

The CNL[®] Bulletin

Spring/Summer 2011



The CNL Bulletin, an online newsletter of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and the Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC), features the latest news and information on the Clinical Nurse LeaderSM (CNL) initiative and the CNL[®] Certification Program.

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2012 CNL Summit

The 2012 Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Summit will be held at the Hyatt Regency Tampa in Tampa, Florida. The conference is scheduled to begin in the afternoon on January 19 and end at noon on January 21. The Summit provides a forum for all healthcare and academic audiences currently implementing or interested in exploring CNL education and practice. Conference topics will include the impact and value of the CNL role on improving patient outcomes, implementing and sustaining the CNL role across diverse systems of care, the CNL role in quality and safety initiatives, innovations in education, and the complementary relationship between the CNL and other members of the healthcare team, including nurse managers, APRNs, and physicians. In addition to plenary sessions, concurrent, abstract, and poster presentations allow participants to choose topics of particular interest. Special forums for the CNLA membership, CNL faculty, and nursing/healthcare executives will also be offered.

To register, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Conferences/12CNL.htm>. Special rates for the CNL Summit are available for CNLA members and CNL graduate students.

CNL Research Symposium

The CNL Research Symposium, a pre-conference workshop held in conjunction with AACN's CNL Summit, will be held on January 19, 2012 from 8:00 am to 12 noon at the Hyatt Regency Tampa. Hosted by CNC and the Clinical Nurse Leader Association (CNLA), the workshop will focus on the CNL and evaluating outcomes.

A panel of CNLs will discuss data collection and analysis, the financial impact of the CNL (return on investment), and presenting data to demonstrate outcomes. Panelists include: Patricia Baker, MSN, RN-BC, CNL, Methodist Healthcare System and South Texas Veterans Health Care System; Mary Stachowiak, MSN, RN, CNL, UMDNJ-SON; Patricia L. Thomas, PhD, MSN, RN, CNL, Trinity Health System. The scheduled keynote speaker is John Nelson, RN, MS, PhDc, currently president for Healthcare Environment, Inc., an international data management and consultation company.

Early registration is \$99; after January 6, 2012, the registration is \$129. Separate registration from the CNL Summit is required. To register, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Conferences/12CNL.htm>. (CNC and CNLA acknowledge the sponsorship of Schroeder Measurement Technologies, Inc.)

Updated CNL Recertification Criteria

Recognizing that the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL®) is a new nursing role, the Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC) has updated the recertification criteria for CNL Certification as follows:

Recertification Criteria

- **RN Licensure**
Certificants must have a current unencumbered license as a Registered Nurse (RN). It is the responsibility of the certificant to notify the CNC when any restriction is placed on his/her RN license.
- **Professional Practice**
Applicants must attest to their employment status of a minimum **2000 hours in the five year certification period**. Employment may be in any of the following areas of advanced generalist practice, including: direct clinical practice, nursing administration, nursing education, research, and/or consultation. (NOTE: You do not have to be employed in a CNL role.)
- **Contact Hours/Continuing Education**
Minimum of **50 contact hours** that support the CNL role are required.

Recertification is required once every five years to maintain the CNL credential. The recertification application should be filed with CNC no later than thirty days prior to the expiration. All practice hours, contact hours, and graduate course work must be earned

prior to the certificate expiration date to apply towards recertification. Activities towards recertification must have occurred within the five-year recertification period.

For more information, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/recert.htm>.

CNL Certification Examination Dates and Deadlines

Testing for CNL certification is web-based and conducted onsite at the candidate's school of nursing. CNL Program Directors are responsible for coordinating an exam date and notifying CNC. To access the exam site registration form, visit www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/pdf/SiteReg.pdf.

Applications must be received by the deadline, not just postmarked by the deadline date.

Testing Period	Application Deadline	Program Registration Deadline
July 18-August 12, 2011	June 17, 2011	June 17, 2011
December 5-December 16, 2011	October 28, 2011	October 28, 2011
January 9-January 27, 2012	December 2, 2011	December 2, 2011

There is a \$30 late fee for applications submitted after the deadline. Applications submitted more than five days after the deadline will be considered for the next testing period.

Certification Exam Changes

The Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC) has announced that effective April 2012, the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL®) Certification Examination will be offered in a multiple choice format.

The change of the format is based upon data collected from examinees and faculty since the official launch of the CNL Certification Program in May 2007. The multiple choice format will allow examinees to test in one sitting and to receive automatic score results immediately following completion of the exam. In addition, the exam will reflect a CNL job analysis. The new format and content will continue to be just as robust as the current certification exam and will include unfolding case study items.

The job analysis survey will be emailed to CNLs this summer. All CNL certificants functioning in a CNL role should complete the survey to assist CNC with the development of a job analysis study. The CNL job analysis study is expected to be available in September 2011.

Currently, the CNL Certification Exam content outline is based upon the CNL model curriculum. CNC recognizes the importance of the model curriculum in preparing students for the exam and therefore it will be used to develop the survey instrument thus serving as the basis for the job analysis data. A revised exam content outline will be available in November 2011.

The current CNL Certification Exam is offered in a two-part format – multiple choice and simulation. December 2, 2011 will be the last day to register for this exam format; the last testing period for the two-part format is January 9-27, 2012. If an applicant was unsuccessful for one part of the current exam (multiple choice or simulation), the applicant may retest for that section until the January 2012 testing period. As such, if an applicant was unsuccessful in both sections, they may retest the current exam through the January 2012 testing period or register to take the new exam. After January 2012, the applicant would have to complete the entire new multiple choice exam if sitting for the first time or retesting.

The registration fee for the new exam is \$345. The registration fee to retest using the new exam is \$245. Registration for the new exam will be available in Fall 2011 – a hard copy of the application with new fees will be posted on CNC's website. However, the online registration will be available in January 2012. Exam dates and registration deadlines for 2012 are as follows:

Testing Period

(Dates subject to change)

April 30-May 25, 2012

July 16-August 10, 2012

December 3-December 14, 2012

January 7-January 18, 2013

Program Registration & Application Deadline

March 30, 2012

June 15, 2012

November 2, 2012

December 7, 2012

All applicants in CNC's database were notified of the changes via email in April 2011. However, CNC's database does not include the names of all students. Therefore, CNC encourages all CNL faculty to notify CNL students of the changes. In addition, students should complete the CNL online request form to be added to CNC's database for CNL certification program updates – go to <http://aacn.nche.edu/aacn/cnc.nsf/rfi?OpenForm>.

CNC's website, www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC, will be updated to reflect program changes. For more information, contact Tracy Lofty, CNC's Director, at tlofty@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, ext. 242. For a listing of the Job Analysis Committee members, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/pdf/JobAnalysisComm.pdf>; for a listing of the CNL Certification Exam item writers, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/pdf/ExamItemWriters.pdf>.

CNC Announces Board of Commissioners

Effective July 1, 2011, the following individuals will serve on the Board of Commissioners of the Commission on Nurse Certification:

Commissioners	Term Expiration Date
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PRACTICE

Sue Hartranft, PhD, ARNP, CNL (<i>Chair</i>) Morton Plant Mease Health Care	June 30, 2013
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Susan Ottenfeld, MS, RN, CNL Jesse Brown VA Medical Center	June 30, 2014
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Patricia L. Thomas, PhD, MSN, RN, CNL Trinity Health System	June 30, 2014
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Enna E. Trevathan, DNP, MSN, MBA, RN, CNL VA Palo Alto	June 30, 2013
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EDUCATION

Meredith Wallace Kazer, PhD, APRN, CNL, A/GNP-BC Fairfield University School of Nursing	June 30, 2013
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Susan M. Schmidt, PhD, RN, CNS, COHN-S, CNL Xavier University	June 30, 2012
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Mary S. Seed, PhD, RN, CNL University of San Francisco	June 30, 2013
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Melissa Vandever, PhD, RN, PNP, CNL Sonoma State University	June 30, 2013
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CONSUMER/PUBLIC

James W. Begun, Ph.D. University of Minnesota	June 30, 2012
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STAFF LIAISON

Tracy Lofty, MSA, CAE Commission on Nurse Certification	
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Complimentary Educational Offerings

AACN and CNC offer educational teleconferences and webinars focusing on the CNL. CNC's Roundtable Teleconference Series are one-hour conference call presentations by CNLs. Registration for the teleconferences is limited to the first 40 sites. The next teleconference is scheduled as follows:

June 3, 2011

Making the Case for the CNL

Speaker: *Patricia Thomas, PhD, MSN, RN, CNL*

Co-sponsored webinars by AACN and CNC are scheduled as follows:

May 16, 2011

Expanding the CNL Role on Quality and Safety

Speaker: *Pamela Abraham, MSN, RN, CNL*

May 20, 2011

Nursing Schools and Practice Partners: Working Collaboratively and Creatively to Foster the CNL Role

Speakers: *Susan Bakewell-Sachs, PhD, RN, PNP-BC; Linda Rusch, MS, APN-C*

June 23, 2011

Transitioning Second Degree Graduates into Practice: Innovative Models and Successes

Speakers: *Gail Schoen Lemaire, PhD, PMHCNS, BC, CNL; Lisa Rowen, DNSc, RN, FAAN; Diane Johnson, MBA, RN*

To register or to review past presentations, go to

<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/roundtable.htm>.

CNL Job Bank - Special Summer Rate for CNL Job Postings

CNC is offering a \$99 rate for CNL job announcements posted June 2011 through August 2011. Job announcements are posted for two months, and the regular cost is \$199. For more information, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/careerservices.htm>.

Online CNL Network

CNC has launched the Online CNL Network for CNL faculty and partners. This discussion board includes announcements, news and events, and allows you to learn answers to your questions. The discussion board will be monitored by Linda Rusch,

AACN's CNL Resource Coach, and Tracy Lofty, CNC Director. To join the discussion board, go to <http://community.nurseslounge.com/join/cnc>.

Electronic Portfolio Service

The Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC) offers an electronic portfolio service that may be used by students, faculty, and practicing nurses.

CNC has partnered with Decision Critical to bring you Critical Portfolio, an electronic web-based portfolio service. Designed to track professional development activities, the online portfolio is an excellent method for maintaining a record of continuing education, employment history, licensure, etc. Unlike a resume or CV, the electronic portfolio also contains supporting documents such as copies of educational transcripts, letters of recommendation, and certificates, all available at the click of a mouse.

NOTE: CNC is responsible for the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL[®]) Certification Program. However, the portfolio service is *not* limited to individuals affiliated with the CNL.

To subscribe, go to www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC and use the following promotion code: CNC. The annual subscription fee is \$59.95.

CNL Wall of Fame

To recognize the achievements of CNLs in practice, CNL education programs, faculty, and students, the CNC has created an online **CNL Wall of Fame**. To be featured on the CNL Wall of Fame, e-mail a description to the CNC along with a photograph. For more information, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/WallofFame.htm>.

Request for CNL Outcomes

ATTENTION CNLs! CNC wants to know..... What are the outcomes you have experienced as a CNL? How have you impacted the quality of care? Send your response to Tracy Lofty, CNC's Director, at tlofty@aacn.nche.edu by Friday, June 3, 2011.

CNC's Volunteer Speaking Opportunities

Interested in sharing your knowledge and experience? Become a speaker for CNC! To submit a proposal for a future CNL conference session or webinar, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC/pdf/Speaker-Proposal-Form.pdf>.

Clinical Nurse Leader Association

Join the Clinical Nurse Leader Association (CNLA). For more information, go to <http://www.cnlassociation.org>.

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American Association
of Colleges of Nursing



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