

NP CE Requirements

Alabama – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years. They must complete 24 hours of Board-approved continuing education. If they have prescriptive authority, 6 of the 24 hours must be in pharmacology specific to their specialty.

Alaska – ANPs and CRNAs must maintain a national certification. If the licensee has prescriptive authority, they must also complete 12 hours of continuing education in advanced pharmacotherapeutics and 12 hours of CE in clinical management of patients.

Arizona –APN’s must maintain a current national certification. Licensees must complete one of the following to renew:

1. Complete an advanced practice nursing program within the past 5 years, **OR**
2. Practice of 960 hours over the past 5 years where the nurse:
 - a. Worked for compensation or as a volunteer, as an RNP or CNS, and performed one or more acts under A.R.S. § 32-1601(6) for a CNS or A.R.S. § 32-1601(19) for an RNP, **OR**
 - b. Worked for compensation or as a volunteer at the level of the advanced practice certification being sought or renewed.

Arkansas – Advanced practice nurses will renew their licenses every 2 years. The licensees must complete one of the following to renew:

1. 15 contact hours of appropriately accredited practice-focused activities, **OR**
2. Hold a current nationally recognized certification/recertification, **OR**
3. Complete a minimum of one college credit hour course in nursing with a grade of C or better during licensure period

If the licensee has prescriptive authority, they must complete an additional 5 contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics related to their specialty certification.

Nurse practitioners must maintain a national certification.

California – California Nurse Practitioners must complete 30 hours of continuing nursing education every two years.

Colorado – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every two years by September 30th—the even or odd numbered cycle depends on the license original date of issuance. There are currently no continuing education requirements.

Connecticut – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every odd year by October 31st. There are no CE requirements for this profession in this state.

DC – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every 2 years and are required to maintain a national certification. They must complete 24 hours of continuing education, including 15 hours in

pharmacology and 9 hours related to their area of practice. The CE must be approved by the ANCC or another national certifying organization recognized by the Board.

Licensees with more than one specialty may count courses that cover more than one specialty area toward multiple license requirements.

Delaware – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every two years on the odd numbered years where the license will expire on February 28, May 31, or September 30.

If the licensee is currently certified by a national nursing organization in their specialty area, then they must complete one of the following requirements:

1. Practice of 1500 hours over the past five years in the specialty for which they are applying, or
2. Practice of 600 hours over the past two years in the specialty for which they are applying, or
3. Graduation from the specialty program within the past two years.

If the licensee is not currently certified by a national nursing organization in their specialty, then they must complete one of the following:

1. Practice of 1000 hours over the past two years in the specialty for which they are applying, or
2. Completion of a period of at least 1000 hours of supervised practice.

In addition, APN's who have prescriptive authority must attest to completing ten hours of continuing education (CE) in pharmacology/pharmacotherapeutics in the past two years.

Florida – Florida Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners must complete 24 hours of CE for every two year cycle. At least 12 of those hours must be continuing nursing education. The remaining 12 hours can be continuing medical education (CME).

Of the 24 hours, two must be FL-board of nursing approved medical errors courses. Two must be laws and rules of the board. Every third biennium, an additional two hours of board-approved domestic violence are required, for a total of 26 hours during that biennium.

Georgia – Nurse practitioners renew their license every 2 years, but no continuing education is required.

Hawaii – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every odd numbered year by June 30th. There are no standard CE requirements. If the licensee holds prescriptive authority, they must complete 30 hours of continuing education.

Idaho – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years on the even numbered years where the license will expire on August 31st. The licensee must complete 30 hours of continuing education where the provider is:

- a nationally recognized nursing organization; or
- an accredited academic institution; or
- a provider of continuing education recognized by another board of nursing; or

a provider of continuing education recognized by a regulatory body of another discipline (e.g. CME, CPE, telemedicine); or
approved by the Board of Nursing

Illinois – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every even year from June 1st – May 31st. They must complete 50 hours of continuing education which will satisfy the renewal of the registered professional nurse license as well.

Indiana – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years on the off numbered years, where the license will expire on October 31st.

Advanced Practice Nurses with prescriptive authority will be required to complete 30 hours of continuing education, of which at least 8 hours must be in pharmacology.

If the applicant was initially granted prescriptive authority:

- A. less than twelve (12) months before the expiration date of the prescriptive authority, no continuing education is required **OR**
- B. at least twelve (12) months before the expiration date of the prescriptive authority, the applicant shall submit proof to the Board that the applicant has successfully completed at least fifteen (15) contact hours of continuing education. The hours must:
 - 1. be completed after the prescriptive authority was granted and before the expiration of the prescriptive authority;
 - 2. include at least four (4) contact hours of pharmacology; **AND**
 - 3. be approved by a nationally approved sponsor of continuing education for nurses, approved by the board.

Iowa – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every three years with the license cycle ending in the month of the licensee's birth. Current national certification in the licensee's specialty area of practice is required and will put the licensee in compliance with state continuing education requirements.

For those nurse practitioners who regularly examine, attend, counsel, or treat dependent adults or children in Iowa, training related to the identification and reporting of child/dependent adult abuse in the form of at least 2 hours of training every five years is required. These 2 hours must be completed as a part of a course approved by the Iowa Department of Public Health Abuse Education Review Panel.

Kansas – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years with the license expiring on the last day of the month in which the licensee was born. The license cycle will expire on the odd or even years depending on the year in which the licensee was born. The licensee must complete 30 contact hours of CNE related to the advanced practice nurse's role/specialty and excess hours will not carry over to the next cycle. CNE providers will be recognized by the Board if they are approved by any state Board of Nursing or any national nursing organization such as the ANCC or AANA or if the licensee follows the individual offering approval (IOA) process.

Kentucky – Nurse practitioners will renew their cycle every year with the license cycle beginning on November 1st. If not certified by a national nursing organization in the area of the licensee's

practice role, they must complete 14 contact hours within the cycle from a Board approved provider. Of these 14 hours, 5 must be continuing education in pharmacology and APRNs with a CAPA-CS are required to earn 1.5 approved CE contact hours on the use of KASPER, pain management, or addiction disorders. These hours may count as part of the required pharmacology hours.

At least one time every 10 years, the licensee must complete 2 hours of HIV/AIDS CE from a Kentucky board-approved provider. They shall also complete 1.5 hours in pediatric abusive head trauma within 3 years of licensure as a one-time requirement.

APRNs are allowed to use CME credits for pharmacology continuing education if the provider offering the course is recognized by their national certifying organization.

The Board recognizes the following national nursing organizations for approval of CE:

- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)
- Nat'l Assn. of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health (NPWH)
- American Assn. of Critical Care Nurses (AACN)
- Nat'l Assn. of Pediatric Nurse Associates & Practitioners (NAPNAP)
- American Assn. of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA)
- Nat'l Assn. for Practical Nurses Education & Service (NAPNES)
- American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM)
- National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses (NFLPN)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) of the American Nurses Association (ANA)
- National League for Nursing (NLN)
- Assn. of Women's Health, Obstetrical and Neonatal Nurse (AWHONN)
- Other State Boards of Nursing

Louisiana – Louisiana nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every year with the license expiring on January 31. If the licensee holds active APRN licensure in the state of Louisiana and has a current national certification in each role and specialty, they are required to provide documentation of that current national certification to renew. This national certification must be issued by one of the national nursing organizations recognized by the state. Those organizations are as follows:

- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- American Nurses Association (ANA)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)
- American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA)
- American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM)
- American Psychiatric Association (APA)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA)
- Emergency Nurses Association (ENA)

- National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health (NPWH)
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners (NAPNAP)

If the licensee is not nationally certified in any one of their roles or specialties, they must complete a minimum of 300 practice hours in AP nursing within the 12 month period *AND*

- (1) either a minimum of 2 college credit hours per year of relevance to the advanced practice role
OR
- (2) a minimum of 30 nursing CE contact hours approved by the Board each year. Continuing Medical Education (CME) may be approved by the Board to meet this requirement as well.

All continuing education hours must be at the advanced level (advanced assessment, diagnosis and management of conditions, pharmacology, etc.) and directly related to the full scope of the advanced practice role and specialty for which commensurate requirements has been granted. Additionally, if the licensee has prescriptive ability, they must complete 6 hours of continuing education in advanced pharmacology.

Maine – A Maine nurse practitioner will renew their license every two years with the cycle expiring on the licensee's birthday. They must complete 75 contact hours in nursing, medicine or allied health in the area of practice for which the individual has been licensed as an APRN. The 75 hours shall include a minimum of 30 Category I contact hours and no more than 45 hours may be Category II.

Request for renewal of the APRN license must be made in concurrence with the Registered Nurse license and must include evidence of current certification by the appropriate national certifying body. For those with prescriptive authority who have not prescribed drugs within the previous two years, the licensee must complete 15 contact hours of pharmacology. For those with prescriptive authority who have not prescribed in the past five years, the licensee must complete 45 contact hours of pharmacology. These pharmacology hours may be obtained by attendance at a formal academic setting or as non-credit continuing education offerings.

Maryland – Nurse practitioners renew their license every year on the 28th day of their birth month. There are no CE requirements, but they must maintain national certifications.

Massachusetts – A Nurse practitioner will renew their license every two years on the even numbered years with the license cycle expiring on the licensee's birthdate. In addition to the CE required to maintain their registered nurse licensure, nurse practitioners must maintain a current national certification from a Board approved entity.

Michigan – A Michigan nurse practitioner will renew their license every 2 years. All nurses must complete at least 25 hours of Board approved continuing education, with at least 1 hour in pain management. Continuing education contact hours in pain symptom management may include, but are not limited to, courses in behavior management, psychology of pain, pharmacology, behavior modification, stress management, clinical applications, and drug interventions.

Minnesota – Nurse Practitioners will renew their licenses every 2 years. Licensees must complete 24 contact hours of continuing education. In addition, they must maintain a current Registered Nurse license as well as a current certification by one of the accepted national nursing organizations.

Mississippi – APRNs in Mississippi renew their license every two years on the even numbered years. 40 hours of CE related to the advanced clinical practice of the APRN are required. 20 of those hours must be traditional learning, face to face, and 2 hours must concern the use of controlled substances.

Missouri – Nurse practitioners renew their license by April 30th of each odd-numbered year. They must maintain a current RN license as well as national a certification, but there is no separate continuing education requirement.

Montana – Nurse practitioners renew their license every two years. They must complete 40 contact hours and if they have prescriptive authority, they are required to complete an additional 10 contact hours in pharmacology.

Nebraska – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every two years on the even numbered years with the license cycle expiring on October 31st. Licensees must maintain a Registered Nurse license whose renewal requirements will be met by completing the required 40 contact hours of continuing education, of which 10 must be in pharmacotherapeutics. To fulfill these requirements, they may use contact hours approved specifically for nurse practitioners or continuing medical education (CME).

Nevada – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years on their birthdate. Licensees are required to complete 30 hours of nursing-related continuing education as well as 15 additional hours of continuing education in their specialty. As a one-time requirement, they must also complete 4 hours in bioterrorism.

New Hampshire – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years on their birthdate. They must complete 30 hours of continuing education to for registered nurse licensure as well as an additional 30 hours in their specialty. Of these 30 additional hours in the specialty, 5 must be in pharmacology.

A current national certification in their specialty will satisfy the 30 hours need to renew the registered nurse license.

New Jersey – New Jersey Nurse Practitioners are required to complete 30 hours of continuing nursing education every two year cycle. In addition to this CE requirement, nurse practitioners must maintain a national certification.

New Mexico – New Mexico nurse practitioners renew their licenses every two years. Licensees must complete 50 hours of approved continuing education, of which 30 will satisfy the renewal of the Registered Nurse license. Of the remaining 20 hours, 15 must be in pharmacology and 5 must be in the area of practice.

Certification granted by a national professional organization, which uses criteria designed to recognize competence in a specialized area of nursing practice may be used as approved CE.

New York – New York Nurse Practitioners have no CE requirements for their three year renewal cycles, but must possess and maintain a national certification.

North Carolina – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every year by the last day of their birth month. They must complete 50 hours of continuing education, of which 20 must be approved by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) or other national credentialing bodies or practice relevant courses in an institution of higher learning.

North Dakota – Nurse Practitioners will renew their licenses every two years with the license cycle expiring on December 31st. They must complete at least 12 hours of continuing education.

Ohio – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every two years on the odd numbered years with the cycle spanning from September 1st – August 31st. They must complete 24 contact hours of continuing education and at least 1 hour must be Category A--related to the Ohio Nurse Practice Act and the rules of the Ohio Board of Nursing. This CE must be taken from an Ohio Board approved provider.

If the licensee is authorized to prescribe, they must complete additional hours in pharmacology. If the certificate to prescribe has been held for a full license cycle, 12 hours are required. If held less than a full license cycle, 6 hours is required.

A licensee may use hours completed as a part of obtaining/maintaining a Board approved national certification in their area of practice to satisfy the Board's continuing education requirements.

Oklahoma – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years on the even numbered years with the license cycle expiring on the last day of their birth month. They must only maintain a current certification with a national nursing organization.

If the licensee has prescriptive authority, they must complete 15 contact hours or one academic credit hour directly related to pharmacotherapeutics, clinical application and use of pharmacological agents in the prevention of illness, and in the restoration and maintenance of health, in a program beyond basic registered nurse preparation, applicable to their scope of practice.

Oregon – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years by their birthdate—in the even years if born in an even year or in odd years if born in an odd year. They must hold a current Registered Nurse license and fulfill the practice requirement in one of the following ways:

1. Practice as a NP for a minimum of 960 hours during the last five years **OR**
2. Graduate from a NP education program within the past year **OR**
3. Graduate from a NP education program and practice as a NP at least 192 hours within the last two years.

Additionally, the licensee must complete 100 hours of continuing education. If the licensee is certified by a national nursing organization, they may receive up to 50 hours of continuing education.

If the licensee has prescriptive authority, the licensee must complete their 100 hours including the following:

1. 50% of the continuing education must consist of formal academic credit or continuing education (including CME credit) in the specialty area of practice, including 15 hour of pharmacotherapeutic content at the advanced nursing level **AND**
2. Completion of a 45 contact hour pharmacology course or 400 hours of utilizing prescriptive authority at an advanced practice level **OR**
3. Graduation from a clinical nurse specialist or nurse practitioner program within the two years preceding renewal and continuing education hours prorated from the date of graduation.

Pennsylvania – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years in one of three cycles: November 1st – October 31st on the odd years, November 1st – October 31st on the even years, or May 1st – April 30th on the even years.

They must maintain their RN license and complete 30 hours of Board approved continuing education. If the licensee has prescriptive authority, 16 of the 30 hours must be in pharmacology.

Rhode Island – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years by March 1st following the date of the initial issuance of the license. They must complete 10 contact hours of continuing education approved by an acceptable nursing organization.

If the licensee has prescriptive authority, they must also complete 30 hours of continuing education in pharmacology every six years.

South Carolina – Nurse practitioners must renew their licenses biennially. They must complete one of the following:

1. completion of thirty contact hours from a continuing education provider recognized by the board
2. maintenance of certification or recertification by a national certifying body recognized by the board
3. completion of an academic program of study in nursing or a related field recognized by the board
4. verification of competency and the number of hours practiced, as evidenced by employer certification on a form approved by the board

If the licensee has prescriptive authority, they must complete 20 contact hours of continuing education in pharmacotherapeutics related to the certification specialty every 2 years. If the licensee has controlled substance prescriptive authority, 2 of the 20 hours must be related to the prescribing of controlled substances.

South Dakota – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every two years and there are no CE requirements.

Tennessee – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every 2 years. They must hold a national certification appropriate to the specialty area.

If the licensee possesses a Certificate of Fitness, they must also complete 1 contact hour designed to address the prescribing of controlled substances from a provider approved by any certifying board of an advanced practice nurse.

Texas – Texas Nurse Practitioners must complete 20 hours of continuing nursing education or continuing medical education relevant to their specialty and population focus. They must also maintain a national certification. Nurse Practitioners with prescribing authority must complete an additional 5 hours of pharmacology CE.

Utah – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every two years on the even numbered years with the license cycle expiring on January 31st. They must maintain a current national certification in their specialty area of practice or if licensed prior to July 1, 1992, they can substitute this requirement by completing 30 hours of approved continuing education and 400 hours of practice.

Vermont – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses on March 31st of the odd years. They must complete the practice requirement in one of the following ways:

1. Applicants for license renewal shall, at a minimum, have practiced as APRNs for at least 960 hours during the previous five years OR
2. 400 hours in the previous 2 years prior to submitting a renewal application OR
3. have graduated from an approved program within the past 2 years

Additionally, they must maintain a current national certification in their specialty.

Virginia – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every two years. They must maintain a current national certification and complete 40 hours of continuing education in their specialty areas.

Washington – Nurse practitioners will renew their licenses every three years. They must complete 30 hours of continuing education. If the licensee has prescriptive authority, they must complete an additional 15 hours in pharmacotherapeutics related to their scope and practice.

West Virginia – Nurse practitioners will renew their license every 2 years. They must complete 24 contact hours which will include 12 hours in pharmacotherapeutics and 12 in the clinical management of patients from a Board approved provider. Of the 12 hours in pharmacotherapeutics, 8 may be used to renew the certification in prescriptive authority.

Wisconsin – Nurse practitioners renew their license every two years. They must complete 8 contact hours per year in clinical pharmacology/therapeutics relevant to their specialty.

Wyoming – Wyoming nurse practitioners must maintain a current national certification, **OR** if continuously recognized as an APRN prior to July 1, 2005 but not nationally certified, they must complete 60 hours in their specialty **AND** 400 hours of employment as an APRN in the last 2 years.

If the licensee has prescriptive authority, they must complete 15 contact hours in pharmacology and clinical management of drug therapy or pharmacotherapeutics.