

# Enriching Lives Through Person Centered Engagement



NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COUNCIL FOR ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS

April 2020

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## **From the CEO:**

These are truly unprecedented times challenging each and every one of us to the core of our being.

As a Veteran of WWII, my dad would often tell me stories about his experiences during the occupation of Italy. While not directly in combat, he repeated various heart-pounding stories relayed by others who lived through the hellish nightmare of D-Day or the Battle of the Bulge. One phrase he often cited was: "there are no atheists in foxholes." I believe this phrase fits with the situation our Activity Professionals deal with today.

Today, my 92-year-old father is self-quarantined in his retirement community in Florida. In our daily check-in calls, he shares how important it is to socialize with his friends and neighbors. He assures me he is maintaining the proper distance for safety, adding that he always parks his golf cart upwind of the small gathering as an added precaution.

National Certification Council for Activity Professionals  
National Center for Montessori and Aging, 3015 Upton Drive, Suite 103, Kensington, MD 20895  
Phone: (757) 552-0653 | Email: [info@nccap.org](mailto:info@nccap.org)



The current reality of our Activity Professionals could not be more different. Many are not only delivering the Social Model of Care but have also been called upon to enter a genuine battle and fight for life within their communities. It has never been more clear that Activity Professionals are **essential personnel**.

On behalf of the NCCAP Board, we encourage all Activity Professionals to stay centered on the knowledge that they play an essential role as part of the integrated care team. And, we exhort each and every one of us to be safe and care for ourselves while caring for others.

Sincerely,

Peter Illig, NCCAP CEO

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## New Resources Developed with the Alzheimer's Association

NCCAP is proud to collaborate with the Alzheimer's Association and other leaders in long-term and community-based care on this guidance document

([www.alz.org/professionals-covid](http://www.alz.org/professionals-covid)) to help ensure the delivery of high-quality care for people living with Alzheimer's and all dementia during the current COVID-19 crisis.



As you know, long-term and community-based care settings are facing unprecedented challenges as a result of COVID-19. Many individuals receiving services in these settings are living with Alzheimer's or other dementias. This guidance, grounded in person-centered care, provides critical information on how best to care for these individuals. In particular, we hope this document will be useful in informing non-clinical staff or staff from a new department or other healthcare settings of best dementia care practices should they be pressed into new roles due to staffing shortages.

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## Extension of National Exam Timeframe

Due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on the process for taking the NCCAP National Exam, we are extending the timeframe for all those currently registered to take the Exam until June 30, 2020. We will update this timeframe as necessary.

**SUSPENSION OF FAX FEE:** In order to make it easier to submit renewal documentation via Fax, NCCAP is suspending the \$25 Fax Fee. We encourage anyone who can benefit from using a Fax to do so. Our Fax number is: 757-552-0143.

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Also, please contact the office if you are experiencing a financial hardship or having difficulties obtaining CE hours required for certification renewal.

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### Checking the Vitals with Peter Illig, NCCAP CEO Interview

Peter Illig, the NCCAP CEO, was interviewed by [Specialty Care](#) via their podcast called '[Checking the Vitals](#)'. In this episode, the discussion focused on how the COVID-19 outbreak is impacting the aging population, the importance of activity and engagement in that aging population, and how the activity directors in these in-home facilities are using some ingenious ways of still interacting with their aging residents all to protect that population that seems to be most susceptible to this COVID-19 crisis. See the interview [here](#).

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### Updated Certification Standards

The Certification Standards are updated with an Addendum on page 18 stating that effective May 1, 2020, NCCAP will no longer require Continuing Education (CE) clock hours for initial certification of any Engagement Certification. CEs will remain a required Qualification Component for all certification renewal.

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This change was recommended by members of NCCAP's Clinical and Curriculum Advisory Board and reflects standard practice across the majority of healthcare sector credentials.

Accordingly, starting May 1, 2020, individuals seeking any Engagement Certification are not required to have earned CE clock hours for any initial Engagement Certification.

Please contact us with any questions at: [mepap@nccap.org](mailto:mepap@nccap.org).

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## Renewing Your NCCAP Certification...



Want to learn more about how to renew? Check out the '[How to Renew Your Certification](#)' Video.

It's important to make sure that your correct email is on file so that you receive an email link beginning 4 months before your certification expiration date. If you don't receive this email, please contact the

NCCAP office to update your email. You will then be able to renew through the link sent to you from NCCAP via email.

## NCCAP is now following an audit process for continuing education.

You will not need to upload your certificates of proof of continuing education clock hours to your online profile on the NCCAP website or mail to the office. If you are chosen for an audit, you will be sent an email within days of your renewal submission and at that time you will be instructed on how to send in your certificates.

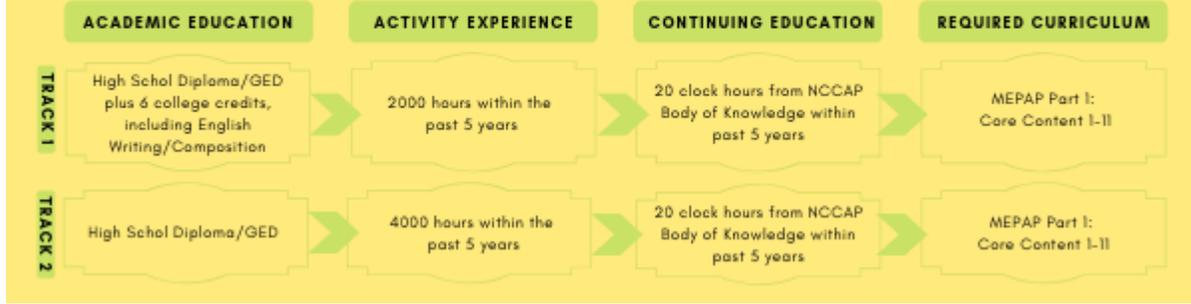
When your application for re-certification has been reviewed and approved you will receive your NCCAP certificate as a PDF via email. Contact the office if you wish to have a hard copy of your certificate for a nominal fee at [info@nccap.org](mailto:info@nccap.org) Please make sure you add our email to your contacts so our emails do not get blocked as spam.

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## Apply for the Activity Professional Certification Today!

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# ACTIVITY PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION



## Support Our Professional Association...

NAAP provides education, resources, and a voice in unison with NCCAP! NAAP membership is \$75 USD/year. Membership runs from the anniversary date for one year. Check out the membership form [here](#).



ACTIVITY PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITY CREDENTIALING  
COUNCIL



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FOR ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS

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