

CPC PROGRAM

CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Your guide to renewing your CRNA certification



“The CRNA credential to me is a validation of my knowledge and qualifications as a professional anesthesia provider.”

**Chaireline Lundi, DNP, CRNA
Geneva, New York**

NBCRNA's Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program helps you show how much you care — about your patients, your profession and the lifelong learning that keeps you at the top of your game.

It provides the framework for you to demonstrate you have the knowledge to provide high quality patient care throughout your career — and that you continue to meet your state certification requirements.

Why CPC?

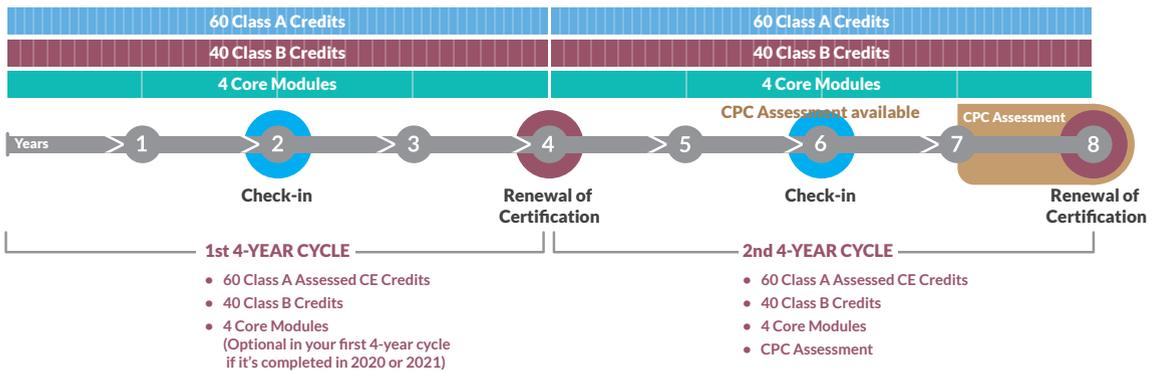
Designed to meet the APRN regulatory requirements of every state Board of Nursing, the CPC Program protects your ability to continue practicing as a CRNA. The program also reinforces the validity and value of your CRNA credential, demonstrating to your patients, their families and your employer that you meet the credentialing requirements needed to deliver safe, effective patient care — even as the health care environment constantly changes.

“The requirements that come with the certification not only keep me working but they keep me in top shape in my profession.”

Michael Kuria, CRNA, CRN
Cincinnati, Ohio



CPC Program: Timeline



2-Year Check-in

Required at the mid-point of each 4-year cycle

To help you stay on track and keep your records up-to-date, you need to complete a simple check-in at the mid-point of each 4-year cycle. During this brief online process, you will:

- Validate state licensure
- Confirm active practice
- Update contact information
- Review your CPC Program progress

Your check-in deadline is based on the month and year of your original certification, available on your personalized timeline when you log in to the NBCRNA portal.

There is no fee due at the Check-in, and you do not need to have completed any Class A or Class B credits, or Core Modules.

Renewal of Certification

Required every 4 years

Every four years, you must apply for Renewal of Certification and pay the fee for your next four years of certification. NBCRNA will notify you by email, a few months prior to the end of your 4-year cycle. When you have completed the requirements, you can then log in to the NBCRNA portal to begin the application process.

If you have completed the first 4-year cycle of the CPC Program and your application has been approved, you are now entering the second 4-year cycle. You are eligible to take the CPC Assessment any time in those second four years, as long as it is at least six months prior to your Renewal of Certification deadline.

If you are applying for Renewal of Certification at the end of your second 4-year cycle, you also need to have completed the CPC Assessment.

Check out your personalized timeline

Log in to the NBCRNA portal any time to access your CPC Timeline. At a glance, you'll see all the requirements you need to meet, and when. <https://portal.nbcrna.com/nbcrnassa>



CPC Program: Components

The CPC Program includes four components: Class A credits, Class B credits, Core Modules and the CPC Assessment.

Class A Credits 60 required per 4-year cycle

What are Class A Credits?

Class A credits are continuing education (CE) credits earned by participating in CE courses or activities that sharpen your skills and grow your knowledge.

Criteria

To count as Class A credits, CE activities must meet the following three criteria:

1. Be prior approved by an accredited organization authorized to approve continuing education. (e.g. AANA, ANCC, ACGME)
2. Include an assessment, such as self-assessment, polling, case studies, simulations, or post-tests.
3. Relate to nurse anesthesia practice or the improvement of the delivery of anesthesia care to patients.

Any Class A credits you earn over the required 60 may be used to fulfill your Class B credit requirements.

Documentation

If you are an AANA member, your completed Class A credits will automatically be reported to the NBCRNA. If you are not an AANA member, you will need to report credits directly to the NBCRNA as a part of your Renewal of Certification process every four years.

Examples

- Online courses
- Webinars
- Workshops
- Core Modules

Class A Credits



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CPC Assessment



CPC Assessment Required once every 8 years

What is the CPC Assessment?

The CPC Assessment (CPCA) is a performance standard assessment, not a pass/fail exam. It assesses your knowledge in the four core areas of nurse anesthesia practice:

- Airway Management
- Applied Clinical Pharmacology
- Human Physiology and Pathophysiology
- Anesthesia Equipment and Technology

The CPCA is closed book and you are given three hours to answer 150 questions.

Study Materials

A toolkit of resources, including practice exams, is available to help you prepare. Visit www.nbcrna.com/CPC for details.

Scoring

Because the CPCA is not pass/fail, it does not impact your certification. It is designed to provide feedback on your strengths and weaknesses in different knowledge areas. Scores are measured against a defined performance standard to identify any areas where additional study is needed.

Flexible Testing Options

You choose where to take the CPCA, either online in your home or other preferred setting, or at a testing center. It can be taken any time in your second 4-year cycle.

Cost

The cost of the CPCA is \$295.

Learn more about the CPC Program at www.nbcrna.com/CPC

In addition to demonstrating compliance with these components, you need to validate your state licensure, confirm active practice and pay the certification renewal fees. Visit the [website](#) for details of the annualized costs.

Class B Credits 40 required per 4-year cycle

What are Class B Credits?

Class B credits are the most flexible component of the CPC Program. You can earn them through a wide range of professional activities that you most likely already engage in.

Criteria

Unlike Class A credits, Class B credits **do not** require prior approval and **do not** require an assessment. There are many activities that count as Class B credits.

They must do at least one of the following:

1. Enhance knowledge of anesthesia practice
2. Support patient safety
3. Foster understanding of the broader health care environment

Documentation

It is important to retain adequate records of your involvement in all professional activities you would like to use for Class B credit.

If you are an AANA member, you have access to an online portal to record and track your Class B credits and upload all supporting documentation.

If you do not have CE credit transfer through AANA, you are responsible for maintaining Class B credit records on your own and reporting them to the NBCRNA every four years. Documentation templates are available for each type of activity at www.nbcrna.com/ClassBtable.

Examples

- Teaching
- Publishing
- Research
- Morbidity and mortality conferences
- Research and data collection
- Mission trips

For a detailed list of eligible activities, see the Class B Credit Requirements Table at www.nbcrna.com/ClassBtable.

Also, you may use extra Class A credits (above the required 60) to meet Class B credit requirements.

Core Modules 4 required per 4-year cycle

What are Core Modules?

Core Modules are a specialized type of Class A credit focused on recently emerging information and evidence-based knowledge. They address the four core knowledge areas of nurse anesthesia practice:

- Airway Management
- Applied Clinical Pharmacology
- Human Physiology and Pathophysiology
- Anesthesia Equipment and Technology

Core Modules include a formal assessment, such as multiple choice questions.

Criteria

Four Core Modules — one from each of the four core knowledge areas — are required in each 4-year cycle. (Optional for CPC cycles ending on or before July 31, 2021; required during each 4-year cycle thereafter.) They must include an assessment, be prior-approved, and be offered by an approved provider. Because of that, when you fulfill this requirement, the credits also count as Class A credits.

Documentation

If you have CE credit transfer from AANA, Class A credits earned through Core Modules will be reported to the NBCRNA. If you do not have credit transfer, you will need to report credits directly to the NBCRNA as a part of your certification renewal process every four years.

Class B Credits



Continued
Professional
Education
Program

Core Modules



AANA

**National Board of Certification & Recertification
for Nurse Anesthetists**

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“The CRNA credential represents the high standards that all CRNAs are expected to function at and displays accountability to the public.”

Nancy Christiano, DNAP, CRNA
Long Beach, California



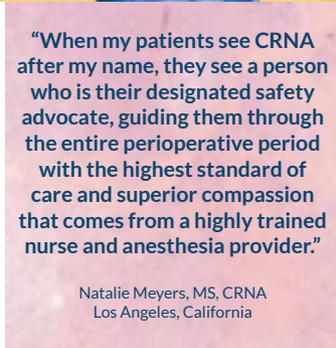
“One of the ways I earn Class B credits is by participating in a professional nurse anesthetist committee.”

Lisa Miller, MSN, CRNA
El Paso, Texas



“My favorite part of the job as a CRNA is the introduction...within a few minutes, you are able to decrease their angst and diffuse their anxiety.”

Joseph Rodriguez, CRNA
Prescott, Arizona



“When my patients see CRNA after my name, they see a person who is their designated safety advocate, guiding them through the entire perioperative period with the highest standard of care and superior compassion that comes from a highly trained nurse and anesthesia provider.”

Natalie Meyers, MS, CRNA
Los Angeles, California



“Throughout my career the CRNA credential represents advocacy: advocacy for our patients, for our scope of practice, and for the education of the next generation of CRNAs.”

Thomas Pallaria, DNP, CRNA
New Brunswick, New Jersey



“I’ve been a CRNA for 23 years and one of the ways I earn Class B credits is giving lectures to nurse anesthesia students.”

Andrea Bittinger, DNP, CRNA
Royal Oaks, Michigan