



# NATIONAL NURSE PRACTITIONER RESIDENCY & FELLOWSHIP TRAINING CONSORTIUM

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## ACCREDITATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: ELIGIBILITY POLICY

### 2.1.4 Program Eligibility Policy

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| Scheduled review date: TBD |
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| Approved: February 2016; Updated March 2018 |
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Purpose: The purpose of this section is to provide a description of the programs that are eligible to be considered for NNPRFTC accreditation. Specific guidelines will be provided for the types of postgraduate nurse practitioner programs that are eligible for consideration, the types of training sites that will be required; and the trainee complement described.

The candidate program should review the eligibility characteristics listed below to ensure that their application will be considered. The program must have a specific structure and expectations of the faculty, staff and trainees; specific types of training sites provided to the trainees; and specific characteristics of the trainees. These are described in detail below.

#### 2.1.4.1 Types of Postgraduate Nurse Practitioner Programs:

The scope of accreditation includes postgraduate (master's degree in nursing or doctor of nursing practice) training programs located within the United States that provide a minimum of one year of structured, intensive education and training in the service delivery setting that support the transition from academic preparation to clinical practice at the advanced level as a nurse practitioner in primary care or specialty areas.

These programs are intensive, 12 months, full time training experiences. The trainees are paid staff in the service delivery setting. These postgraduate training programs are sponsored by practice-based institutions that are accredited by one or more recognized United States healthcare regulatory authorities (eg: Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (Joint Commission) or the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC)) with the scope, focus, and resources to provide training in the broad and specific clinical, interprofessional, and leadership competencies that are fundamental to safe, quality practice. Many of the programs are based on a patient-centered, primary care delivery model and hold additional certifications such as NCQA's PCMH recognition.

The goal is that the new NP will be trained to the clinical complexity of primary care, and to a high-performance model of healthcare delivery. The focus is transitioning to a new area of practice, whether in primary care or specialty area, either as an entry level nurse practitioner or as an experienced NP who is re-specializing.

#### 2.1.4.2 Types of Sites:

2.1.4.2.1 Single Program type hosted by one institution within the US: One sponsoring institution has a single program with one or more practice sites as part of the training program that are within close geographic proximity. The accreditation charge for non-Federal program is \$10,000. There is a separate pricing structure for Federal programs. If the external practice sites are more than one (1) hour's drive away, additional expenses may be assessed, based upon the need for additional site visitors, travel and lodging, and in accordance with federal guidelines when available.

2.1.4.2.2 Multiple program tracks at a single site within the US: One sponsoring institution may have multiple program tracks such as Primary Care specialties (eg: Family, Adult, Pediatrics, Psych Mental Health) as well as non-primary care specialties such as Acute Care and Subspecialty. All the programs have a 'home' site at the institution, but they may have one or more practice sites as part of the training program that are within close geographic proximity. When there are two or more postgraduate training programs at the same institution, the institution submits a single application with separate self studies for each program applying for accreditation. Each program is evaluated separately by the NNPRFTC and separate accreditation decisions are made by the Board for each program.

The institution decides which program is in the "first position". That program incurs the \$10,000 fee. Each additional program incurs a \$6500 fee. If the external practice sites are more than one (1) hour's drive away, additional expenses may be assessed, based upon the need for additional site visitors, travel and lodging, and in accordance with federal guidelines when available.

2.1.4.2.3 The training program must provide a Certificate of Completion to each trainee upon successful completion of the program's requirements.

#### 2.1.4.3 Trainee Complement Policy:

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| Scheduled review date: TBD |
| Approved: February 2016    |

Purpose: The purpose is to clearly define the qualifications and responsibilities of trainees who are employed in programs seeking accreditation.

Procedure:

The participants in the postgraduate NP program must be:

- Licensed as an APRN in the state in which the residency is hosted;
- Certified in the training-specific areas (eg: Family, Adult, Psych/MH) by ANCC or AANP;

The trainee is responsible for:

- For non-Federal programs, all applicable clinical, educational, administrative and professional activities as a paid, full-time staff member in the practice. Federal programs must adhere to pertinent federal regulations regarding trainees.