



CONSORTIUM

FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS

Setting the standard for postgraduate training



The Consortium for Advanced Practice Providers
is a Federally Recognized Accrediting Agency
by the U.S. Department of Education

The Consortium is the **ONLY** Federally
Recognized Accrediting Agency to Accredite
Joint NP/PA Postgraduate Training Programs



Consortium for Advanced Practice Providers FAQs

What is the Consortium for Advanced Practice Providers (“the Consortium”)?



- The Consortium offers accreditation for postgraduate nurse practitioner, physician assistant/associate and joint nurse practitioner/physician assistant/associate training programs.
- Postgraduate NP, PA, and joint NP/PA training programs from a wide variety of settings are eligible: e.g., federally qualified health centers, Veterans Affairs (VA) programs, academic practices, or large health systems.
- The Consortium is a national, private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization created to advance the model and rigor of postgraduate nurse practitioner (NP) and physician assistant (PA) postgraduate training programs—both residency and fellowship—through accreditation.

How to contact the Consortium?

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Who is involved in the Consortium?

- Board of Directors consists of individuals who are national leaders or stakeholders in advancing health and healthcare;
- Experienced staff has expertise in health professions education, APP postgraduate training, and accreditation;
- Membership in the Consortium: currently over 350 members representing clinical practice, academia, policy, and public health who are committed to excellence in postgraduate advanced practice provider (APP) training and advancing health and healthcare.

Why accreditation?

- Accreditation is a quality assurance review of programs or institutions. (Certification is for individuals.)
- Accreditation is a recognized way for trainees, patients, organizations, government officials, and the public to know that an institution or program provides quality postgraduate training.
- Goal of accreditation is to ensure that the experience provided by postgraduate training programs meets acceptable levels of quality.

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Consortium for Advanced Practice Providers FAQs

What is the Consortium's accreditation program?

- Based on adherence to the Consortium Accreditation Standards that were thoughtfully and rigorously developed by APP program directors and other healthcare leaders with consultation from experts in adult education curriculum, design and evaluation;
- Informed by programmatic the Consortium Self-Study Guide that is designed to foster programmatic continuous quality improvement and innovation;
- Includes a 1.5-day on-site visit conducted by professional peers such as NP, PA, and joint NP/PA program directors who collect evidence pertinent to an accreditation decision;
- Accredits postgraduate nurse practitioner, physician assistant/associate, and joint nurse practitioner/physician assistant/associate programs for up to three years;
- Renewal of Accreditation is awarded for up to five years.

Why do we need accreditation?

- As of January 2024, there are over 500 APP postgraduate training programs.
- Major growth in specialty, sub-specialty, and acute care postgraduate training programs as well.
- Program directors identified the need for a national accreditation organization that recognizes a program's adherence to quality assurance standards.

Who do we accredit?

Established postgraduate NP, PA, and joint NP/PA training programs in the United States that have graduated at least one cohort of trainees with the following characteristics:

- A minimum one-year program with structured and intensive education and training;
- A service delivery setting that supports training to mastery and confidence in the full scope of clinical practice and a higher performance model of care.



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