



The latest information bites from the NBCRNA on elections, CPC Program updates, and more.



## Spring 2016 CRNA Newsletter

Welcome to the Spring 2016 issue of the NBCRNA newsletter. This issue features short updates on the elections and call for nominations, new CPC Program updates and mythbusting, notice about recertification applications being accepted, open testing periods for subspecialty NSPM, and more.

### Quick Survey on a CPC Program Practice Exam

#### CPC Program Practice Exam

1. Are you interested in taking a practice exam for the purpose of being exposed to the four domain areas?

Yes No

2. How would you prefer to take the practice questions?

- Questions presented in a document with correct answers provided at the end.
- Questions presented in an interactive PDF that allows users to respond, and provides rationales for correct answers.
- Questions presented one at a time in an online testing format.

SUBMIT

## 2016-2020 Recertification Cycle Application Window Now Open

Online applications for the 2016-2020 cycle are now being accepted (as of March 1). To facilitate the recertification process, make sure that you have:

- Created an NBCRNA account
- Updated your NBCRNA profile information
- Earned a minimum of 40 CE credits

[Recertify Now](#)

Learn how to [create an NBCRNA account](#) or login to [update your profile](#). Find more resources in the Quick Links/Resources list on the [CPC/Recertification page](#). If you have additional questions, view the resources and the [Recertification FAQs](#), or email us at [recertification@nbcrna.com](mailto:recertification@nbcrna.com) or call (855) 285-4658.

---

## Elections Update: New Certificant Elected Director; Call for Nominations for Two Board Positions - Due March 25

### CRNAs have Voted!

The NBCRNA is pleased to announce the election of a new certificant elected Director (CED) on the NBCRNA Board of Directors. The new Director is **Terry Wicks, CRNA, MHS**. Beginning in August 2016, he will join the first certificant elected Director, Pamela Chambers, MSN, EJD, CRNA, who was elected to the Board in 2015.



### Call for Nominations: New Director, Emerging Leader Applications due: March 25, 2016

The NBCRNA is seeking qualified individuals to serve as Directors on the NBCRNA Board of Directors: one Director position and one Emerging Leader Fellow position. All Board Directors and Fellows serve in a volunteer capacity and will begin their terms as of August 27, 2016, following the NBCRNA Board meeting. See the [Elections](#) page for more information.

#### Board Director Position:

The Board of Directors are volunteer members and govern the NBCRNA credentialing programs. The position is for a three-year term, beginning August 2016. Find out more about the position and submit your application by **March 25**.

- [Board of Directors Job Responsibilities and Commitment to Serve](#)
- [2016 Board Application](#)

**Emerging Leader Fellow Position:**

The Emerging Leader Fellowship is a one-year opportunity for nurse anesthetists who have been certified in the last five years, and show potential to act as future leaders in nurse anesthesia credentialing. Fellows will be exposed to board governance, high-level decision making, and trends affecting the future of credentialing. This position is for a one-year term, beginning August 2016. Find out more about the position and submit your application by **March 25**.

- [Emerging Leader Job Responsibilities and Commitment to Serve](#)
- [2016 Emerging Leader Fellowship Application](#)

Please submit your **application form** (for either position), **curriculum vitae**, and **confidential letter of recommendation** by **March 25, 2016**. Your letter of recommendation must be sent by an individual who supports your selection via mail or email to:

NBCRNA Nominations Committee  
 8725 W. Higgins Road  
 Suite 525  
 Chicago, IL 60631  
[nominations@nbcna.com](mailto:nominations@nbcna.com)

**Board Requirements:**

- Participate for: Director = three years; Emerging Leader = one year, both beginning August 2016.
- Attend an orientation session to learn about the NBCRNA, business operations and the Board.
- Attend three NBCRNA Board meetings annually. Meetings take place over a long weekend (typically Thursday - Sunday including travel) in August, January and April.
- Engage in Board activities, including participation in Board and committee conference calls during weekday evenings.

**Submit your application/nomination today! [nominations@nbcna.com](mailto:nominations@nbcna.com).**  
 See the [Elections](#) page for complete information.

## Additional Live Webinars Planned for the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program

In February, the NBCRNA held its second live webinar for CRNAs (Feb. 16) to provide an overview and details on the CPC Program, as well as a live webinar (Feb. 17) for Program Administrators and their students. Watch the latest [CRNA-webinar recording](#). Additional live webinars are being planned for April, June, and August.



Three brief, 10-minute "Overview/"Next Steps" videos are available for the odd- and even-

year certificants, as well as one for those newly certifying in 2016. [Watch the videos](#) at your convenience and learn more about the CPC Program requirements and your timing.

Many more CPC Program resources can be found on the [NBCRNA website](#), including sample plans, a [CPC Program calculator](#) showing a personalized timeline based on your situation, the CPC Program brochure explaining the Program, an FAQ section, descriptions of [Class A and Class B requirements](#), a [Class B reference table](#) and more. If you have a meeting scheduled and would like CPC Program brochures and/or a speaker to discuss the CPC Program, complete the [request form](#).

Check back on the [NBCRNA website](#) for additional CPC Program resources over the coming months.

---

## The CPC Program:

Information is the Greatest for

# MYTHBUSTING

With the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program (formerly "Recertification") rolling out August 1, 2016, we understand there are going to be many questions, as with any new program. This mythbusting segment aims to disprove popular myths and misconceptions about the CPC Program by providing facts and scenarios for a better understanding of the CPC Program so you can be a mythbuster!

### **MYTH ABOUT: The two-year check in**

**"What...an interim check-in?"** Though the continuing education periods in the CPC Program are divided into two four-year cycles, you will still check in every two years, **just as you are used to doing now**. The NBCRNA wants to be respectful of the two-year timing that CRNAs have become accustomed to over the years, and will continue to follow that even after the CPC Program begins.

For example:

- Nurse anesthetists who initially certify or recertify in 2016 will check in just as they always have every two years. At this time, the nurse anesthetist will validate (or correct) their nursing license, practice, and contact information; submit the fee (currently \$110); and review their progress towards CPC Program compliance.

### **MYTH ABOUT: The CPC Exam**

**"The CPC exam is going to be another NCE!"** The CPC Exam is *not* the National Certification Exam (NCE). The CPC exam content outline, available on the [NBCRNA website](#), is different than the NCE's and was informed by a professional practice analysis done of CRNAs/your colleagues. The input from these practicing nurse anesthetists helped define the knowledge required of an experienced practitioner, and reinforced the understanding that the knowledge they acquire and refine over years of nurse anesthesia practice is different from the knowledge required of a new practitioner. The professional practice analysis surveyed hundreds of practicing nurse anesthetists to identify just what they

did in the course of practice. The goal was to make sure that the knowledge tested is common to all CRNAs, regardless of practice focus. It is not the NCE.

Many people have asked if the NBCRNA will be offering practice questions for the CPC Exam. The answer is yes, the NBCRNA will be offering practice questions! CRNAs will be surveyed to help determine the delivery and format of the questions. There will be much more to come as the first CPC Exam (Performance Standard...*not pass/fail*) becomes available in about four years.

### **MYTH ABOUT: The CPC Exam timing**

*(spoiler alert -- it's between 8 and 17 years away)*

**"I'm not ready to take an exam!"** Did you know that although the CPC Program launches August 1 of this year, the first exam that certificants will take is not required to be completed until **2024 or 2025**? That's at least eight years from now, depending on your initial year of certification (odd/even). Did you also know that your performance on that exam will *not* affect your certification? The purpose of your first CPC Exam is to help each CRNA evaluate their strengths, as well as any areas they may want to strengthen.

The score for this first CPC Exam -- the Performance Standard Exam -- identifies how you perform, and is measured against the performance for all currently certified nurse anesthetists. This first exam is intended to provide feedback on your relative strengths in different knowledge areas. Your performance, however, will *not* result in a loss of certification no matter how you perform. For those areas in which the performance standard is not met, the NBCRNA is currently considering options other than the current requirement, which is taking additional CPC Core Modules.

The second exam -- the Passing Standard Exam -- will not need to be taken until either 2032 or 2033, again, depending on your original year of certification (odd/even). That's **16-17 years away**. You will take the exam anytime in that four-year period, but before six-months prior to your renewal date to give time for processing and remediation, if needed. The NBCRNA uses the term Passing Standard in relation to the second and future CPC Examinations in order to determine the passing point for the examination. This exam is a pass/fail test and certificants will have four attempts to pass this second exam.

### **MYTH ABOUT: The CPC Program cost**

**"Won't the new CPC Program cost more?"** One common question surrounds the cost of the new CPC Program. When considering all expenses, the NBCRNA anticipates that the cost of the CPC Program will be similar to the total cost of recertification today. Let's start with **CEs**. Just as certificants do now, you will obtain your CEs from CE vendors who will be offering various programs at various price levels, just as they do today. Additionally, Core Modules (voluntary the first four years) will count towards your Class A CE requirements, so certificants can "double-dip" by taking Core Modules, applying them to both the Class A requirement *and* the Core Module requirements, when needed.

Nurse anesthetists will **check in** just as they always have every two years. For instance, a CRNA certifying in 2016 will check in, validating nursing licensure, continuing practice and contact information; submit the fee (currently \$110); and review progress towards CPC Program compliance.

The **examination** is the next part. The exam will take place every eight years. The very first one, establishing a Performance Standard only and not affecting certification in any way, will not happen until 2024 or 2025 (depending on your certification year) and is estimated to cost what would be \$300 today, so an average of about \$37.50 per year. That is roughly the cost of one CE.

**Have a question for our next mythbusting segment? Send your question to [CPCdiscovery@nbcrna.com](mailto:CPCdiscovery@nbcrna.com). Additional information on the CPC Program can be found at [www.NBCRNA.com/CPC](http://www.NBCRNA.com/CPC). The resources include videos and webinar recordings, brochures, a [CPC calculator](#), [sample plans](#), and more!**

---

## 2016 Registration for Nonsurgical Pain Management (NSPM) Credential Program

The 2016 exam windows for NBCRNA's voluntary subspecialty certification for nurse anesthetists in Nonsurgical Pain Management (NSPM) are:

<u>Applications for Exam Accepted</u>	<u>Test Dates</u>
4/18/2016 - 5/13/2016	6/13/2016 - 6/27/2016
10/3/2016 - 10/28/2016	11/28/2016 - 12/12/2016

Find out more about the [NSPM certification](#).

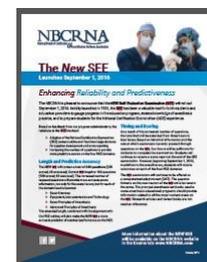
---

---

## New Self-Evaluation Exam Launches September 1 *Enhancing Reliability and Predictiveness*

The NBCRNA will roll out the new Self-Evaluation Examination (SEE) on September 1, 2016. The SEE has become a valuable tool for both students and education providers to gauge progress in the education program, assess knowledge of anesthesia practice, and prepare students for the National Certification Examination (NCE) experience.

Revisions to the SEE involved adoption of the NCE content outline and four knowledge domains for question development and score reporting, and an increase in the number of questions to provide more predictive scores on the four NCE domains.



Find out about the **new SEE** and read the **new SEE FAQs** on the [Exams page](#) of the website to learn more.

---

NBCRNA | (855) 285-4658 | [www.NBCRNA.com](http://www.NBCRNA.com)

STAY CONNECTED:



NBCRNA, 8725 W. Higgins Road,  
Suite 525, Chicago, IL 60631