



PEDIATRIC NURSING
CERTIFICATION BOARD

Grandfathering

PNCB does not allow or engage in “grandfathering” or use this concept when making decisions to revise certification or recertification policies.

Rationale for this policy includes:

- According to 2016 NCCA Standards, “grandfathering” has been deemed to have limited defensibility.
- Additionally, it is not consistent with principles of continuing competence which reassure the public about the safety and competence of those who hold a certification credential.

To further clarify what the term grandfathering means for the purpose of this policy –

- The process by which individuals are granted certification without being required to meet formal examination requirements.
- A provision in which an old rule continues to apply to some existing situations while a new rule will apply to all future cases. Those exempt from the new rule are said to have “grandfather” rights or acquired rights, or to have been “grandfathered in.”
- Often, such a provision is used as a compromise or out of practicality, to allow new rules to be enacted without upsetting a well-established logistical or political situation.

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