

Certified Pediatric Nurses



Children aren't little adults. As a vulnerable population, they need specialized care from RNs with confirmed expertise in pediatrics.

Becoming a Certified Pediatric Nurse (CPN) is a professional milestone for RNs in a wide variety of settings and roles who want to demonstrate their knowledge in and commitment to pediatric nursing.



Expert in family-centered care



Skill, patience, and empathy to care for children who are frightened or in pain



Meticulous attention to detail for the rapidly changing needs and health status of children

Keywords

- Team Player
- Critical Thinker
- Patient
- Adaptable
- Role Model
- Kid at Heart

Career Steps

1

Obtain your nursing degree (diploma, BSN, or higher) and pass the NCLEX exam. Apply for RN licensure through your State Board of Nursing.

2

Practice a minimum of 1800 hours as a pediatric RN in the past 24 months. Use PNCB's career center to find your first job: <https://careers.pncb.org/jobseekers/>.

3

Learn about the CPN exam and create your study plan: Find resources like the exam content outline (test blueprint) and practice tests at www.pncb.org. Ask your employer about their study support.

4

Apply for your exam at www.pncb.org. You have a choice of delivery methods: in-person at a test center or live remote proctoring at home or other quiet place.

5

Schedule and take your exam. Official results are emailed to you within 2 to 3 weeks.

6

If you pass the exam, promote your achievement! Inform your supervisor and HR, add CPN to your name badge, and update your resume and professional development portfolio.

References

Pediatric Nursing Certification Board:

- Steps to CPN: <https://pncb.org/cpn-certification-steps>
- The Certified Pediatric Nurse Role: <https://pncb.org/cpn-role>
- Optimizing the Health and Well-Being of America's Children: The Value of PNCB Pediatric Nursing Certification: <https://pncb.org/news/position-statement-value-pncb-certification>

Link for further reading

- Seiter C. How To Become A Pediatric Nurse: A Step-By-Step Guide. Forbes. March 8, 2023. Accessed September 25, 2023. <https://www.forbes.com/advisor/education/become-a-pediatric-nurse/>.



Earn pediatric nurse certification at pncb.org