approved by the hospital’s medical staff or a committee of the hospital’s medical staff as provided by the hospital’s bylaws to ensure patient safety and as part of care provided to a patient who:
  - has been admitted to the hospital for an intended length of stay of 24 hours or greater; or
  - is receiving services in the emergency department of the hospital; or
  - as part of the plan of care for the treatment of a person who has executed a written certification of a terminal illness, has elected to receive hospice care, and is receiving hospice treatment from a qualified hospice provider.

Credentialing

The process by which hospitals and health care organizations ensure that providers have been educated, trained, certified and licensed to perform certain medical and health care acts.

Practitioner will complete an application to submit for credentialing.

Keep copies of your application (either hard copy or electronic copy).

Credentialing can take several weeks or months.
Hospital Privileges

• TX Hospitals not req to credential & privilege APRNs but most do
• APRNs must meet req of Health & Safety Code “Hospital Privileges for APNs and PAs”

http://www.tdl.texas.gov/hmo/crform.html

NPI Numbers

• NPI must be used on claim forms by all health care providers who meet the definition of a “covered entity”
• Apply for your NPI number through the National Plan and Provider Enumeration website (https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do)

• A word to the wise………..


Landing the best, first job
Negotiating your contract

- Consider pay, benefits, professional development, malpractice insurance, delineation of responsibilities, hours per week, patients per day, bonuses, etc.

Ethical Leadership

- Put ego aside
- Work for the greater good
- Encourage and accept feedback
- Expand competence
- Accept responsibility
- Be accountable
- Understand the power of leadership and use it well

FULL PRACTICE AUTHORITY

- Where?
- What is it?
- What do I need to know about it?
Selecting Mentors

Values  Mission  Vision

PhD and DNP

PhD
• Terminal degree in nursing
• Major focus: Research
• Prepare nurses at the highest level of nursing science to conduct research to advance the science of nursing

DNP
• Terminal degree in nursing
• Major focus: Practice
• Prepare nurse leaders at the highest level of nursing practice to improve patient outcomes and translate research into practice

http://www.aacn.nche.edu/dnp/ContrastGrid.pdf

Can I use the title “Doctor”

• If you have received a terminal degree, such as a PhD or DNP, you may use the title “Dr.” as a credential but also indicate the profession being practiced

• Correct: Dr. Monica Alleman DNP, APRN, FNP-C
• INCORRECT: Dr. Monica Alleman

http://www.nursecredentialing.org/displaycredentials-brochure.pdf
Texas APRN Associations

- Texas Nurses Association
- Texas Organization of Nurse Executives
- Texas Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- Texas Emergency Nurses Association
- Advanced Practice Nurses of the Permian Basin
- Denton Area Advanced Practice Nurses
- East Texas Nurse Practitioner Association
- Galveston Coalition of Advanced Practice Nurses
- Laredo APN Association
- Houston Area Nurse Practitioners
- Austin APNs
- North Texas Nurse Practitioners
- San Antonio Nurses in Advanced Practice
- Southeast Texas Nurse Practitioners
- CTCNM Consortium of Texas Certified Midwives
- The Greater Texas Chapter of NAPNAP
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- Texas School Nurses Organization

---

2015 mean salary 105,220

2016 licensed NPs 16,919

Texas NPs

---

Conclusion

- You are exactly where you need to be, you have learned exactly what you needed to learn and you will do exactly what you were meant to do.