



BOARD-CERTIFIED
RNC-LRN

NCC believes the individual certified nurse is the best person to determine the specialty code for their CE, as they have the specific content of the CE program.

Low Risk Neonatal Nursing

NCC Maintenance Requirements

The standard process for the NCC Professional Development Certification Maintenance Program makes use of a specialty assessment tool and resulting personal education plan:

- **Complete the specialty assessment tool** that reflects the current knowledge competencies aligned with your certification specialty **at the beginning of each new certification maintenance cycle.**
- **Earn CE as specified by the education plan developed from your specialty assessment.** Your education plan outlines the CE needed to maintain your NCC certification. ***Only CE earned after you have taken your specialty assessment can be used to maintain your certification. It must meet the CE needed in your educational plan.***



CONTINUING COMPETENCY SPECIALTY ASSESSMENT

The CE requirements for your NCC maintenance will be outlined in your education plan!

Your educational plan is derived from your specialty assessment and outlines for you the CE needed in each of your core competency areas. Each core area has a code and that code is provided for you as well.

Take the specialty assessment as soon as you can in the beginning of your maintenance cycle.

The assessment may be taken early, up to 3 months prior to the start of your new maintenance cycle date. The start day for earning CE remains at the first day of the new maintenance cycle.

YOU CAN ONLY USE CE EARNED AFTER YOU HAVE TAKEN YOUR ASSESSMENT FOR MAINTENANCE. ANY CE EARNED BEFORE YOU TOOK THE ASSESSMENT CANNOT BE USED (EVEN IF IT MEETS YOUR EDUCATION PLAN).

YOUR CE AND NCC MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

All CE must be earned during your current maintenance cycle and after you have taken the specialty assessment.

All CE used for NCC maintenance is defined by the individuals Education Plan.

All CE must be submitted online at NCCwebsite.org.

All CE must be coded to the applicable core content area. *See listing in this brochure.*

CE can be entered into the maintenance application any time after the assessment has been taken and on an ongoing basis. All activities will be saved until the application is submitted.

All CE must be accredited by an agency recognized by NCC.

ACCREDITING AGENCIES

Academic credit is accepted as is CME credit. For continuing education credit to be accepted for the purpose of maintenance, the continuing education activity must be accredited by one of the agencies below.

- NCC
- State boards of nursing
- State nursing associations
- Nursing, medical or health care organizations (this would include, for example, such organizations as: AWHONN, NPWH, NANN, ACOG, AMA etc.)
- Colleges or universities
- For profit or not-for-profit continuing education organizations such as Contemporary Forums, Western Schools, Professional Education Consultants, Perifacts etc. provided that programs sponsored by such organizations have been accredited for continuing education.

Most of the for-profit organizations have achieved accreditation for their offering through a state board of nursing or health care organization. Review accreditation details in the registration brochure you received when registering for the particular continuing education activity.

COMMON CODING QUESTIONS

<p>I went to a conference with topics that reflect many different codes, how do I code them?</p>	<p>You have two options: You can code to the content area that represents the majority of the content presented. OR You can breakout content per code (You may combine different sessions of the same content code.) and record total hours for each code, listing the same conference for every content code entry.</p>
<p>I could not list all my CE. I have many more hours but the maintenance application would not let me list them.</p>	<p>Once you meet or the CE requirements designated by your education plan the application will automatically take you to the payment page. There is no need to enter more CE than is required.</p>
<p>I was a preceptor for new students, can I use this for maintenance and how do I list it on the application. How do I code it?</p>	<p>10 hours of CE can be used for precepting students, in your same certification specialty area and role. (e.g. In order for a WHNP to use the credit they cannot preceptor nurse midwives or residents – only WHNP students.) Orienting new staff is NOT considered as preceptor hours. On the application select the more information link for the preceptorship code 24 and it will give you information on how to list the information. This is also applicable to any of the “other” codes. You can only use these hours for baseline hours and not hours designated in the education plan assigned to a specific competency area. Baseline hours are listed as hours that are assigned to any competency area and appear at the bottom of your plan.</p>
<p>I have multiple certifications. Can I use the same CE for both. How can I code it for two different certifications.</p>	<p>If the CE is applicable to both areas and was earned in the appropriate time frame for each certification, yes. But you still need to file a separate maintenance application and fee for each certification. Each CE activity will be coded to each application.</p>
<p>Do I have to submit a “Maintenance Pre-approval”?</p>	<p>Maintenance Pre-Approval is optional and not required. If you are unsure your continuing education activities will meet your NCC maintenance requirements, you can ask NCC to pre-approve your CE activities. There is a nonrefundable fee for this service. Complete details are in the maintenance section of NCCwebsite.org.</p>

HOW TO READ THE EDUCATION PLAN

- Competency areas where 7.5 specialty index is achieved, **no CE is needed**.
- Competency areas where 7.5 specialty index is not achieved, the hours of CE needed will be listed.
- Every plan has a minimum of 15 CE hours - these are called baseline hours. **Even if a specialty index above 7.5 is achieved in every competency, there is still a CE commitment of 15 hours.** Education plans that need 45 hours, do not have any baseline hours because those hours are assigned to the specific core competencies.
- Every plan is composed of a maximum of 50 and a minimum of 15 CE hours.
- Missed keywords are intended to show what specific topics had knowledge gaps within that competency area. They are broad in scope and you are not required to cover all keywords or topics for your NCC certification maintenance
- Links to NCC CE modules are offered as a convenience. **Use of NCC CE modules is optional – not required.** NCC CE is provided as a way to provide affordable, easily accessible CE for those who may have limited CE options in their area or practice. Also CE earned for successful completion of any NCC CE modules will automatically be entered and coded into your online maintenance application
- 5 hours of credit is given for taking the assessment and may be applied to any CE need.
- The total number of hours needed will be listed in each specific core competency.

LRN Core Competency Area

Mother/Fetus (Code 1)

*5 hours

Mother/Fetus

- Assess intrauterine environment
- Antepartal fetal testing
- Fetal and placental development

Maternal Complications Affecting the Newborn

- Preexisting maternal conditions
- Pregnancy related conditions
- Environmental and lifestyle factors

Physical Assessment, Thermoregulation and Normal Management (Code 2)

*15 hours

Physical Assessment

- Gestational age assessment
- Diagnostic laboratory studies
- Physical and behavioral assessment
- Basic physiology and anatomy

Thermoregulation

- Physiology
- Mechanisms of heat loss
- Temperature management

Oxygen and Acid-Base

- Non-invasive ventilation
- Blood gas

Neonatal Enteral Nutrition

- Breastfeeding
- Neonatal nutrition and feeding

Normal Management

- Neonatal transition
- General care
- Parent education

Developmental Care

- Motor organization
- Neurobehavioral development habituation
- Sensory/interaction capabilities

Family Integration

- Role adaption
- Discharge planning
- Screening
- Parent education

Neonatal Complications (Code 3)

*20 hours

Management of Complications

- Cardiac
- Respiratory
- Gastrointestinal
- Renal
- Genitourinary
- Hematopoietic
- Neurological
- Immunology
- Endocrine
- Musculoskeletal
- Skin
- Genetics

EDUCATION PLAN

CORE COMPETENCY AREA	YOUR SPECIALTY INDEX	CE HOURS REQUIRED
Mother/Fetus (Code 1)	7.89	<i>Standard met</i>
Physical Assessment, Thermoregulation and Normal Management (Code 2)	6.77	15 hours
Neonatal Complications (Code 3)	8.23	<i>Standard met</i>
Pharmacology (Code 4)	6	5 hours
Professional Practice (Code 6)	6.67	5 hours

Your education plan

CORE COMPETENCY AREA	CE HOURS
Physical Assessment, Thermoregulation and Normal Management (Code 2) Missed keywords: Behavioral assessment, Breastfeeding, Gestational age assessment, Laboratory test evaluation, Neonatal nutrition, Thermoregulation Physical Assessment, Thermoregulation and Normal Management (Code 2) Self Assessment modules »	15 hours
Pharmacology (Code 4) Missed keywords: Breastfeeding and Medication, Drug Therapies, Hyperbilirubinemia, Perinatal Substance Abuse, Pharmacokinetics Pharmacology (Code 4) Self Assessment modules »	5 hours
Professional Practice (Code 5) Missed keywords: Legal Issues, Legal/Ethical Issues, Patient Safety, Research Professional Practice (Code 5) Self Assessment modules »	5 hours
15 Continuing Education hours in any of your content specific specialty areas	15 hours
Credit for taking this assessment (may be applied to your total required hours)	-5 hours
Total hours required	35 hours

- Head, ears, eyes, nose and throat
- Perinatal substance abuse
- Hyperbilirubinemia

Pharmacology (Code 4)

*5 hours

Pharmacokinetics

- General principles
- Routes of administration
- Pharmacokinetics, drug therapies

Drug Therapies

- Vitamin K
- Eye prophylaxis
- Antibiotics
- Hepatitis vaccine
- Other vaccines

Pain Management

- Pharmacologic
- Nonpharmacologic

Professional Practice (Code 5)

*5 hours

Patient Safety

- Interprofessional communication
- Continuing competency
- Medication error prevention

Ethical Principles and Theories

- Patient advocacy

Legal Issues Affecting Newborn Nursing

- Impaired nurse
- Scope of practice
- Expert witness

Informed Consent

Professional Practice Standards

Research

- Common terms
- Application of research to practice
- Evidence based practice

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

DETERMINING WHAT CONTENT MEETS EACH SPECIALTY CODE

Core Competency Area	Content Topic	Keywords
1 Mother/Fetus (Code 1)	Mother/Fetus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess intrauterine environment Antepartal fetal testing Fetal and placental development Maternal Complications Affecting the Newborn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preexisting maternal conditions Pregnancy related conditions Environmental and lifestyle factors 	Abnormal placentation Age related concerns AIDS and HIV infections Amniotic bands Amniotic fluid disorders Amniocentesis and other genetic testing Antenatal testing Antepartum fetal surveillance Assess intrauterine environment Biophysical profile Cord gas Environmental factors affecting the fetus Fetal and placental development Fetal antepartum testing Fetal heart rate patterns Fetal lung maturation Gestational diabetes Gestational hypertension Health history Hypertensive disorders Instrument assisted birth Intrapartum factors affecting the neonate Intrauterine growth restriction Malpresentation Maternal factors/diseases affecting the newborn Maternal infection Maternal medication abuse/misuse Maternal medication fetal effects Maternal nutrition Meconium Multiple gestation Noninvasive prenatal testing (NIPTs) Nonstress testing Oligohydramnios Placenta previa Placental abruption Polyhydramnios Preterm and Postterm Preeclampsia Rh screening Trauma
2 Physical Assessment, Thermoregulation and Normal Management (Code 2)	Mother/Fetus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gestational age assessment Diagnostic laboratory studies Physical and behavioral assessment Basic physiology and anatomy Thermoregulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physiology Mechanisms of heat loss Temperature management Oxygen and Acid-Base <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-invasive ventilation Blood gas Neonatal Enteral Nutrition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breastfeeding Nutritional requirements Normal Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neonatal transition General care Parent education Developmental Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motor organization Neurobehavioral development habituation Sensory/interaction capabilities Family Integration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role adaption Discharge planning Screening Parent education 	Bathing the neonate Behavior Behavioral assessment Bilirubin metabolism Blood cultures Blood gas Blood tests Breast milk properties Breastfeeding Calcium Caloric supplements Calorie/energy needs Central lines Car seat challenge CBC CCHD screening Circumcision Cord care CPAP CRP Cultural care Developmental positioning Diagnostic Labs Discharge planning Donor milk Early term Fluid & electrolyte requirements Formula composition Genetic screening Gestational age assessment Glucose metabolism Grieving process Growth velocity Harlequin color change Head circumference Hearing loss Hearing screening Heart sounds Hematocrit and hemoglobin High flow NC Hyperthermia Hypothermia Incubator management Intimate partner violence Kangaroo care/skin-to-skin Laboratory test evaluation Lactation physiology LGA Late preterm Mechanisms of heat loss Metabolic panel Motor organization Muscle tone assessment Nasal cannula Neonatal transition Neurobehavioral development habituation Non-invasive ventilation Nutrition needs Oxygen hood Oxygen saturation Parent education Parental counseling Pharmacology/Pharmacokinetics Physical assessment Physical exam and newborn physiology PICC lines PIV management Plagiocephaly Reflexes Renal metabolism Safe sleep Safety Sensory assessment SGA Shaken baby Sleep cycles State cycles Thermoregulation Thermoregulation management Umbilical cord care Umbilical cord physiology Umbilical lines Urinalysis Urine output

DETERMINING WHAT CONTENT MEETS EACH SPECIALTY CODE

Core Competency Area	Content Topic	Keywords
Neonatal Complications (Code 3) 3	Management of Complications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiac • Respiratory • Gastrointestinal • Renal • Genitourinary • Hematopoietic • Neurological • Immunology • Endocrine • Musculoskeletal • Skin • Genetics • Head, ears, eyes, nose and throat • Perinatal substance abuse • Hyperbilirubinemia 	Acyanotic heart defect AIDS and HIV infections Air leaks Ambiguous genitalia Anemia Arrhythmias Asphyxia Bacterial infection Bilious vomiting Birth defects Birth injuries Birth marks Birthweight effects Bleeding and hemorrhage Blood disorders Blood glucose Blood incompatibilities Blood products Blood transfusion Bowel obstruction Brachial plexus injury Cafe au lait spots Caput succedaneum Cardiac Cardiorespiratory diseases Cardiorespiratory distress Cephalohematoma Chest thoracentesis Choanal atresia Chromosomal abnormalities Chronic lung disease Circumcision Cleft lip and palate Coagulation disorders Coarctation of the aorta Cold stress Common skin disorders Complex Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) Congenital heart disease Congenital hip dysplasia Congenital malformations Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) Conjunctivitis Constipation Craniosynostosis Cryptorchidism Cyanosis Cyanotic heart defect Cystic fibrosis Cystic hygroma Cysts Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Dermoid sinus Developmental dysplasia of the hip Diaper dermatitis Diaphragmatic hernia Diarrhea DIC DiGeorge Dudodenal atresia Dysrhythmias Electrolyte imbalance Endocrine Endocrine disorders ENT and Head Epstein's pearls Erb's palsy Esophageal atresia Exchange transfusion Foot malformations Fractures Fungal infection G6PD Gastroesophageal reflux Gastrointestinal GE reflux Genetic defects Genitourinary Group B streptococcus infection Heart block Hemangioma Hematoma Hematopoietic Hemolytic anemia Hemorrhagic disease of the newborn Hepatitis Herpes HIE Hirschsprung's disease Hydrocephalus Hydronephrosis Hyperbilirubinemia Hyperglycemia Hyperkalemia Hypertension Hypocalcemia Hypoglycemia Hypokalemia Hypospadias Hypotension Hypothermia Hypoxia Hypoxemia Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy Immunology Imperforate anus Inborn errors of metabolism Intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH) In utero exposure to alcohol In utero exposure to cocaine In utero exposure to narcotics In utero exposure to nicotine Infant of a diabetic mother Infections Inguinal hernia Integumentary Intracranial hemorrhage Jaundice Kernicterus Malrotation Maternal drug effects Meconium aspiration syndrome Meconium ileus Meconium plug syndrome Metabolic Metabolic acidosis Metaboloc alkalosis Metabolic disorders Micrognathia Multiple gestation Musculoskeletal Necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC) Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) withdrawal Neonatal heart diseases Neonatal pain Neural tube defects Neurologic disorders

DETERMINING WHAT CONTENT MEETS EACH SPECIALTY CODE

Core Competency Area	Content Topic	Keywords
Neonatal Complications (Code 3) 3	<i>Management of Complications</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiac • Respiratory • Gastrointestinal • Renal • Genitourinary • Hematopoietic • Neurological • Immunology • Endocrine • Musculoskeletal • Skin • Genetics • Head, ears, eyes, nose and throat • Perinatal substance abuse • Hyperbilirubinemia 	Neurological Neuromuscular maturity scoring systems NRP Omphalitis Osteopenia Otitis media Palsy Patent ductus arteriosus Patent urachus Patterns of inheritance Perinatal loss Perinatal substance abuse Periventricular leukomalacia (PVL) Persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn Phototherapy Physiologic anemia of infancy Pierre Robin Platelet disorders Pneumomediastinum Pneumothorax Polycythemia Prematurity PVL periventricular Renal abnormalities Respiratory Respiratory acidosis Respiratory alkalosis Respiratory distress Resuscitation and stabilization Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) RH incompatibility RSV Seizures Sepsis Septal defects Shock Short gut syndrome Sickle cell Skeletal dysplasia S.T.A.B.L.E. Subgaleal Supraventricular tachycardia (SVT) Testicular abnormalities Tetralogy of Fallot Therapeutic hypothermia/cooling Thoracentesis Thrombocytopenia Thrombocytosis Thyroid disorders TORCH Tracheoesophageal fistula Transposition of the great vessels Transient tachypnea of the newborn Trisomy Turner syndrome Umbilical hernia Urine toxicology Ventricularomegaly Viral infection Volvulus
Pharmacology (Code 4) 4	<i>Pharmacokinetics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General principles • Routes of administration • Pharmacokinetics, drug therapies <i>Drug Therapies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vitamin K • Eye prophylaxis • Antimicrobials/Antibiotics • Antiretrovirals • Immunizations • Resuscitation medications <i>Pain Management</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmacologic • Nonpharmacologic 	5 rights of medication administration Antibiotics Anticonvulsants Antimicrobials Antiretroviral AZT Breastfeeding and medications Bronchodilators Cardiac medications CNS stimulants Dietary supplements Diuretics Drug levels Drug therapies Drugs for NAS Epinephrine Erythropoietin Eye prophylactic treatment HIV drugs Immunologic agents Indomethacin Inhalation medication IV fluid IVIG Lipids Medication effects Oxygen as a drug Pain management Parenteral nutrition Perinatal substance abuse Pharmacokinetics PPLs Reflux medications ROP medication/Avastin Route of drug administration Steroids Surfactant TPN Vaccines/Immunizations Vitamin K administration

DETERMINING WHAT CONTENT MEETS EACH SPECIALTY CODE

Core Competency Area	Content Topic	Keywords
Professional Practice (Code 5) 5	<p>Patient Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interprofessional communication • Continuing competency • Medication error prevention <p>Ethical Principles and Theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient advocacy <p>Legal Issues affecting newborn nursing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impaired nurse • Scope of practice • Expert witness <p>Informed Consent</p> <p>Professional Practice</p> <p>Standards</p> <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common terms • Application of research to practice • Evidence based practice 	CE poster sessions (6 posters equal 1 hour) Continuing competency Ethical principles and theories Evidence based practice Interprofessional communication Legal Issues affecting newborn nursing Legal/Ethical Issues Medication error prevention Patient advocacy Patient safety Professional practice standards Research

DETERMINING WHAT CONTENT MEETS EACH SPECIALTY CODE

NCC “OTHER” CODES

You can only use these hours for baseline hours and not hours designated in the education plan assigned to a specific competency area. Baseline hours are listed as hours that are assigned to any competency area and appear at the bottom of your plan.

NCC Pretest Participant	21	If you participated in the NCC sponsored pretest program
NCC Item Writer	22	If you are credentialed by NCC and have participated in the item writing program
NCC CE Reviewer or Author	23	If you reviewed or authored an NCC continuing education module
Presenter of a CE Course or Preceptor	24	<p>Presenter of educational program can use the same amount of CE earned by the participants. Such CE presentation CANNOT be part of the individual’s job responsibilities. If the activities was presented more than once you can only use the CE hours once.</p> <p>The maximum number of hours that can be earned for preceptorship activity is 10 hours per maintenance cycle. This is limited to preceptoring students in your same certification specialty area. Staff orientation is NOT considered a preceptor activity and cannot be used.</p>
Author of a Book Chapter or Journal Article	25	<p>Rules for Using Publications for Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The publication date of the article/book/module will determine its applicability for your current certification maintenance. • You are limited to using one article, book authorship or service as an NCC continuing education reviewer or monograph author per certification maintenance cycle. • Articles/books must be related to the certification specialty area. • 5 contact hours will be awarded to those who have written a journal article or a chapter of a book. • 15 contact hours will be awarded to those who are a primary or secondary author of a book.