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From the CEO:



With the arrival of springtime, NCCAP continues to be guided by the expertise of leading professionals from across the long-term care sector. With inputs from national associations, top university academics, researchers, and especially our MEPAP Instructors, we are crafting our Standards to meet the needs of the future.

Legislators and Regulators have advised NCCAP of a renewed emphasis from CMS on quality of life, engagement, and psychosocial well-being. This is in large part driven by the COVID pandemic. Accordingly, NCCAP is excited to evolve to a more robust program for certification. These enhancements will soon be shared and will provide a straightforward path from entry-level through to the role of Activity Director.

Ever since 1986, NCCAP remains the sole credential meeting the Professional Standards of Practice of the Activity Profession. Our strength as the highest quality credential is based on the knowledge and skills demonstrated by all NCCAP Certified Professionals.

As always, we acknowledge and appreciate your commitment to serving others using the Social Model of Care.

With sincere best wishes,

Peter Illig, NCCAP CEO

A Message from the NCCAP President

As I enter my last year as President, it continues to be an honor to serve Activity Professionals who are members of our family recognized for the highest knowledge and skills to deliver person-centered care.

Like most of you, my daily work as an Activity Director in Baltimore, MD was severely impacted by the COVID Pandemic. Group activities, communal dining programs as well as visitation and external vendors were brought to an abrupt halt in March of 2020. Our Profession proudly responded with creative and person-centered care solutions and resources.



The most challenging times occurred when I, as an Activity Director, and our department staff, reported to work daily worried if we were going to contract COVID and bring it home to our families. We reported to work each day donned in layers of PPE so we could continue to make a positive impact on our residents and coworkers. We used technology to virtually celebrate

birthdays with residents, and we stood in as surrogate family members with cake, balloons, and song.

Choosing to take a more positive approach, these struggles made many of us stronger and improved the quality of the care we deliver. The Pandemic forced many of us to innovate to deliver life-enriching activities. Importantly, I learned that an essential element required to provide quality care to others during times of severe disruption is to exercise self-care.

My thoughts and best wishes go out to each of you as we enter a post-COVID world. I am committed to ensuring NCCAP Certification remains the highest quality credential for our Profession.

Dawn M. Worsley, ADC

NCCAP Annual Report



For over 30 years, NCCAP has been the leader in credentialing for person-centered care that ensures the highest quality of life. NCCAP standards of care are evidence-based and proven to advance the physical, cognitive and psychosocial well-being of older adults.

Accepted by CMS since 1986, NCCAP has trained and certified over 150,000 care providers to deliver the Social Model of Care and is recognized for delivering the highest skills and competencies via a curriculum, practicum, and 3rd-party exam.

To see the highlights of our accomplishments for 2020, we welcome you to read our Annual Report. See our [Annual Report here](#).

National Alliance on Mental Illness: Free Resources



You have been focused on taking care of others, now it's time to let others help take care of you. Sometimes just having someone to listen helps. Other times, having professional mental health support is essential. Just because you aren't able to speak with someone face-to-face doesn't mean you can't access support.

There are several free, confidential, and virtual support services available for frontline health care professionals. Find the one that is right for you.

Go to the [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\) under its Frontline Healthcare Professionals](#) category. More information about their complimentary, confidential, and virtual support services are at the links as follows:

- **Therapy Aid** provides pro-bono therapy for frontline health care professionals, including individual and group support.
- **The Emotional PPE Project** connects health care professionals with licensed mental health professionals who can help. This service is free and does not require insurance.
- **COVID Mental Health Support** from the Pandemic Crisis Services Response Coalition offers free mental health support, searchable by area.
- **The Battle Within** provides free therapy to medical personnel, first responders, and veterans. Private therapists are available to work with individuals in crisis, or who are experiencing grief, anxiety, stress, or trauma.
- **911 At Ease International** provides access to free trauma-informed counseling for frontline responders and families, including police, fire, paramedics, emergency medical personnel, and other essential agencies.

You may also contact the NAMI HelpLine between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern at [800-950-6264](tel:800-950-6264) to access confidential, professional support.

If you are an administrator or supervisor, we ask that you please share these resources with the essential workers in your facility ASAP.



April 22-23, 2021
1:00PM - 5:30PM EST
8 CE Opportunity

LEADERSHIP

THE NAAP LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The contemporary healthcare environment is a dynamic one, combining enduring patterns of practice with evolving ones to meet challenges and opportunities of changing times. In this immersive course, the professional will:



Develop

Develop a foundation of leadership skills and core competencies. Elevate the profession further through strategic activities.



Discover

Discover diverse perspectives in understanding the issues facing aging services. Recognize activity paradigms that shift innovative programming to include the social model of care.



Design

Design successful team building and strategic planning. Focus on finding balance from managing to leading fearlessly.



Course Instructor

Alisa Tagg, BA ACC/EDU CADDCT CDP CDCS
Association Director of the National Association of Activity Professionals

NAAP 3604 Wildon St. Eau Claire WI 54703 naap.info

For more information go to <https://naap.info/the-naap-leadership-development-course/>

Engagement Certifications



NCCAP's **Memory Care Validation Certification Course** is now available! Enroll now by going to <https://www.nccapacademy.org/memorycarevalidation>

There are also several classes scheduled for the **Montessori Home Engagement Course**. Get more information at <https://www.nccapacademy.org/montessorihomeengagement>

NCCAP CERTIFICATION

In 1986 the National Association of Activity Professionals (NAAP) created NCCAP as the official credential of the Activity Profession. Based on CMS F658, NAAP establishes Professional Standards of Practice and requiring the Modular Education Program for Activity Professionals (MEPAP) for NCCAP Certification. For over 30 years, NCCAP Certification has been the Gold Standard for life-enriching activities. NCCAP is the only certification that meets the credentialing standards of ICE and NCCA.



NCCAP offers the following Professional Certifications to meet Federal and State requirements:

1. ACTIVITY PROFESSIONAL CERTIFIED (APC)

APC ensures individuals meet NCCAP standards have the knowledge and experience to work in long-term care and enhance quality of life through activities and engagement. The required curriculum is MEPAP-1 APC and must be renewed every 2 years with 20 CE hours.

2. ACTIVITY DIRECTOR CERTIFIED (ADC)

ADC is the NCCAP standard that ensures the competency to lead and direct an activities and life enrichment team and program. ADC requirements vary depending on education and work experience. The required curriculum is both MEPAP 1-APC and MEPAP 2-ADC, and an independently-administered National Exam. ADC must be renewed every 2 years with 30 CE hours.

3. PROFESSIONAL EQUIVALENCY AND EXPERIENTIAL TRACK FOR ADC

NCCAP offers a path to ADC for Allied Professionals who possess current AT-BC, MT-BC, COTA, CTRS, or OTR and is awarded based on passing the National Exam. Additionally, individuals with at least 10 years of experience in Activities and with at least 5 years currently in a management role can apply for ADC our Experiential Track that requires essay writing and the National Exam.

4. ACTIVITY CONSULTANT CERTIFIED (ACC)

Individuals who possess current ADC or related experience may obtain ACC to meet NCCAP standards to provide consulting services to an activity program, staff or department. ACC requirements vary depending on education, work experience, and passing the National Exam. ACC must be renewed every 2 years with 40 CE hours.

5. ENGAGEMENT CERTIFICATIONS

NCCAP offers a variety of shorter curriculums for certification in specific age-related settings and diagnoses:

- Person-Centered Engagement (PCE)
- Validation@ Memory Care (VMC)
- Montessori Dementia Engagement (MDE)
- Montessori Home Engagement (MHE)
- Adult Day Engagement (ADE) – *coming soon*
- Assisted Living Engagement (ALE) – *coming soon*

How to Renew 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

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](#).