Your Certified Pediatric Nurse Exam

Preparing and Using Your Code Benefit to Apply
Your No Pass, No Pay Benefit for CPN Certification

Why Get Certified
Certification can help you stand out where you work and when seeking promotions. Holding certification can increase confidence in clinical abilities and provide personal satisfaction.

The No Pass, No Pay Benefit
If you are unsuccessful on PNCB’s CPN exam, there is no charge for the exam fee. You use your employer’s special charge code to apply.

Exam Eligibility
You will need 1800 hours of pediatric clinical practice within the past 24 months as an RN or a minimum of 5 years as an RN in pediatric nursing and 3,000 hours in pediatric nursing within the last 5 years with a minimum of 1000 hours within the past 24 months. You also need a current, active, unrestricted RN license.

2 Test Attempts Per Year
Unsuccessful testers can take the exam a second time during each of our 12-month agreement periods.

4 Test Attempts Max
Testers may use an employer’s code benefit a maximum of four times over the life of their career.

Counting Your Code Use & No-Show Rule
Follow through on your commitment to test after applying and receiving your eligibility email. Cancelling a test appointment without rescheduling or not scheduling to test counts as one use of the code. If you do not show up for your scheduled appointment (“no-show”), then you cannot use the code benefit again in the future.

Now You Can Test at Home!
You now have a choice about where and how to test! Choose between live remote proctoring at home or other secure quiet place without interruptions or in-person at a testing center. Compare choices.

Pandemic Protocols
If testing in-person, COVID-19 notices and policies from Prometric Testing Centers are posted at: https://www.prometric.com/covid-19-update/test-center-policies

Certification can help you stand out where you work and when seeking promotions. Holding certification can increase confidence in clinical abilities and provide personal satisfaction.
Preparing for Your Exam

Download the Content Outline
The content outline/test blueprint is your #1 tool to start your study. It describes all subject areas covered by the exam and questions per category. Walk through each line item to assess strong and weak areas.

Check the Reference List
CPN experts who write exam questions develop them from the textbooks on the reference list. PNCB recommends you use 1 pediatric nursing textbook that you are familiar with to review for the exam. This text should also focus on the subject areas covered by the CPN exam content outline. PNCB does not endorse a specific text.

Explore PNCB Practice Tests
Use PNCB practice tests to enhance critical thinking skills. Two modules include detailed rationales for what makes an answer right or wrong. One module is a drill of 100 questions with answers. Use practice tests early and often, well before your exam date. Look for the blue CPN practice test images.

Ask What's Available Here
Ask your clinical education / staff development teams, supervisors, and colleagues who have tested what resources are available where you work. Some employers offer unit libraries, hospital libraries, mentoring, review courses, and other support to help you get ready.

Use the Readiness Checklist
Use PNCB's checklist to maximize support and success for your CPN exam. Details about how to use the content outline and create a study plan are included.

See PNCB's Sample Questions
Quiz yourself with PNCB sample questions. You will be able to see the correct answers and a reference citation. PNCB also offers 3 affordable practice tests for more questions.

Manage Test Anxiety
PNCB's Test-taking Strategies resource is a free PowerPoint developed to help you learn exam preparation tips, strategies for answering multiple-choice exam questions, and techniques to manage test anxiety.

Understand Exam Ethics
Do you know what you can and can't say about exam content? Use PNCB's exam ethics toolkit to learn what specific behaviors and practices are prohibited. Don't risk consequences for yourself or other nurses.
Application Tips & Testing Timelines

90-Day Testing Window
How soon are you ready to test after applying? After you submit your online exam application, PNCB emails your 90-day window within 2-3 weeks of application approval.

Be Sure to Checkout
Even though there is no fee for your application when using your code, please remember to click the "Submit Payment" button on the checkout screen so the transaction will complete. This tells PNCB your application is ready for processing.

Entering Your Code
When you fill out the online application, please paste or type the exact 16-digit code in the application. Any extra spaces pasted at the beginning or end will mistakenly count as a digit.

Watch Your Inbox
Within 2-3 weeks after submitting your application, PNCB emails approval and instructions on how to schedule your exam.

Read Your Candidate Handbook
The candidate handbook outlines important policies. It explains name changes, required IDs, late arrival, cancelling, rescheduling, what is not allowed at the test center/remote exam, and more.

Schedule Your Exam
Set your exam appointment within 2 weeks of being notified. Testing seats fill quickly. Schedule your exam appointment within 2 weeks even if you want to test later in your 90-day window.

Check Your 2 IDs
You must present two forms of identification, one with a current photo. Both forms of ID must be current, and both must include your current legal name and signature.

Receive Your Official Results Email
Your official results arrive by email 2-3 weeks after testing. If you pass, you will receive a wall certificate in 6-8 weeks by mail. You can order a free lapel pin here after your email arrives.
Applying for a CPN Exam using a No Pass, No Pay Charge Code

First, know where resources are on the PNCB website.

Then click "Apply for CPN certification"
On the left or in the mobile navigation, you will see links to Study Resources, Scheduling, Live Remote Proctoring, and more.

Under Step 5, you can start an application (and create an account if you don't already have one with PNCB).

**STEP 5**

**Apply**

[Apply for the CPN exam here.](#) If your employer does not offer our charge code benefit, invite your leadership to explore [No Pass, No Pay](#) using this [justification letter](#).
You will then be asked to register with our site, or to log in, if you have previously registered:

Once you have logged in, select “Exam Applications & Name Change Form” from your left navigation.
On the next screen, select the "CPN Application" button for the testing format of your choice:

OR

Then click, “Create a New Application.”

Submission History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPLICATION</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>APPLICANT</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Application For Certified Pediatric Nurse (CPN)</td>
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Read the initial exam instructions and click, “Next” at the bottom of the screen:

Certified Pediatric Nurse (CPN) Exam Application

Thank you for choosing PNCB’s Certified Pediatric Nurse (CPN) exam!

This online application takes about 15 minutes. For questions about this process, contact exam@pncb.org.

Cost:

If applying with a No Pass, No Pay employer charge code: No fee.

If paying by credit card or e-check: $300 (includes $100 nonrefundable registration fee). If you need to re-apply, the cost is $245 (nonrefundable).

If you are a current member of the Society of Pediatric Nurses (SPN): $255 for your initial exam application with membership card upload and promo code. This discount is not eligible for No Pass, No Pay or retesting.

Next
Select whether you will be using the No Pass, No Pay benefit:

**Note:** You must make your selection at this point. If you self-pay your exam application and submit, you cannot be moved to the No Pass, No Pay program at a later point.

![No Pass, No Pay Benefit](image)

Select your facility from the menu, input your 16-digit alphanumeric charge code, and read the attestation statements. Be sure there are no spaces after the letters/numbers in your code, especially if you paste the code from an email. This field will only accept 16 characters.

![NPNP Verification](image)
Agree to the terms and conditions:

Terms and Conditions

- I understand that I have 90 days to test after my application is processed. Processing takes 1-2 weeks after my application is complete, so I am prepared to schedule my exam soon after submitting this application.

- I understand that failure to schedule my exam or to appear for testing will result in forfeiture of exam fees. If using No Pass, No Pay, it will count as 1 use of my charge code.

- I understand that I can extend my 90-day testing window for a fee but must follow the deadlines and procedures as outlined in the Candidate Testing Handbook. Extensions are not available for No Pass, No Pay.

Exam Terms*

☐ I have read and agree to the above terms and conditions.

Verify your profile information:

Profile

Please review your information below for accuracy. You must use your legal name on your driver’s license or other government issued identification. For details on legal name and forms of identification required at the testing center, see the Candidate Handbook.

Use proper capitalization and punctuation when updating/entering information so official documents like wallet cards look professional and any mailings are not delayed/undeliverable.

In the top section: you can use the edit button to change your name, but name changes also require completion of our formal name change form.

In the bottom section: click each tab to add or review Addresses, Online Information, and Phone Numbers, and make edits if needed. An address, email address, and phone number are required.
On the next screen, confirm additional information such as the last four digits of your social security number, your gender identity and ethnicity, your country of citizenship, and your date of birth.

Next on one long screen, you will need to read the honor statement attestation, and agree to it.

Select your highest degree and the country of your RN nursing education:
Complete your employment information:

**Employer Information**

What is your employment status?*
Select One

How many years of pediatric nursing experience have you completed? Please enter a whole number only.*

Do you provide direct care to pediatric patients? Note that direct care is not a requirement for this exam.*
- Yes
- No

What is your employment position?*
Select One

What is your employment setting?*
Select One

Do you currently work in a hospital in the US, Canada, US territory, or overseas military facility?*
- No
- Yes

[Next]
Indicate whether you need special exam accommodations and upload the required completed form if requesting them.

Special Exam Accommodations

PNCB and Prometric comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Canadians with Disabilities Act. PNCB makes special testing arrangements for any candidate with a professionally diagnosed and documented disability. Under the ADA, a disability is a "physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities." Computer anxiety, test anxiety, or English as a second language are not covered disabilities under the ADA. Testers writing the exam for Canadian advanced practice licensure must contact their jurisdictional regulator for special accommodations.

Do you require ADA exam accommodations?*

- No
- Yes

Applicants taking the exam for US licensure will use our Special Accommodations Form (link opens in a new window) to request accommodations and document your disability. Our review of your request is dependent upon receipt of this form, which includes two documents that must be completed and returned to PNCB as soon as possible.

This CPN exam application is automatically saved for 10 days. After 10 days, you will need to start a new application.

1. You must complete the Request for Special Examination Accommodations.

2. An appropriate licensed professional (nurse practitioner, doctor, psychologist, etc.) must complete the Documentation of Disability-Related Needs.

Upload file with all pages complete. Choose File No file chosen

Indicate which eligibility pathway you are choosing. Learn more about the pathways.

You must attest to completing clinical practice hours to meet CPN exam eligibility criteria.

Your checked attestation is subject to audit. In the event of an audit, you and your supervisor will be required to provide written documentation to affirm your attestation.*

- I have completed 1,800 hours as an RN in pediatric nursing within the past 24 months.
- I have completed a minimum of 5 years as an RN in pediatric nursing AND 3,000 hours in pediatric nursing within the last 5 years WITH a minimum of 1,000 hours within the past 24 months. Select this attestation only if unable to meet option 1 above.
- I have not met either of the above requirements.

Next
Add your license information. You must have at least one current, unencumbered license to apply for the exam.

A current, active, unencumbered RN or RN/APRN license is required.

Use the Add button to enter a license, and follow the prompts. Use MM/DD/YYYY format for date.

If a license is already on file below, use Edit to make any updates. Delete any past licenses not in use.

Manage License

Select License State
Maryland

Select License Type
RN License

Expiration Date
06/30/2020

License

License Number

Save  Cancel

Next
On the next screens, you will be asked if you want to be on PNCB mailing lists, if you are a member of the Society of Pediatric Nurses, and to complete a brief survey.

**Note:** The SPN membership discount is not available to exam candidates using the No Pass, No Pay program.
If you are ready to submit your application, and don’t need to provide any additional documentation or make any changes, you can submit your application at this point.
You will be taken to your portal. Click "Proceed to Checkout."

Click "Checkout" again.
Review your shopping cart contents. **Click the “Submit Payment” button at the bottom right.**

**Note:** The $100 nonrefundable registration fee does not apply to No Pass, No Pay candidates. Please disregard it.

Since you are using the No Pass, No Pay program, you should not be prompted for any form of payment, unless you are also paying for other exams or products not associated with the program. **If you selected any CPN practice tests in the same order as your exam application, you will be asked for payment; If you are prompted for any type of payment for just applying for the CPN exam (no other products), do not submit your application and contact npnp@pncb.org.** The final screen will confirm all the details. Your receipt will be on the next screen.
Next Steps:

1. **Eligibility and scheduling a test time:**
   Within approximately 2-3 weeks, your application will be processed. You will be notified by email about your 90-day testing window and be instructed to schedule your exam date, time, and location with the test vendor. Check your spam box for your email.
   
   • **Note:** No Pass, No Pay candidates are unable to request extensions because doing so may move a testing window beyond their employer’s agreement period.

2. **Read your candidate test booklet:**
   This important document describes all aspects of exam administration including what materials are allowed in the testing area and cancellation and rescheduling policies.

3. **Review the CPN Exam Content Outline/Test Blueprint:**
   This is an essential tool to help you study for the exam. It describes all of the subject areas covered by the exam and the number of questions per content domain.
   https://pncb.org/cpn-exam-resources

4. **Consider PNCB’s practice tests:**
   Find “CPN” practice tests at:
   https://mypncb.pncb.org/pncbssa/ecssashop.show_category?p_category_id=PREP

5. **Take the exam:**
   Arrive for your test appointment at least 30 minutes before your scheduled time. Be sure to bring 2 forms of ID as described in your candidate handbook. **Your name on the IDs must match the name on your application.** You will see a preliminary, unofficial pass/fail status on-screen after you complete your exam. Official pass/fail notification is emailed 2-3 weeks after testing.

6. **Questions?**
   Contact the PNCB at pncb@pncb.org or 1-888-641-2767 if you have any questions so we can help. We wish you success on your upcoming exam!

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