



March 15, 2010

Dear NP Program Directors:

The organizations listed below are writing to reinforce the requirement that all candidates applying to sit for our nurse practitioner examinations must have graduated from a nurse practitioner graduate program that has demonstrated compliance with the National Task Force Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs (NTFC). These criteria were developed by the nursing education and nurse practitioner credentialing communities and have been endorsed by all nurse practitioner stakeholder organizations. A continuous process of review and revision of the NTFC has been in place since 1997. The national nursing education accrediting organizations have applied the criteria in the accreditation of graduate nurse practitioner educational programs since 2005. The latest version of the NTFC was published in 2008 and can be found on the websites of all NP certifying organizations as well as the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF). If you have any questions regarding these important educational guidelines, please contact any of the NP certifying organizations listed below or your nursing accrediting organization.

Sincerely:

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Certification Corporation
American Nurses Credentialing Center
National Certification Corporation
Pediatric Nursing Certification Board