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# FACT SHEET

## Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Exam

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board's (AANPCB's) Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certification Exam is approved by Canadian regulatory bodies to determine whether a nurse practitioner candidate demonstrates the competencies necessary for safe and ethical practice as an adult nurse practitioner in Canada. This fact sheet relates to the AANPCB - Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certification Exam that is used for licensing /registration purposes in Canada.

### THE EXAM

The computer-based exam is three hours long. Before taking the exam, candidates are given the opportunity to practice by taking a 15-minute tutorial. The exam consists of 150 multiple-choice questions. The exam is offered at [PSI Test Centres](#) located across Canada.

Review [AANPCB's Candidate Handbook](#) the [Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Exam Testing Domains](#) and [other materials](#) available on AANPCB's website to help you prepare for the exam. For other information about the exam refer to the [AANPCB website](#).

### APPLICATIONS, TRANSCRIPTS, AND FEES

Candidates are made eligible to take the exam by the Canadian regulatory body of which they are seeking licensure / registration. The regulatory body provides the name of each candidate to AANPCB. Candidates must create an on-line profile (user account) on the [AANPCB website](#) and submit the AANPCB application to take the exam. The application will ask for your most recent RN license / registration number in addition to the last four digits of your Social Security Number (SSN). Canadian candidates are not required to provide SSNs (or Social Insurance Numbers); therefore, please insert the last four digits of your RN license/registration number in this field.

AANPCB will accept from you an unofficial transcript to write the exam. This unofficial transcript can be a screen shot of the on-line version of your transcript. The screen shot must include your name, the name of the university, all courses you have taken, and all marks. This will allow you to be eligible to write the exam before your convocation date.

You will pay fees directly to AANPCB, including any fees related to rescheduling your exam date (if applicable). The exam fee is \$315 US. The fee is the same for all subsequent exams (if applicable). Additional application and registration fees may be charged by the regulatory body.

### SCHEDULING AND TAKING YOUR EXAM

Once your eligibility to take the exam is confirmed, AANPCB will e-mail notification of approval to you and PSI. Upon notification (typically within 24 hours), PSI will send the candidate an eligibility confirmation email which will provide the candidate with their Eligibility ID Number, grant the 120-day testing window, and provide important instructions for scheduling a testing appointment at PSI Testing Centers. Before candidates can schedule their test date, they must create an account with PSI at <https://candidate.psiexams.com/>.

Schedule as early as possible for your preferred date and time. Follow the instructions to select a PSI test centre and schedule your exam [online](#).

It is recommended that you schedule your exam online since it is a faster and more efficient process than scheduling by phone. You must have an e-mail address to schedule online. If you choose to schedule your exam by phone, call PSI's Candidate Service Center at 1-800-733-9267. Operators are available 7:30am to 10:00pm (Eastern Time) Monday to Friday and 9:00am to 5:30pm (Eastern Time) Saturday and Sunday. Customer service agents are also available to answer questions via email at [ExamSchedule@psionline.com](mailto:ExamSchedule@psionline.com).

Should you decide to cancel your exam, or if you are unable to obtain a testing time within the assigned time period, you must notify the regulatory body. Contact the regulatory body for information about fees that may apply to late cancellation and rescheduling of exams, including “no shows”, which may be in addition to fees charged by AANPCB.

You should arrive at the test centre at least 30 minutes before your scheduled exam time. You will be required to show two current pieces of identification: one unexpired government-issued photo identification document with your name and signature (e.g. driver’s license or passport) and a second identification document with your printed legal name (e.g. credit card or work ID). The first and last name on both identification documents must match the name on your AANPCB application and the eligibility notice sent by PSI. You will not be permitted to test without the required identification.

If you are late for your exam, you may not be admitted. No refund will be provided if you are late and cannot be admitted, or if you miss your exam entirely (i.e., “no show”). Allow time for traffic conditions and parking.

No food or drink, including water, is permitted in the testing room. You may leave the testing room to use the restroom or get a drink of water, but you will not be given extra time to complete the exam. You will need to sign-out according to the instructions provided at the test site.

All AANPCB exam candidates will be scanned with a metal detector wand prior to every entry into the testing room, including returns from breaks. Any candidates refusing to be scanned will not be permitted to test. For a complete list of PSI’s test centre regulations, including items that cannot be brought into the testing room, please refer to [PSI Regulations](#).

In the event that the PSI test centre is closed due to inclement weather, power failure, or emergencies requiring the exam to be cancelled, PSI will contact candidates and regulatory bodies to reschedule.

## **EXAM RESULTS**

As part of your exam application, you must complete a disclosure of information form to permit AANPCB to send your exam results to the regulatory body. [Click](#)

[here](#) to complete the form. Once complete, please email the form to the regulatory body.

Candidates receive an unofficial “pass / fail” status immediately after completing the exam. AANPCB will email your result to the regulatory body. AANPCB must receive your official transcript from your university before releasing your official results to you. The regulatory body will contact you about next steps.

Unsuccessful candidates will receive an individual score report that provides an overview of strengths and weaknesses in knowledge areas to assist them in preparing for a future exam.

## **EXAM SCORE REVIEW AND APPEALS**

Canadian candidates can request an exam score review and / or appeal of their exam administration. Candidates must submit their request to their regulatory body within 30 days of receiving their result. All decisions made with regard to such reviews are final.

### **Exam Score Review**

To ensure quality, a full scoring analysis and result validation is undertaken on every exam result and all scores are validated twice. However, a candidate can request PSI to conduct another review. PSI will validate the score again and check that: the exam performed correctly, the candidate answered or had the opportunity to answer all items, and the exam timing was appropriate. PSI charges a fee for this review.

### **Appeal**

Canadian candidates who are unsuccessful on the exam can request an appeal of their exam administration by AANPCB. There may be a fee for this appeal.

## **RETAKE THE EXAM**

Candidates who are unsuccessful must contact the regulatory body to confirm a) the number of attempts permitted to pass the nurse practitioner licensure / registration exam; and b) whether there are any additional regulatory requirements before they can be approved to re-take the exam. Candidates must complete AANPCB’s disclosure of information form again and submit it to the regulatory body.

AANPCB requires candidates to complete remediation after each unsuccessful exam attempt, and before re-testing. AANPCB requires the remedial study to include 15 accredited hours of continuing education from an accredited continuing education provider. Candidates should verify with the education provider that the course

they intend to complete meets AANPCB's accreditation requirements. Refer to [AANPCB's candidate handbook](#) for information about how to apply to re-take the exam, including detailed requirements for remediation. AANPCB requires evidence from candidates that they have completed remediation and will not permit a candidate to re-take the exam unless it is met.

Candidates may not take the exam more than twice within a calendar year.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Candidates are required to sign a *Confidentiality Agreement* and are expected to demonstrate professional integrity in the completion of this exam. Reports of your engagement in unethical behavior or cheating could result in the invalidation of your test scores and / or other sanctions that may extend to a denial of license / registration. Unethical behavior and cheating include, but are not limited to:

- copying exam questions, responses, or taking notes about the exam;
- disclosing or publishing exam questions or responses by any means (orally, in writing, or electronically);
- giving or receiving assistance on the exam;
- taking the exam for another individual; or
- having the exam taken for you.

Any unusual occurrences or complaints about the exam test centre or exam process on the day of the exam should be reported to the test centre and the regulatory body.

AANPCB and PSI maintain a high level of security and exam administration standards. The security procedures, test centre regulations, and required behavior of candidates are documented in [AANPCB's candidate handbook](#) on the PSI website in the Candidate Information Bulletin.

On written request and subject to specific guidelines, the regulatory body will consider and, if appropriate, make reasonable arrangements for candidates with special accommodation needs. For general accommodation information from PSI, click [here](#).

**Please note:** You must contact the regulatory body for specific requirements and processes related to requests for accommodation.

In compliance with Canadian Standard Association's Model Code for the Protection of Personal Information,

candidates are advised that their name and contact information will be sent to AANPCB and to PSI. This information will be collected, used, and disclosed according to their privacy policies. Your personal information is subject to U.S. laws, including the USA Patriot Act. For questions or clarification regarding the organizations' privacy policies, please contact AANPCB by clicking [here](#), and PSI by clicking [here](#).

Canadian candidates may qualify for certification as an Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner with AANPCB if they pass this exam and meet other AANPCB requirements. If a candidate wishes to certify, AANPCB requires an official transcript to be sent directly from the candidate's university to AANPCB. Candidates wishing to maintain this certification must follow the process and timelines required by AANPCB. More information about this process can be obtained from the [AANPCB website](#).

Maintaining AANPCB certification does not meet the regulatory body's requirements for continuing competence. Likewise, the regulatory body's continuing competence requirements do not meet AANPCB's requirements for maintaining certification.

If you require additional information about taking this exam for licensure / registration purposes in Canada contact the regulatory body.

### **LINKS TO PROVINCIAL NURSING REGULATORY COLLEGES & ASSOCIATIONS THAT USE THE AANPCB EXAM**

- [College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia](#)
- [College & Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta](#)
- [Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association](#)
- [College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba](#)
- [College of Nurses of Ontario](#)
- [College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia](#)
- [Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador](#)