Certification as a Nurse Executive

Nurse Executive certification is offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Eligibility criteria include the following and must be completed prior to application for the examination:

- Hold a current, active RN license within a state or territory of the United States or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.
- Hold a bachelor’s degree or higher in nursing.
- Held a mid-level administrative or higher position (for example, nurse manager, supervisor, director, assistant director) OR a faculty position teaching graduate students nursing administration, OR a nursing management or executive consultation position, for at least 24 months full time equivalent in the last five years.
- Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in nursing administration within the last three years. This requirement is waived if you have a master’s degree in nursing administration from a U.S. program.

The certification exam for the Nurse Executive certification is a computer based test and can be taken year round during a 90-day window at a time and location convenient to you. Information regarding application, review resources, and fees are available at the following website:


Certification as a Nurse Educator

Certification as a Nurse Educator (CNE) is offered by the National League for Nursing (NLN). Eligibility criteria include the following and must be met at the time of application:

Option A: Must meet criteria 1, 2, & 3

1. Licensure: A currently active registered nurse license in the United States or its territories.
2. Education: A master’s or doctoral degree in nursing with:
   - a major emphasis in nursing education
   - nine or more credit hours of graduate-level education courses*
     Examples of acceptable courses include: Curriculum Development and Evaluation; Instructional Design; Principles of Adult Learning; Assessment/Measurement & Evaluation; Principles of Teaching and Learning, Instructional Technology
     Note: Graduate-level research or statistics courses do not count toward this requirement.
3. Experience: Two years or more of full-time employment** in the academic faculty role within the past five years.
Option B: Must meet criteria 1, 2 & 3

1. Licensure: A currently active registered nurse license in the United States or its territories.
2. Education: A master’s or doctoral degree in nursing (with a major emphasis in a role other than nursing education).
3. Experience: Four years or more of full-time employment** in the academic faculty role within the past five years.
   **full-time employment as defined by the institution

The certification exam is a computer based test and may be taken year round. More detailed information about application, fees, examination preparation, and FAQs may be found at the following web site: