

The Latest on PA Certification

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Certification. Excellence.

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Director of External Relations

Presentation Outline

- **About NCCPA**
- **The New Certification Maintenance Process**
- **A Few Words about PANRE**
- **Specialty Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) Program**

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About NCCPA

- Independent, not-for-profit organization
- Current Mission: To serve the public through exemplary programs that evaluate critical PA competencies and require the pursuit of life-long learning and improvement
- Previous Mission: To ensure that certified PAs meet professional standards of knowledge and skills
- Over 105,000 PAs have been certified since NCCPA was established in 1975

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Our Board of Directors

2 public representatives, 4 PA directors-at-large and nominees from...

- American **Hospital** Association
- American **Medical** Association
- American **Osteopathic** Association
- Assoc of Amer **Medical Colleges**
- Federation of State **Medical Boards**
- **PA Education** Association
- US Department of **Veterans Affairs**
- American Academies of:
 - **Family Physicians**
 - **Pediatrics**
 - **Physician Assistants**
- American Colleges of:
 - **Emergency Physicians**
 - **Physicians**
 - **Surgeons**

The Board currently includes 11 PAs, 8 physicians and 4 non-clinicians.

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Changes to the Certification Maintenance Process



How It All Began

- Calls for greater accountability and higher quality in health care spurred major change in physician certification and certification maintenance programs with movement from CME to [continuous professional development](#)
- NCCPA felt it appropriate to consider whether similar changes were needed for PAs—with our commitment to the public's interest in mind.
- NCCPA committed first to defining PA competencies and using them as the basis for a holistic review of what we *are* and what we *should be* assessing.
- AAPA, PAEA and ARC-PA all participated in the development of PA competencies and the current revision process



6 Areas of PA Competencies

Part of the rationale for change is incorporating more of these competencies into the process.

- ✓ **1. Medical knowledge**
- 2. Patient care**
- 3. Interpersonal & communication skills**
- 4. Professionalism**
- 5. System-based practice**
- 6. Practice-based learning and improvement**



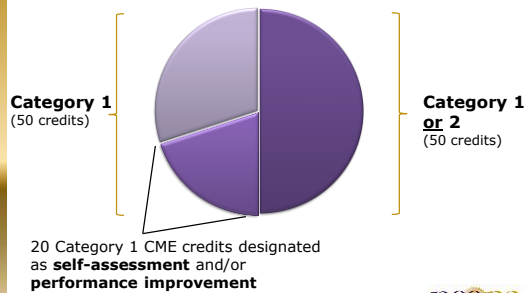
New Process

- 100 CME credits every two years
 - **Still 50 Category 1 credits**
 - **20 of the Category 1 credits must be designated as self-assessment and/or performance improvement**
- PANRE every ~~6~~¹⁰ years



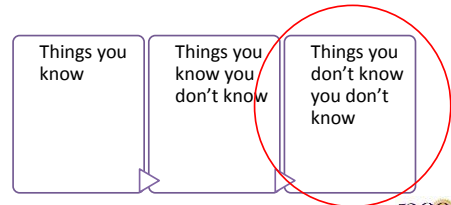
Directed CME Defined

100 Credit CME Requirement (every 2 years)



Why Self-Assessment (SA)?

Self-assessment is the process of conducting a systematic review of one's own performance, knowledge base or skill set for the purpose of improving future performance, expanding knowledge, or honing skills.




Why Self-Assessment (SA)?


- 2012 study concluded that more than 20% of core information guiding clinical practice is changed within one year based on new evidence or guidelines.
- Self-assessment makes CME more meaningful and practical to one's practice
- It requires active engagement in the learning process

ACP AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS INTERNAL MEDICINE | Doctors for Adults® MKSAP 16

- Content covers: Cardiology, Dermatology, Endocrinology and Metabolism, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, General Internal Medicine, Hematology and Oncology, Infectious Disease, Nephrology, Neurology, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Rheumatology and Hospital Medicine is covered across all specialty areas
- 1,200 Multiple Choice Questions, hundreds of figures and charts
- 174 CME credits available, minimum of 20 AAPA Category 1 Credits™ Self Assessment CME credits per specialty section
- Digital format - iPad, smart phone compatible
- Cost: Special AAPA pricing of \$369 expected soon





AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS
ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE



PEER VIII
Physician's Evaluation and Educational
Review in Emergency Medicine

- Earn up to 55 AAPA Category 1 Self-Assessment CME credits
- Cost: \$199 for ACEP members, \$299 for non-members
- 4 sections of the program:
 1. Self-Assessment – 60 pre-test questions
 2. Study and Practice – There are 24 categories from which to choose (i.e. GI disorders, cardiovascular disorders, musculoskeletal disorders, etc...)
 3. Post-Test – Take the full 450-question Post-Test. You have to score 75% or better to get the CME credit certificate.
 4. Evaluation – Before you can claim your CME and print your certificate, you'll have to answer a few evaluation questions.





SOCIETY OF DERMATOLOGY
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS


Distance Learning Initiative

Modules 001-005: 12 CME Credits Total


- DL 001 Skin Cancer
- DL 002 Papulosquamous Disorders
- DL 003 Fungal Infections
- DL 004 Acneiform Eruptions
- DL 005 Viral Conditions

Modules 101-110: 70 CME Credits Total

- Pediatric Dermatology
- Connective Tissue Disorders
- Cutaneous Manifestations
- Vesiculobullous Disorders
- Hair Disorders
- Nail Disorders
- Pigmented Lesions
- Disorders of Pigmentation
- Dermatologic Pharmacology
- Eczematous Disorders




AAPA's Learning Central




AAPA's Learning Central

Self-Assessment CME

Solutions for Self-Assessment CME





© 2014. All rights reserved. All certification materials provided are subject to the process. All must earn 20 credits (Category 1 A-CME activity, Self-Assessment CME credit, 100% attendance score) to be certified. AAPA Category 1 A-CME credit of AAPA Category 1 Self-Assessment CME credit.

The following solutions are currently certified for AAPA Category 1 Self-Assessment CME credit:

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 1: The Hospice and Palliative Care Approach to Serious Disease

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 2: Assessment and Treatment of Pain

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 3: Management of Subacute Non-pain Symptoms of Life-Threatening Disease

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 4: Communication and Teamwork

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 5: Ethical and Legal Issues

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 6: Caring for Patients with HIV/AIDS

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 7: Caring for Patients with Chronic Disease: Diabetes, COPD, and CHF

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 8: End-of-Life Care

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 9: Care of Patients with Dementia

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 10: Care of Patients with Depression

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 11: Care of Patients with Anxiety

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 12: Care of Patients with Substance Use

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 13: Care of Patients with Alcohol Use

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 14: Care of Patients with Tobacco Use

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 15: Care of Patients with Opioid Use

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 16: Care of Patients with Prescription Drug Use

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 17: Care of Patients with Over-the-Counter Drug Use

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 18: Care of Patients with Herbal and Dietary Supplement Use

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 19: Care of Patients with Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 20: Care of Patients with Integrative Medicine

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 21: Care of Patients with Mind-Body Medicine

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 22: Care of Patients with Spiritual Care

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 23: Care of Patients with Cultural Competence

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 24: Care of Patients with Health Equity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 25: Care of Patients with Social Determinants of Health

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 26: Care of Patients with Health Disparities

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 27: Care of Patients with Health Inequities

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 28: Care of Patients with Health Justice

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 29: Care of Patients with Health Care Access

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 30: Care of Patients with Health Care Quality

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 31: Care of Patients with Health Care Safety

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 32: Care of Patients with Health Care Equity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 33: Care of Patients with Health Care Fairness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 34: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 35: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 36: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 37: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 38: Care of Patients with Health Care Trust

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 39: Care of Patients with Health Care Respect

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 40: Care of Patients with Health Care Dignity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 41: Care of Patients with Health Care Compassion

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 42: Care of Patients with Health Care Empathy

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 43: Care of Patients with Health Care Kindness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 44: Care of Patients with Health Care Gentleness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 45: Care of Patients with Health Care Patience

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 46: Care of Patients with Health Care Tolerance

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 47: Care of Patients with Health Care Understanding

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 48: Care of Patients with Health Care Wisdom

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 49: Care of Patients with Health Care Courage

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 50: Care of Patients with Health Care Strength

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 51: Care of Patients with Health Care Resilience

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 52: Care of Patients with Health Care Perseverance

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 53: Care of Patients with Health Care Endurance

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 54: Care of Patients with Health Care Steadfastness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 55: Care of Patients with Health Care Firmness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 56: Care of Patients with Health Care Determination

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 57: Care of Patients with Health Care Resolve

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 58: Care of Patients with Health Care Willpower

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 59: Care of Patients with Health Care Force

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 60: Care of Patients with Health Care Power

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 61: Care of Patients with Health Care Authority

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 62: Care of Patients with Health Care Influence

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 63: Care of Patients with Health Care Impact

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 64: Care of Patients with Health Care Effectiveness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 65: Care of Patients with Health Care Productivity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 66: Care of Patients with Health Care Efficiency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 67: Care of Patients with Health Care Effectiveness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 68: Care of Patients with Health Care Reliability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 69: Care of Patients with Health Care Dependability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 70: Care of Patients with Health Care Trustworthiness

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 71: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 72: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 73: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 74: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 75: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 76: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 77: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 78: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 79: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 80: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 81: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 82: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 83: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 84: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 85: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 86: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 87: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 88: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 89: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 90: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 91: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 92: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 93: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 94: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 95: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 96: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 97: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 98: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 99: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 100: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 101: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 102: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 103: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 104: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 105: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 106: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 107: Care of Patients with Health Care Integrity

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 108: Care of Patients with Health Care Honesty

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 109: Care of Patients with Health Care Transparency

Provider: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 Applies for UNIPAC 110: Care of Patients with Health Care Accountability

Currently:
116 Self-Assessment
CME examples in many
different specialty
areas (with 31 more
"coming soon")

Prices range from free
to \$300 - \$400
depending on the
sponsor and the
number of credits
offered

AAPA's Learning Central

Currently approved Self-Assessment CME activities include topics in:

- Orthopaedic surgery
- Neurology
- Palliative care
- Pediatrics
- Cardiology
- Emergency medicine
- Neurosurgery
- Oncology
- Rheumatology
- OB/GYN
- Dermatology
- Hospital medicine
- Endocrinology
- General topics

What is Performance Improvement (PI) CME?

- PI-CME is active learning and the application of learning to improve your practice.
- Three-step process:
 1. Compare some aspect of practice to national benchmarks, performance guidelines or other established evidence-based metric or standard.
 2. Based on the comparison, develop and implement a plan for improvement in that area.
 3. Evaluate the impact of the improvement effort by comparing the results of the original comparison with the new results or outcomes.



What is Performance Improvement (PI) CME?

Put another way, there are three stages for which you can earn CME credit:

- ✓ Stage A - Identify evidence-based measure and assess practice (5 PI-CME credits)
- ✓ Stage B - Intervention(s) (5 PI-CME credits)
- ✓ Stage C - Re-measure; document improvement (5 PI-CME credits)
- ✓ Completing all 3 stages (bonus of 5 PI-CME credits)



METRIC®

- METRIC is offered by the American Academy of Family Physicians
- Can be completed individually or as group
- Cost to PA non-members: \$125
- Each module = 20 PI-CME credits
- Modules available in
 - Diabetes
 - Asthma
 - Hypertension
 - Geriatrics
 - Childhood immunization
 - Adolescent immunization
 - High-risk adult immunization



American Academy of Pediatrics **EQIPP**
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

- EQIPP is offered by the American Academy of Pediatrics
- Can be completed individually or as group
- Cost to PA non-members: \$59
- Each module = 20 PI-CME credits
- Modules available in
 - Asthma
 - Immunizations
 - Diabetes Care
 - Newborn Screening
 - Oral Health
 - Safe and Healthy Beginnings

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Certification Excellence

PI-CME Opportunities Through AAPA

Performance Improvement (PI) CME Activities

Solutions for PI-CME

Currently: 27 PI-CME examples in many different specialty areas (with 24 more "coming soon")

Prices range from free to \$300 - \$400 depending on the sponsor and the number of credits offered

PA
Solutions for PI-CME

This year, PAs will begin to transition to a new certification maintenance process. As part of this new process, PAs must earn 20 Category 1 credits of PI-CME and/or self-assessment CME each year.

Approved activities are certified for AAPA Category 1 PI-CME credit or AAPA Category 2 Self-Assessment CME credit.

Each PI-CME activity follows the three-stage PI-CME model: stage A = performance measurement, stage B = intervention/improvement plan, and stage C = re-measurement.

The following activities are currently certified for AAPA Category 1 PI-CME credit:

Providence Boston University School of Medicine
The Obesity Epidemic: Improved Practice to Provide Preventive Care for Adults

Providence American Academy of Pediatrics
EQIPP: Asthma - Diagnosing and Managing in Pediatrics
EQIPP: Immunizations - Improve Your Practice Ranks
EQIPP: Newborn Screening: Evaluate and Improve Your Practice

AAPA's Learning Central

Currently approved PI-CME activities include topics in:

- Neurology
- Pediatrics
- Emergency medicine
- Rheumatology
- Nephrology
- Endocrinology
- General topics

Coming soon topics include:

- Psychiatry
- PM&R
- Hematology
- More general topics (including 1-2 non-clinical)

AAPA's Learning Central

The screenshot shows the AAPA Learning Central website interface. A red arrow points to the 'CME Activities' section in the left-hand navigation menu. The main content area displays a list of CME activities, including 'Asthma: Diagnosing and Managing in Pediatrics' and 'Immunizations: Improve Your Practice Ranks'. The website header includes the AAPA logo and navigation options like 'Home', 'About Us', and 'Contact Us'.

More on Performance Improvement (PI) CME

- Can be done in partnership with your supervising physician and others in practice
 - Board-certified physicians also have this requirement
- This concept has evolved since NCCPA first announced it was being considered.
 - Asked for and listened to feedback
 - Identified ways to make this less burdensome without sacrificing its effectiveness
- Can take different forms
 - An established PI CME activity (like METRIC or EQIPP)
 - An activity or project that is developed individually by a PA or institution



Myth #1: PI-CME takes more time than traditional CME

- Completed over a *longer period* of time, but not necessary requiring more *actual* time
- Integrated into practice
- Can be completed as a team -- **Bonus credits to be awarded for IPC**
- EHRs can simplify data retrieval and analysis



Myth #2: PI-CME is just another QI or research project

- In PI-CME, the learning and engagement = the expected change and improvement, unlike actual QI where documented changes must be shown
- No research or QI skills required
- No process or systems change necessary
- No final "paper" to get credit, there is value in the process itself



Myth #3: PI-CME requires Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval

- PI-CME is a tool for monitoring and improving provider practice
- Not intended to generate scientific knowledge or be applied beyond your specific practice
- Not developed to test a new intervention, so not considered human subject research
- In 2011, IOM developed "common rule" supporting PI-CME exemption from IRB review



Certification Maintenance Illustrated

1st CME Cycle

2nd CME Cycle

3rd CME Cycle


4th CME Cycle

5th CME Cycle

By the end of the 4th CME cycle, you must have 40 Category 1 CME credits through SA activities and 40 Category 1 CME credits through PI activities.


During each cycle, earn 100 CME credits including 50 Category 1 credits with 20 earned through self-assessment and/or PI-CME activities.

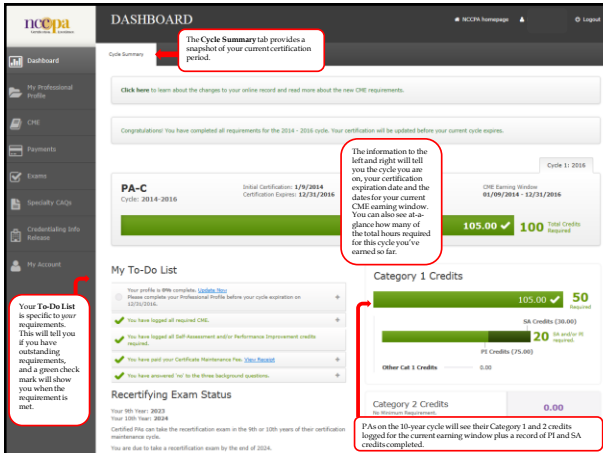
Earn 100 CME credits including 50 Category 1 and pass PANRE



Transition Timeline

- New PAs and those regaining certification after a lapse who become certified in 2014 will start the new 10-year cycle.
- Beginning in 2014, certified PAs will transition to the new 10-year cycle at the end of their current 6-year cycle.
- Sign in to your record at www.nccpa.net to find out when you transition.
- Here's what that looks like...





Dashboard - Cycle Summary

The Cycle Summary tab provides a snapshot of your current certification period.

Click here to learn about the changes to your online record and read more about the new CME requirements.

Congratulations! You have completed all requirements for the 2014 - 2016 cycle. Your certification will be updated before your current cycle expires.

PA-C Cycle	Initial Certification	Certification Expires	CME Earning Window	Total Credits Required
2014-2016	1/9/2014	12/31/2014	01/09/2014 - 12/31/2016	100

Category 1 Credits

SA Credits (20.00)	105.00	50 Required
PI Credits (75.00)	20	20 Required
Other Cat 1 Credits	0.00	

Category 2 Credits

SA Credits (20.00)	0.00	0.00 Required
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My To-Do List

- Your profile is 98% complete. [Update Now](#)
- Please complete your Professional Profile before your cycle expiration on 12/31/2014.
- You have logged all required CME.
- You have logged all Self-Assessment and/or Performance Improvement credits required.
- You have paid your Certificate Maintenance Fee. [View Report](#)
- You have answered 'no' to the three background questions.

Recertifying Exam Status

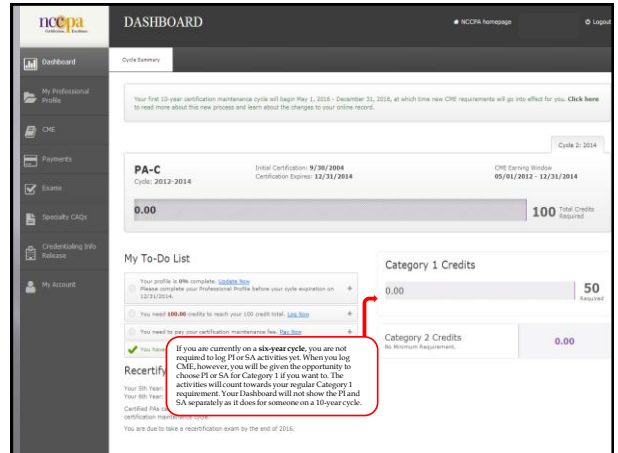
Your 6th Year: 2023
Your 10th Year: 2024

Certified PA's can take the recertification exam in the 6th or 10th years of their certification maintenance cycle.

You are able to take a recertification exam by the end of 2014.

The information to the left and right will tell you the cycle you are on, your certification expiration date and the dates for your current CME earning window. You can also see at a glance how many of the total hours required for this cycle you've earned so far.

PA's on the 10-year cycle will see their Category 1 and 2 credits logged for the current earning window plus a record of PI and SA credits completed.



Dashboard - Cycle Summary

Your first 10-year certification maintenance cycle will begin May 1, 2014 - December 31, 2016, at which time new CME requirements will go into effect for you. Click here to read more about this new process and learn about the changes to your online record.

PA-C Cycle	Initial Certification	Certification Expires	CME Earning Window	Total Credits Required
2012-2014	9/30/2004	12/31/2014	05/01/2012 - 12/31/2014	100

Category 1 Credits

SA Credits (20.00)	0.00	50 Required
PI Credits (75.00)	0.00	20 Required
Other Cat 1 Credits	0.00	

Category 2 Credits

SA Credits (20.00)	0.00	0.00 Required
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My To-Do List

- Your profile is 98% complete. [Update Now](#)
- Please complete your Professional Profile before your cycle expiration on 12/31/2014.
- You need 80.00 credits to reach your 100 credit total. [View Report](#)
- You need to pass your certification maintenance fee. [View Report](#)

Recertifying Exam Status

Your 6th Year: 2013
Your 10th Year: 2014

Certified PA's certification maintenance cycle expires on 12/31/2014.

You are due to take a recertification exam by the end of 2013.

If you are currently on a six-year cycle, you are not required to log PI or SA activities yet. When you log CME, however, you will be given the opportunity to choose PI or SA for Category 1 if you want to. The activities will count towards your regular Category 1 requirement. Your Dashboard will not show the PI and SA separately as it does for someone on a 10-year cycle.

DASHBOARD

SA and PI Requirements: Physician assistants must earn at least 20 Category 1 CME credits during each of their first four (4) cycles through Self Assessment (SA) and/or Performance Improvement (PI) activities. By the end of the fourth cycle, PAs must have earned at least 40 Category 1 CME credits through SA activities and at least 40 Category 1 CME credits through PI activities.

Self Assessment Credits
30.00 / 40 Required
Due by the end of Cycle 4: 12/31/2022

Performance Improvement Credits
75.00 / 40 Required
Due by the end of Cycle 4: 12/31/2022

Cycle 5: Recertifying Exam Not Taken

Cycles 1 - 5: Credit Totals

Category	Credits
Category 1 Credits	105,000/750
PI/SA Combined Credits	105,000/750
Category 2 Credits	0.00/0
Total Credits	105,000/1,500

Cycle 2 Credits (01/09/2014 - 12/31/2016)

Category	Credits
Category 1 Credits	0.00/750
PI/SA Combined Credits	0.00/750
Category 2 Credits	0.00/0
Total Credits	0.00/1,500

Cycle 3 Credits (05/01/2016 - 12/31/2020)

Category	Credits
Category 1 Credits	0.00/750
PI/SA Combined Credits	0.00/750
Category 2 Credits	0.00/0
Total Credits	0.00/1,500

Credit Totals for each of your two-year cycles are displayed and show you how many credits of different types you have logged out of the required amount. This is the place you can go to see a running total of your CME credits at any time.

Positive Implications for PAs

- Proactively addresses elevated expectations
 - FSMB has recommended that states implement a "maintenance of licensure" process for physicians that requires just this sort of activity
 - Follows ABMS MOC process for physicians
- Elevates the relevance of CME activities
- Focus more on performance as related to patient and community health
- PI-CME aligns with Pay for Reporting (P4R) and Pay for Performance (P4P)
- Fewer exams



Ongoing Next Steps for Certification Maintenance Changes

- Identification of multiple SA and PI options in many specialties
- Identification of SA and PI options for non-practicing PAs
 - Focus on public health
 - PAEA Workgroup: PA educators and administrators
- Development of application process through AAPA for self-directed and institutional PI activities




A Few Words about the PA National Recertifying Examination (PANRE)



Recertification Decisions

1. Year 5 or year 6 (soon to be 9 or 10)?
 - 2 opportunities in both years to pass the PANRE
 - Taking the exam in year 5/9 gives you more opportunities to pass and doesn't change your overall cycle
2. Which version of PANRE to take?
 - Surgery
 - Primary care
 - Adult medicine




Quick Plug for Practice Exams

Available online for both PANCE and PANRE

- 4 exams available
- 120 questions taken from NCCPA test question bank
- Just \$35!
- Great way to see how you should focus your preparation
- Get more details and register online at www.nccpa.net


Knowledge is Power.
Sometimes it's also a way to save **time, money & peace of mind.**

LEARN MORE ABOUT NCCPA'S PRACTICE EXAMS




Format of Practice Exam Feedback

Content Area	Low	Proficiency	High
Overall			
ORGAN SYSTEMS			
Cardiovascular			
Pulmonary			
Gastrointestinal/Nutrition			
Musculoskeletal			
EMT			
Reproductive			
Endocrine			
Geriatric/gerontology			
Neurological			
Psychiatry / Behavioral			
Genitourinary			
Hematology			
Infectious Diseases			
TASKS			
Recognizing Most Likely Diagnosis			
Physiological Therapeutics			
History Taking and Performance			
Physical Exam			
Clinical Intervention			
Using Laboratory and Diagnostic Studies			
Applying Basic Science Concepts			
Health Maintenance			



Specialty Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) Program



Key Principles of the Specialty CAQ Program

- NCCPA (and many stakeholders) agree that the **PA-C** must maintain its position as the **primary credential for all PAs**.
- NCCPA has remained committed to developing a **voluntary** specialty program.
 - A **CAQ is not required to maintain NCCPA certification, and we require licensure as a condition of earning a CAQ so that table can't be turned.**
- The program has been developed to be **as inclusive as possible**, recognizing the individual differences among and within specialties.



What Specialties?

- Emergency Medicine
- Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Nephrology
- Psychiatry

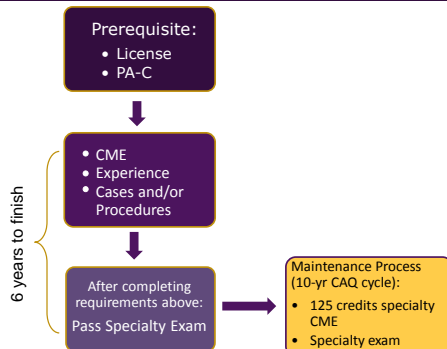


Exam Debuting in 2014:

- Pediatrics
- Hospital Medicine



Specialty CAQ Process



Basic Prerequisites

- Current PA-C certification
- Unrestricted license(s):
 - Addresses the area of professionalism (one of the six core competencies as defined in *Competencies for the Physician Assistant Profession*)
 - Pre-empts state boards from requiring our CAQ for PA licensure



Variations Among Specialties in the Areas of...

- CME requirements
- Experience (ranges from 1 year to 2 years of full-time practice equivalence)
- Specific procedures/cases that PAs should have experience with or knowledge of

Details by specialty available at www.nccpa.net/SpecialtyCAQs.aspx.



CAQ Exams

- Content blueprints developed using data from practice analysis
 - Identifies set of knowledge, skills and abilities used by PAs in the specialty
 - Available online for each specialty
- Test committees include PAs and MDs working in the specialty
- Other resources available online
 - Disease and disorder lists
 - Sample test items

To view content blueprints, disease and disorder lists, and sample items, visit: www.nccpa.net/SpecialtyCAQs.aspx.



CAQ Exams

- 120 questions
 - Targeted to certified PAs working in the specialty
 - All questions available for scoring if they meet our performance standards
- 2-hour exam – no breaks
- Specialty exams are administered nationwide once a year at Pearson VUE testing centers.
- Cost \$250 plus a \$100 administrative fee paid when you start the CAQ process



CAQ Recipients

- 530 PAs have been awarded the CAQs since 2011
 - **334 in emergency medicine**
 - **97 in psychiatry**
 - **63 in orthopaedic surgery**
 - **27 in CVTS**
 - **12 in nephrology**

Total of 533 CAQs issued -- three PAs earned CAQs in two specialties



Final Takeaway Points

1. Certification Maintenance Changes
 - CME requirements will include **20 credits of specifically designated CME**
 - Change from 6 to **10-year cycle**
 - **Rolling implementation will begin in 2014**
2. Specialty CAQs
 - **Voluntary recognition program**
 - **Available in 7 specialties**



Thank You

