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To: U.S. Department of Education  
State Boards of Nursing  
Statewide Agencies of Higher Education  
Institutional Accrediting Agencies  
Specialized Accrediting Agencies  
Selected Federal Agencies  
CCNE-Affiliated Nursing Programs  
Healthcare Organizations  
CCNE On-Site Evaluators  
National Nursing Organizations  
Other Interested Parties

From: Dr. Susan D. Ruppert, Chair, Board of Commissioners

Re: Revised CCNE *Procedures for Accreditation of Entry-to-Practice Nurse Residency Programs*

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) is pleased to announce that, on September 13, 2016, the Board of Commissioners revised the CCNE *Procedures for Accreditation of Entry-to-Practice Nurse Residency Programs (Residency Procedures)*. In accordance with its commitment to ongoing self assessment and continuous quality improvement, CCNE periodically undertakes a review of its core documents and provides opportunity for constituents to review the documents and suggest revisions, and these revisions are a result of such review.

The *Procedures* document can be accessed on the CCNE website at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation/ProceduresResidency.pdf>. The revised *Procedures* document goes into effect immediately. CCNE publishes separate accreditation procedures guiding the accreditation of baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs.

The most significant revisions are related to CCNE's expansion of activities to accredit nurse residency programs in all care settings and to offer accreditation to both employee-based nurse residency programs and federally funded traineeship nurse residency programs, as requested by CCNE's community of interest. These changes are consistent with the CCNE *Standards for Accreditation of Entry-to-Practice Nurse Residency Programs (CCNE Residency Standards)* (2015) which went into effect July 1, 2016. As requested by CCNE's community of interest, and in response to *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health (IOM Report)*, the 2015 CCNE *Residency Standards* also provide for CCNE accreditation of all entry-to-practice nurse residency programs, including those serving associate-degree-prepared nurse residents. The changes to the *Residency Procedures* also reflect this inclusion. Other procedural changes relate to the process for appealing adverse accreditation actions, most noticeably clarifying various deadlines in the appeal process and ensuring procedural fairness for all parties. You will also find new sections in the procedures on conducting business in English, compliance reporting, and legal jurisdiction.

Before finalizing the revisions, the CCNE Board of Commissioners considered all comments received in response to the request for comments on the proposed procedures, disseminated in Summer 2016.

If you have any questions about the procedural revisions, please contact Benjamin Murray, Director of Accreditation Services, at 202-887-6791 x275 or at [bmurray@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:bmurray@aacn.nche.edu).

Thank you.