

## Acceptable Providers for Continuing Education

***Acceptable continuing education may be taken in a conventional classroom setting, through on-line courses, professional journals, correspondence, or independent study.***

1. Any provider, recognized by a national credentialing body, offering certification in the licensed nurse's specialty area of practice.  
Examples of National Nurse Credentialing/Certification bodies include but are not limited to:
  - American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Certification (ANCC)
  - Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC)
  - Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN)
2. Any provider, recognized by a national credentialing body, offering certification to nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists or clinical nurse specialists.
3. Examples of recognized bodies include but are not limited to:
  - American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Certification (ANCC)
  - American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)
  - National Certification Corporation (NCC)
  - Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB)
  - Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists (CCNA)
4. North Carolina Nurses Association (NCNA), including offerings given by an agency in the NCNA Continuing Education Approver Unit (CEAU). A listing of approved agencies and organizations can be found at:  
[www.ncnurses.org/ce\\_nc\\_approved\\_providers.asp](http://www.ncnurses.org/ce_nc_approved_providers.asp)
5. Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) in North Carolina or any state AHEC that is a member of the National AHEC Organization. Information on North Carolina AHEC can be found at: [www.ncahec.net](http://www.ncahec.net)
6. American Nurses Association (ANA), or ANY state nurses association  
ANA – [www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)                      NCNA – [www.ncnurses.org](http://www.ncnurses.org)
7. National League for Nursing (NLN)  
[www.nln.org](http://www.nln.org)
8. National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service (NAPNES)  
[www.napnes.org](http://www.napnes.org)
9. National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses (NFLPN)  
[www.nflpn.org](http://www.nflpn.org)
10. North Carolina Board of Nursing (NCBON) or ANY state board of nursing  
[www.ncbon.com](http://www.ncbon.com)

11. National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN)

[www.ncsbn.org](http://www.ncsbn.org)

12. Employer sponsored continuing education programs having a minimum of one course objective. Unless the program is accredited through one of the other bodies mentioned on this document, employer sponsored continuing education may only be used for up to 50% of total contact hours.

13. Any provider of professional continuing education for health care professionals. Examples include offerings related to specialty areas of nursing practice such as research, case management, health policy, forensics, mental health, or complementary alternative therapies offered by bodies including but not limited to:

- Commission for Case Manager Certification (CCMC)
- Healthcare Quality Certification Board (HQCB)
- American Legal Nurse Consultant Certification Board (ALNCCB)

14. Professional Journals (eg., AJN, Nursing 2006, Nursing Management, Journal of Practical Nursing, and The Nurse Practitioner) offering continuing education approved by appropriate bodies including but not limited to:

- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) [www.nursingworld.org/ancc](http://www.nursingworld.org/ancc)
- American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) [www.aacn.org](http://www.aacn.org)
- National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service (NAPNES) [www.napnes.org](http://www.napnes.org)

### **Activities NOT accepted as Continuing Education**

- Offerings designed for lay persons
- Offerings less than 30 minutes in duration
- On-the-job orientation
- On-the-job training related to new policies, procedures or equipment
- Other educational activities not sufficiently professional in character to reasonably qualify as continuing education.

### **Clarification of CEUs (Continuing Education Units) and Contact Hours**

The NCBON accepts either Contact Hours or CEUs (in any combination) in fulfillment of Continuing Competence continuing education (CE) requirements.

One Contact Hour is equal to 60 minutes of instruction.

Usually, CEUs are awarded in tenths of a point for each 50 to 60 minutes of instruction. In general, 0.1 CEU is equal to 1 contact hour. This conversion can be used in totalling contact hours.

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