Sample plans for each core certification can be found within this guide.

The Education Plan is BINDING and must be followed to maintain your NCC certification.
Breakdown of the CCA results

The Specialty Index Report contains the ratings for each core competency area within a specialty. Each core content area relates to a code for required CE.

The specialty index report is not based upon a grading system but uses mathematical calculations to provide a scaled 1-10 conversion based upon the type and amount of content within each core specialty’s competency content area.

Core competency areas with ratings of less than 7.5 (shown on the report in red type) indicate the need for continuing education in those competency categories to meet your maintenance needs. A specialty index rating of 7.5 or better achieved in any core competency area will satisfy the maintenance needs for the specific specialty area during that maintenance cycle.

The Education Plan will identify those specialty competency areas upon which continuing education should focus.

Core competency areas with ratings of less than 7.5 (shown on the report in red type) will generate a CE amount for that specific competency area (Code). Each certified nurse will need to earn CE to meet those specific content hours for the specified code in the education plan.

Core competency areas ratings of 7.5 or higher have been determined to “meet the standard” and no continuing education needs to be earned for those particular specialty competency categories.

In many cases, the education plan will have a baseline requirement for CE in any topics within the specialty. This baseline reflects weighting that adjusts based on the individual’s specialty index ratings within the content categories of their certification specialty. Baseline requirement for CE can be in any code that meets that specialties core competency. See the detailed Continuing Competency Initiative brochure for complete details.

The 5 hours of CE awarded by NCC for completion of the assessment tool is deducted from the CE hour total. You can count that 5 hours awarded by NCC toward any education plan CE need.

Missed Keywords are generated for core competency areas with ratings of 7.5 or less. They are intended to show what specific topics had a knowledge gap on the assessment tool.

Missed Keywords are an excellent way to provide some guidance for continuing education topics. They are broad in scope and you are not required to cover all keywords or topics for your NCC certification maintenance.

The education plan also provides links to NCC CE modules that meet the education plan’s requirements. There is no requirement to use NCC CE modules, the links are provided as a convenience.
RNC-IAP
Core Competency Area
Maternal and Fetal Physiology and Assessment (Code 1)
*15 hours

Maternal Physiology and Assessment
• Physiology of Pregnancy
• Maternal assessment and diagnostic testing
• Psychosocial Health (e.g., mental, emotions, environments, cultural)

Fetal Physiology and Assessment
• Fetal Physiology
• Antenatal testing (e.g., ultrasound, amniocentesis)
• Electronic Fetal Monitoring

Obstetric and Medical Complications in Pregnancy (Code 2)
*25 hours

Obstetric Complications
• Hypertensive Disorders
• Gestational Diabetes
• Fetal Complications (e.g., multiple gestation, fetal anomaly, fetal demise)
• Uterine, placental and amniotic fluid disorders
• Obstetric emergencies (e.g., trauma, birth, maternal collapse)

Medical Complications in Pregnancy
• Cardiovascular and Respiratory Disorders
• Hematologic and Thromboembolic Disorders
• Infectious Disease
• Metabolic, Endocrine and Autoimmune Disorders
• Neurological Disorders
• Renal and Hepatic Disorders

Pharmacology (Code 3)
*5 hours

Pharmacology
• Pharmacodynamics and Pharmacokinetics
• Pharmacotherapeutics (e.g., medication, fluids, blood component product)

Professional Practice (Code 4)
*5 hours
• Professional Practice Standards
• Legal Issues
• Ethical Principles and Theories
• Quality Improvement
• Patient Safety

*Number of CE hours required if you do not achieve a specialty index of 7.5 or more in the content area.
RNC-OB®
Core Competency Area

Fetal Assessment (Code 1)
*10 hours
- Antepartum Testing
- Electronic Fetal Monitoring
- Non-Electronic Fetal Monitoring
- Acid-base Interpretation

Labor and Birth (Code 2)
*15 hours
- Physiology of Labor
- Assessment and Management of Labor
- Obstetrical and Perioperative Procedures
- Pain Management and Coping
- Labor Complications
- Induction and Augmentation

Pregnancy and Obstetric Complications (Code 3)
*10 hours
- Pregnancy Complications
  - Maternal Complications Affecting the Fetus and Newborn
  - Maternal Psychosocial and Environmental Risks

Obstetric Complications
- Preterm Labor
- Multiple Gestation
- Placental Disorders

Postpartum (Code 4)
*5 hours
- Recovery and Postpartum Physiology and Complications
- Family Dynamics and Discharge Readiness
- Lactation

Newborn (Code 5)
*5 hours
- Adaptation to Extrauterine Life
- Assessment
- Resuscitation and Stabilization
- Complications (initial assessment/ nursing interventions)
- Infant Nutrition

Professional Practice (Code 6)
*5 hours
- Quality and Safety
  - Definitions
  - Application to Practice

Legal/Ethical Issues
- Definitions
- Application to Practice

Inpatient Obstetric Nursing EDUCATION PLAN

FOR CCA TESTS TAKEN ON/AFTER APRIL 1, 2020.

Your Education Plan

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Assessment Summary & Resources

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Low Risk Neonatal Intensive Care Nursing
EDUCATION PLAN

Your Education Plan

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*Number of CE hours required if you do not achieve a specialty index of 7.5 or more in the content area.

RNC-LRN®
Core Competency Area
Mother/Fetus (Code 1)
*5 hours
- Maternal Risk Factors and Birth History
- Assessment and Evaluation of the Intrauterine Environment
- Maternal Factors and Complications Affecting the Newborn

Physical Assessment and General Management (Code 2)
*15 hours
- Physical and Gestational Ages Assessment
- Laboratory and Diagnostic Data
- Resuscitation and Stabilization
- Nutrition and Feeding
- Fluid, Electrolytes and Glucose Homeostasis
- Oxygen, Non-Invasive Ventilation and Acid-Base Balance
- Thermoregulation
- Neurodevelopmental Care
- Infection and Immunology
- Behavioral and Developmental Care
- Psychosocial Support, Grieving and Discharge Planning

Assessment and Management of Pathophysiological Conditions and Neonatal Complications (Code 3)
*20 hours
- Cardiovascular
- Respiratory
- Gastrointestinal and Genitourinary
- Musculoskeletal and Integumentary
- Neurological
- Hematology
- Immunology
- Genetics, Metabolic and Endocrine
- Renal

Pharmacology, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics (Code 4)
*5 hours
- Drug Therapies
- Pain Management

Professional Practice (Code 5)
*5 hours
- Patient Safety
- Ethical Principles and Theories
- Legal Issues
- Professional Practice Standards
- Quality Improvement
RNC-MNN®
Core Competency Area
Pregnancy, Birth Risk Factors and Complications (Code 1)
*5 hours
- Antenatal Factors
- Intrapartal Factors
- Antepartum Risk Factors and Complications

Postpartum Assessment, Management and Complications (Code 2)
*20 hours
- Physiological Changes and Physical Assessment (including lab values)
- Nursing Care
- Lactation
- Psychosocial and Ethical Issues
- Newborn Feeding and Nutrition
- Hematologic
- Cardiovascular
- Infection
- Diabetes Postpartum/Post-Op Care
- Mood and Substance Use Disorders

Newborn Assessment, Management and Complications (Code 3)
*20 hours
- Transition to Extrauterine Life
- Physical and Gestational Age Assessment (including lab values)
- Newborn Care and Family Education
- Resuscitation and Stabilization
- Cardiovascular and Respiratory
- Neurological and Gastrointestinal
- Hematologic
- Infectious Disease
- Genetic, Metabolic and Endocrine
- Thermoregulation
- Neurobehavioral Assessment

Professional Practice (Code 4)
*5 hours
- Patient Safety
- Ethical Principles and Theories
- Legal Issues Affecting Maternal Newborn Nursing
- Professional Practice Standards
- Research

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*Number of CE hours required if you do not achieve a specialty index of 7.5 or more in the content area.
RNC-NIC® Core Competency Area

General Assessment (Code 1) *15 hours
- Physical and Gestational Age Assessment
- Maternal Factors Affecting Neonatal Outcomes
- Risk Assessment
- Thermoregulation
- Fluids and Electrolytes
- Resuscitation
- Oxygenation and and Acid Homeostasis
- Developmental Care
- Discharge Plan
- Grieving
- X-ray Review
- Behavior Assessment

Physiology and Pathophysiology (Code 2) *20 hours

Physiology and Pathophysiology
- Cardiac
- Respiratory
- Gastrointestinal (GI) and Genitourinary (GU)
- Hematopoietic
- Neurologic/Neuromuscular
- Infectious Diseases
- Genetics, Metabolic, Endocrine
- Head, Ears, Eyes, Nose and Throat

Assess & Manage Psychosocial Behavioral States
- Discharge Planning
- Grieving Process
- Family-centered Care
- Palliative Care
- Mental Health

Pharmacology, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics (Code 3) *10 hours
- Pharmacology, Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics

Your Education Plan

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*Number of CE hours required if you do not achieve a specialty index of 7.5 or more in the content area.

Professional Practice (Code 4) *5 hours

Patient Safety
- Interprofessional Communication
- Medication Error Prevention
- System Error Prevention

Ethical Principles and Theories

Legal Issues Affecting Neonatal Care Nursing
- Scope of Practice
- Impaired Nurse
- Legal Terms
- Informed Consent

Professional Practice Standards
- Evidence based practice
Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
EDUCATION PLAN

Your Education Plan

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*Number of CE hours required if you do not achieve a specialty index of 7.5 or more in the content area.

NNP -BC®
Core Competency Area

General/Physical Assessment (Code 1)
*5 hours
- Maternal History and Factors Affecting the Newborn (Antepartum and Intrapartum)
- Neonatal Physical Examination
- Gestational Age/Behavioral Assessment
- Diagnostic Procedures & Laboratory Evaluation
- Techniques and Equipment

Embryology, Physiology, Pathophysiology and Systems Management (Code 2)
*20 hours

Disease Management
- Cardiac
- Respiratory
- Gastrointestinal (GI)
- Renal/Genitourinary
- Hematopoietic
- Neurological
- Infectious diseases
- Metabolic/Endocrine
- Musculoskeletal
- Integumentary
- Genetics
- Ears, Eyes, Nose and Throat

General Management (Code 3)
*10 hours
- Fluids and Electrolytes
- Growth and Nutrition
- Thermoregulation
- Resuscitation and Stabilization
- Family Integration
- Discharge Planning and Follow-Up Care
- Communication and Grieving

Pharmacology (Code 4)
*10 hours
Pharmacology
- Common Drug Therapies
- Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics
- Drugs and Breastfeeding

Professional Practice (Code 5)
*5 hours
Professional Practice
- Patient Safety
- Ethical Principles and Theories
- Legal Issues Affecting Neonatal Intensive Care Nursing
- Quality Improvement
### Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner

**EDUCATION PLAN**

#### Your Education Plan

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<td>9.33</td>
<td>Physical Examination, Health History</td>
<td>view available modules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology (Code 4)</td>
<td>6.92</td>
<td>Drug Therapy</td>
<td>view available modules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Practice (Code 5)</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Patient Safety, Ethical/Legal Issues</td>
<td>view available modules</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### WHNP-BC®

**Core Competency Area**

Normal Physiology and Wellness Management (Code 1)

*10 hours
- Health Promotion and Patient Counseling, Health Screening and Education
- Gynecologic - Normal
- Fertility Control
- Anatomy and Physiology of Pregnancy
- Prenatal Care
- Assessment of Fetal Wellbeing
- Postpartum
- Menopause

Gynecology Disorders, Obstetric Complications and Primary Care Management (Code 2)

*20 hours
*Feedback in the specific pathophysiologic areas of gynecology, reproductive health care and obstetrics will be provided in your Education Plan.*

Gynecologic Disorders/Deviations

- Menstrual Disorders
- STDs and Vaginal Infections (female/male)
- Urinary Tract Infections
- Pelvic Pain and Related Disorders
- Infertility (female/male)
- Benign Reproductive Disorders
- Malignant Reproductive Disorders
- Breast Disorders
- Pelvic Organ Relaxation and Prolapse
- Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome
- Vulvar Dystrophies and Dermatoses
- Male Sexual Reproductive Health

Complications of Pregnancy

- Medical and Placental Complications of Pregnancy
- Placental Abnormalities
- Pregnancy Specific Conditions

Pathophysiology Primary Care

- Recognition, Basic Management and/or Referral of Common Health Problems
- Disorders by Physiologic System of Common Health Problems

### Assessment, Diagnostic Testing and Interpretation (Code 3)

*5 hours
- **Health History**
  - Risk Assessment
  - Medical History
  - Social History
  - Family History

- **Physical Assessment and Examination**
  - General Body System Review
  - Physiology and Anatomy of Reproductive Organs
  - Pelvic Exam
  - Breast Exam
  - Obstetric Exam

- **Diagnostic Tests and Studies**
  - Hematologic Studies
  - Serologic Studies
  - Kidney Function Studies
  - Lipid Profile
  - Body Fluids and Excretion Analyses
  - Endoscopic Procedures
  - Imaging Studies
  - Biopsies
  - Genetic Screening and Testing
  - Fetal Assessment

### Pharmacology (Code 4)

*10 hours
- Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics
- Pharmacotherapeutics

### Professional Practice (Code 5)

*5 hours
- **Quality Improvement**
- **Legal/Ethical Issues**
  - Informed Consent
  - Patient Confidentiality
  - Risk Management
  - Scope of Practice
  - Ethical Principles

### Patient Safety

- Interprofessional Communication
- Medication Errors
- Preventive Strategies to Reduce Medical Errors
- Documentation

*Number of CE hours required if you do not achieve a specialty index of 7.5 or more in the content area.*
NCC Maintenance Application

How do I complete it?

- All certification maintenance applications must be filed online.
- Your education plan is recapped in your online maintenance application.
- You may access your online maintenance application any time after you take your assessment and keep track of your earned CE credits by saving them to the application.
- As you add CE in the required certification core competency areas, the plan, within the maintenance application, will be populated with the entered hours (e.g. if you take a course in Continuing Competency for 2 hours, when you enter that activity, the 0 hours in Professional Practice will be updated to 2 hours.)
- You may use your maintenance application to see the required CE in your education plan and the CE entered either by taking a NCC module or putting in CE earned from other sources. The maintenance application can be found under the “Maintenance” tab when you click on “Add, track or submit your CE”. You can enter your maintenance application any time during your maintenance cycle.
- The 5 CE hours earned for completing the CCA is automatically entered into the application once all except the last 5 hours of required CE is earned.
- Completed NCC continuing education modules will be coded and entered into the application automatically.
- Once your Education Plan is completely populated within your maintenance application, you will see a note at the bottom of the CE page to continue to the payment section.

PLEASE NOTE: For those who maintain their maintenance early, the CCA is available three months prior to the start of your cycle. So if you are planning to take education and in the first weeks of your cycle, you can take the assessment “early” to determine if any the planned education is applicable.

REMEMBER: CE can only be earned during your current cycle, so even if take the assessment early – CE can only be earned once your new cycle starts.
Maintenance application

Certification to maintain » Personal information » Contact hours » Payment » Review

Your education plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Competency Area</th>
<th>Hours required</th>
<th>Hours entered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fetal Assessment (Code 1)</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
<td>0 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor and Delivery (Code 2)</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy and Obstetric Complications (Code 3)</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpartum (Code 4)</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
<td>0 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newborn (Code 5)</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Practice (Code 6)</td>
<td>5 hours</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 Continuing Education hours in any of your content specific specialty areas
Credit for taking this assessment (may be applied to your total required hours)

Total hours 45 hours 21 hours

CE hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Core Competency Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/15/2011</td>
<td>Labor Support and The Family in Childbirth</td>
<td>Labor and Delivery (Code 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/3/2011</td>
<td>PP1101 The Late Preterm Infant</td>
<td>Newborn (Code 5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17/2011</td>
<td>Course 207 Pregnancy and Diabetes</td>
<td>Pregnancy and Obstetric Complications (Code 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/22/2011</td>
<td>WB1320 Continuing Competency Initiative (CCI)</td>
<td>Professional Practice (Code 6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total hours: 21

Additional activity

Program/Activity name (please be specific)

Core Competency Area Which one do I pick?
- Fetal Assessment (Code 1) more info
- Labor and Delivery (Code 2) more info
- Pregnancy & Obstetric Complications (Code 3) more info
- Postpartum (Code 4) more info
- Newborn (Code 5) more info
- Professional Practice (Code 6) more info
- Universal Hours (Code 9) more info
- NCC Pretest Participant (Code 21) more info
- NCC Item Writer (Code 22) more info
- NCC Self Assessment Reviewer or Author (Code 23) more info

Date you received your CE hours (mm/dd/yyyy)

Number of hours awarded

Sponsor or accrediting agency/organization

Add activity

Example Only