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CCNEACCREDITATION.ORG

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Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Board of Commissioners has approved the *Standards for Accreditation of Nurse Practitioner Fellowship/Residency Programs (Standards)* (2020). The development of the *Standards* document is the result of a comprehensive process that included significant input by CCNE's community of interest, through broad-based calls for comment, and by highly regarded thought leaders in Nurse Practitioner (NP) practice and education.

CCNE was the first national nursing accrediting agency to create a quality assurance process for nurse residency programs, adopting accreditation standards for entry-to-practice nurse residency programs in 2008. At the request of leaders in NP practice, CCNE agreed to study the NP fellowship/residency program landscape and the need to assure quality of these programs through a nationally recognized accreditation process. As a result, the CCNE Board of Commissioners concluded that such voluntary accreditation is appropriate and heeded the call for CCNE to provide a high-quality, rigorous accreditation process for NP fellowship/residency programs.

The CCNE Board-appointed Standards Committee crafted comprehensive accreditation standards that address the Institute of Medicine's call to action in *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* (2010); and draw on CCNE's proven track record of valuing the diverse institutional perspectives of residency and education programs seeking accreditation and working collaboratively with constituent programs to drive quality and foster innovation in these programs.

Dr. Laurie Lauzon Clabo, Interim Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs, Wayne State University (MI), and Dr. Susan D. Ruppert, Professor & Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Cizik School of Nursing, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, served as Co-chairs of the Standards Committee, providing thoughtful leadership throughout the standards development and revision process. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I congratulate all members of the Standards Committee on their exemplary work.

CCNE Nurse Practitioner Residency/Fellowship Standards Committee

Dr. Laurie Lauzon Clabo, Co-chair
Interim Provost and Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs
Wayne State University (MI)

Dr. Susan D. Ruppert, Co-chair
Professor & Associate Dean of Graduate Studies
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Dr. Kristine Anne Scordo
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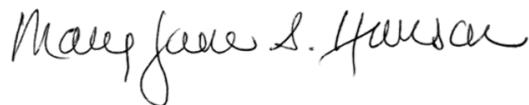
Later this fall, CCNE will be disseminating draft accreditation procedures for constituent review and feedback. The procedures will contain the policies and processes that will guide CCNE's accreditation of NP fellowship/residency programs. In addition, CCNE will disseminate a Call for Applicants seeking individuals who are interested in serving as volunteer evaluators (accreditation peer reviews) for these programs. Selected individuals will participate in a training program to orient evaluators with the CCNE values, standards, and procedures. In early 2021, CCNE anticipates accepting applications from NP fellowship and residency programs that intend to pursue accreditation.

A [pre-publication copy](#) of the *Standards* is available on the CCNE website. Once published, the final document will be available at that same link. CCNE will be hosting webinars in the coming months to orient program officials to the *Standards*. To be notified of these upcoming webinars, please email residency@ccneaccreditation.org.

As always, the CCNE staff is available for consultation and guidance. If you have questions about the *Standards*, please contact CCNE Deputy Executive Director Benjamin Murray at 202-887-6791 x275 or bmurray@ccneaccreditation.org.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, thank you for participating in the standards development process and for your interest in quality NP fellowship/residency programs.

Sincerely,



Mary Jane S. Hanson, PhD, CRNP, CNS, FNP-BC, ACNS-BC, FAANP
Chair, Board of Commissioners