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ANCC UPDATES NURSING ADMINISTRATION CERTIFICATIONS AND CREDENTIALS

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) is changing the names of its Nursing Administration certification exams and updating the credentials to bring them in line with contemporary health care culture and terminology. **The new names for these exams are Nurse Executive and Nurse Executive, Advanced.** The changes are effective immediately. The term “Nurse Executive” does not refer to a job title or position, but to the body of knowledge suitable for an executive decision maker. Thus the Nurse Executive and Nurse Executive, Advanced certifications are appropriate for a broad range of nursing roles, including all types of supervisors, managers, consultants, chief nursing officers (CNOs), faculty, deans, and leaders.

OLD Certification Name	NEW Certification Name	OLD Credential	NEW Credential
Nursing Administration	Nurse Executive	CNA-BC	NE-BC (Nurse Executive - Board Certified)
Nursing Administration, Advanced	Nurse Executive, Advanced	CNAA-BC	NEA-BC (Nurse Executive Advanced - Board Certified)

ANCC-certified nurses who hold the former credentials (CNA-BC and CNAA-BC) are authorized to begin using the new name and credentials immediately. Certificates issued after the May 2008 certification exam will contain the new credentials. Certificates reflecting the new credentials will be mailed to current CNA-BC and CNAA-BC nurses with their next certification renewal.

For nearly three decades (since 1979), ANCC’s Nursing Administration certifications – both a basic level and an advanced level for graduate prepared nurses – have provided assurance to employers, peers, physicians, and allied health professionals that nurse leaders with these certifications have the knowledge and skills to manage and direct critical healthcare missions. ANCC Nursing Administration credentials are held by a strong, confident, and influential community of nurse leaders.

Incorporation of new content into certification exams is a routine part of exam maintenance. ANCC will be launching updated, computer-based Nurse Executive and Nurse Executive, Advanced certification examinations in October 2008. The computer-based format is more convenient, and can be scheduled and taken throughout the year, better fitting the schedule of busy nurse executives. The new test content outlines will be available in late-May.

These next generation credentials remain consistent with the high standard of quality and integrity maintained by nurses holding the ANCC Nursing Administration or Nursing Administration, Advanced certifications. This proud tradition will continue under the new credential of Nurse Executive and Nurse Executive, Advanced.

The ANCC Commission on Certification (COC) studied this issue extensively and surveyed thousands of certified nurse leaders before making this decision. Various names and credential options were considered, however, Nurse Executive and Nurse Executive, Advanced were the options supported by certified nurse leaders as reflecting these broad decision making roles.

About ANCC

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), provides individuals and organizations throughout the nursing profession with the resources they need to achieve practice excellence. ANCC's internationally renowned credentialing programs certify nurses in specialty practice areas; recognize healthcare organizations for promoting safe, positive work environments through the Magnet Recognition Program® and the Pathway to Excellence Program™; and accredit providers of continuing nursing education. In addition, ANCC provides leading-edge information and education services and products to support its core credentialing programs.

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