AMBULATORY CARE NURSING CERTIFICATION FACT SHEET

CREDENTIAL EARNED: RN-BC (Registered Nurse–Board Certified)

1,493 nurses are certified as of 12/31/2010. Pass Rate: 85.6 % in 2010

EXAM IS ADMINISTERED BY: AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER (ANCC)
PHONE: 800-284-2378 WEB: WWW.NURSECREDENTIALING.ORG

Complete information about the application and testing process is in the General Testing and Renewal Handbook available at **www.nursecredentialing.org**. From this website you can type into and print your application. Information to prepare for the exam, such as a **detailed Test Content Outline (TCO)**, references, and sample questions, are also available on this web site.

NOTE: The exam will change as of May 7, 2012.

The exam is a COMPUTER-BASED. Nurses can apply all year long and test during a 90-day window at a time and location convenient to you at a **Prometric testing center (www.prometric.com)**.

FEES:

$395 non-member $340 AAACN member save $55 ANA member $270*

*$270 member rate for members of ANA Constituent Member Association (AAACN is not a constituent), which includes the Federal Nurses Association (FedNA) and the former State Nurses Associations (SNAs), must have held a membership for 6 months prior to application date.

Eligibility Requirements

- Hold a current active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country
- Have practiced the equivalent of two years full time as a registered nurse
- Have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in ambulatory care nursing **and/or** telehealth nursing within the last three years
- Have completed 30 hours of continuing education in ambulatory care nursing **and/or** telehealth nursing within the last three years

Ambulatory Care Nurse Board Certification Test Content Outline - effective date: May 6, 2012

There are 175 questions on this examination. Of these, 150 are scored questions and 25 are pretest questions that are not scored. Pretest questions are used to determine how well these questions will perform before they are used on the scored portion of the examination. The pretest questions cannot be distinguished from those that will be scored, so it is important for a candidate to answer all questions. A candidate's score, however, is based solely on the 150 scored questions. Performance on pretest questions does not affect a candidate's score.

This Test Content Outline identifies the areas that are included on the examination. The percentage and number of questions in each of the major categories of the scored portion of the examination are also shown. Visit the ANCC website www.nursecredentialing.org for the complete "Test Content Outline" (5 pages).

Category	Domains of Practice	No. of Questions	Percent
I	Clinical Practice	51	34.00%
II	Communication	29	19.33%
III	Professional Issues	33	22.00%
IV	Systems	16	10.67%
V	Education	21	14.00%
	Total	**150**	**100%**

Exam preparation resources sold through the American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN):

Items can be ordered in the "STORE" at www.aaacn.org. Sorry, no phone orders.

How to Prepare for the Exam: AAACN offers several resources to prepare you to take the certification exam:

■**Core Curriculum for Ambulatory Care Nursing**, 2nd Edition, 2006, presents exceptional coverage of essentials needed to provide effective, efficient nursing care in the ambulatory setting. It is an excellent tool for nurses new to ambulatory care or those studying for the certification exam and a valuable resource manual for ambulatory practices. The NEW core has 9 new chapters on: Leadership, Evidence-Based Practice, Application of the Nursing Process in Ambulatory Care, Multicultural Nursing Care, Patient Education and Counseling, Care of the Well Client: Screening and Preventive Care, Care of the Acutely Ill Client, Care of the Chronically Ill Client and Care of the Terminally Ill Client. The new core offers over **30 contact hours**.
AAACN Member: $69.00 Non-Members: $89.00

NOTE: 3rd Edition of the Core is expected to be available in May, 2012, to coincide with the "new" exam.



■**Ambulatory Care Certification Review Course CD-ROM (7.5 contact hours)**
The CD contains the audio recording of the course, Power Point slides, and printable syllabus. The course provides an overview of the potential content that may be tested on the certification exam. It will reinforce your knowledge of ambulatory care, identify your weak areas, and provide new information. Course content is based on the test content outline for the exam. Topics are offered in an interactive, case problem solving style to enhance critical thinking.

AAACN Member: $119.00 Non-Members: $159.00

●**The course is also available online in our Online Library at www.prolibraries.com/aaacn. Cost is the same as shown above.**

●**The course is also offered annually at the AAACN annual conference.**

●**Present the course at your facility**: To obtain the details on how you can **bring this course to your site for groups of 25 or more,** contact Kristina Moran at 800-262-6877 Ext. 58 as soon as you hear the recording or morank@ajj.com.

■**Ambulatory Care Nursing Certification Review Course Syllabus i**s a comprehensive course syllabus. Content is based on the outline of the ANCC exam and contains outlines, handout materials, and a comprehensive bibliography. **AAACN Member: $35.00 Non-member: $40.00**

■**Ambulatory Care Nursing Review Questions (updated in 2009)** a valuable resource that provides over 225 multiple choice questions covering various components of ambulatory care practice grouped into 5 topic areas: Clinical practice, communication, issues and trends, systems, and education.
AAACN Member : $30.00 Non-member: $40.00

■**Scope and Standards of Practice for Professional Ambulatory Care Nursing, 8th Edition, 2010**
The standards explicitly identify and define ambulatory care nursing practice in outpatient settings. The first formal Scope of Practice statement contains a definition of ambulatory care practice, an expanded conceptual framework, the characteristics of the practice, the roles of professional ambulatory care nurses, and the trends and issues in ambulatory care settings and nursing practice. The 8th edition has expanded the standards to sixteen in number, re-categorizing them into two major classifications: the nursing process and professional performance standards. Each standard contains distinct measurement criteria to clarify the domains of practice of clinical and administrative practice. The standards will assist registered nurses in preparing for the ambulatory care nursing certification exam.
AAACN Member: $29.00 Non-member: $44.00

Telehealth Resources

■**Scope and Standards of Practice for Professional Telehealth Nursing, 5th Edition, 2011**
(Available apx. October 1, 2011) This resource defines clear responsibilities and accountabilities for clinical practitioners and administrators in the multitude of practice settings delivering telehealth nursing care. The standards are ideal for writing policies, procedures, and job descriptions, orienting staff, planning for Joint Commission surveys, and increasing the quality and safety of patient care.
AAACN Member: $29.00 Non-member: $44.00

Telehealth Nursing Practice Essentials, 2009 (Earn 13.8 contact hours)
This resource details the necessary information for safe, competent practice of telehealth nursing. It includes topics essential for nurses new to telehealth practice, experienced in telehealth, and for those interested in expanding their telehealth knowledge base. Key information is presented about the nursing process, nursing roles, legal issues, communication, customer service, technology, clinical decision tools, documentation, and clinical information to provide nurses with an in-depth understanding of the scope of telehealth nursing practice.

AAACN Member: $69.00 **Non-member: $89.00**

RECERTIFICATION - Every 5 years:

Fees: $350 non-member $280 AAACN member save $70 ANA member $200*

Candidates for renewal must:

Option A: Professional Development plus Practice Hours.

- Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country;
- Hold a current ANCC certification;
- Complete the professional development requirements for your certification specialty (must be completed within the 5 years preceding your renewal application submission);
- Complete a minimum of 1,000 practice hours in your certification role and population/specialty (must be completed within the 5 years preceding your renewal application submission); and
- Pay the renewal fee.

Option B: Professional Development plus Testing if you do not have practice hours in your certification specialty. This option applies only to those certifications in which an exam is available.

- Hold a current, active RN license in a state or territory of the United States or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country;
- Hold a current ANCC certification;
- Complete the professional development requirements for your specific certification (must be completed within the 5 years preceding your renewal application submission);
- Pay the renewal fee; and
- Pass the exam. (If you do not pass the exam, your certification is no longer valid.)

NOTE: If your certification has lapsed, go to www.nursecredentialing.org to see the renewal options for lapsed certifications.

Disclaimer: This "Fact Sheet" has been developed by AAACN for your convenience only. Nurses planning to certify should go to www.nursecredentialing.org for the most up-to-date information and eligibility requirements for the exam.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) administers the exam.

The American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN) has developed the study materials for the ANCC exam.

The American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
P.O. Box 56, Pitman, NJ 08071-0056
Phone: 800-AMB-NURS Website: www.aaacn.org E-mail: aaacn@ajj.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AAACN Twitter: www.twitter.com/AmbCareNursing