

National Nursing Organizations Endorse New Quality Standards for Nurse Practitioner Programs

WASHINGTON, DC, April 7, 2022 – The National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education (NTF), a coalition of 19 national nursing organizations, has developed a new set of standards designed to ensure quality in graduate programs that prepare nurse practitioners (NPs). The new criteria, titled *2022 Standards for Quality Nurse Practitioner Education* (6th edition), will be used by nursing colleges and universities nationwide to update curriculum and clinical experiences to better prepare graduates for contemporary NP practice.

Since 1997 the NTF, which is co-facilitated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF), has focused on sustaining high-quality NP education through periodic review and modifications of program standards and criteria. The consensus-based *2022 Standards for Quality Nurse Practitioner Education* (6th edition) outline criteria to facilitate program quality and ongoing quality improvement through quality assessment, maintenance, and planning. With input from hundreds of individuals and organizations collected over a two-year period, this document delineates national standards for the development and assessment of NP programs. In brief:

- **Standard One** focuses on the institutional mission/philosophy/values and governance needed to advance NP program excellence.
- **Standard Two** focuses on the resources - fiscal, human, student support services, learning, and physical resources - required for a quality program.
- **Standard Three** focuses on the curriculum necessary to prepare students for the NP role, including meeting national standards and outlining the depth and breadth of requisite knowledge and skills for student success.
- **Standard Four** focuses on the systematic evaluation process for ongoing quality improvement through assessment of program outcomes, resources, curriculum, faculty, and students.

The new standards are degree neutral and apply to all types of NP programs. Organizations that have endorsed the 2022 standards include:

- Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
- American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, Certification Corporation
- American Association of Nurse Practitioners
- American Nurses Credentialing Center
- American Psychiatric Nurses Association
- Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
- International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses
- National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners

- National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- National Certification Corporation
- National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
- NLN Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA)
- Pediatric Nursing Certification Board

Other stakeholder organizations wishing to endorse the *2022 Standards for Quality Nurse Practitioner Education* (6th edition) are encouraged to contact Dr. Mary Beth Bigley, NONPF Chief Executive Officer, at MBBigley@nonpf.org.

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