



January 2021

In This Issue...

- [From the CEO](#)
- [National Exam Update](#)
- [Preparing Staff for Covid-19 Vaccination](#)
- [Engagement Certifications](#)
- [NCCAP Certification](#)
- [How to Renew Your NCCAP Certification](#)
- [Support Our Professional Association](#)

From the CEO:



I write these first lines of the new year midway through COVID self-isolation at home. Having tested positive on January 2nd, I, fortunately, have mild flu-like symptoms and the telltale loss of taste and smell. Fingers crossed.

Ironically, I spoke with my 92-year-old father in Florida this week, who called to share the news that he just received his first vaccination at the local VA hospital. With the VA starting with those Veterans aged 85 years and older, my dad was proud of the fact that of all the Veterans in the waiting room, he was the only one able to walk unassisted. And, he said he couldn't speak long, as he was on his way to the senior fitness center, double-masked, to walk on the treadmill!

As I recover at home, I am made aware of how fortunate I am to be able to work remotely. This is not the case for our Activity Professionals, who must enter a high-risk setting each day. It is with genuine gratitude that all of us at NCCAP acknowledge the essential work you do to care for the psychosocial well-being of others. We are proud of you and we are proud of the fact that NCCAP Certification ensures you possess the highest knowledge and skills to deliver the Social Model of Care.

With sincere best wishes,

Peter Illig, NCCAP CEO

National Exam Update

Last month we provided some helpful hints for taking the national exam which is posted on the NCCAP website.

Due to the high volume of remotely proctored exams, we are sharing the following additional helpful information:

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

*Please make sure you add our email to your contacts so our emails do not get blocked as spam.



-Many people are selecting remote proctoring for their exam. Due to the high number of people selecting this option, choices for times and dates are limited. Upon signing up for the proctored exam, if the available dates or times available are not convenient for you, check back at another time as new options appear daily. The testing company is adding proctors with the intent to offer more dates and times.

-Be mindful of the AM and PM time slots. Some individuals are mistakenly selecting AM thinking it is PM and are scheduling their exam for the middle of the night. Double-check the date and time to ensure it is correct before you submit your request.

-Any change to the date and time of the exam will require a \$25 fee payable to Prometric. Changes cannot be made (except for medical reasons or family emergencies) within a 24 hour period of the exam time and date.

-The most difficulty in accessing the remote proctored exam occurs when individuals are taking the exam in their work setting. Firewalls and other security systems limit accessibility to the test and prevent successful completion of the test. The best place to take the remote proctored exam is in the home setting.

-The test cannot be taken on an Ipad or cell phone.

-When registering for the exam, use the same name you used to create your profile.

If you have any questions regarding the national exam, feel free to email info@nccap.org

Preparing Staff for Covid-19 Vaccination

Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine is an important step to [protect Long Term Care Facility staff members](#) and reduce their chances of becoming sick with COVID-19 disease. LTCF staff are on the front lines and may be exposed to COVID-19 each day on the job.

LTCF staff was placed first in line to receive the vaccines because of their essential role in fighting this pandemic. Vaccinating all LTCF staff now will help protect them from getting sick and protect residents who are at risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Early protection of staff is critical to preserve LTCFs capacity to care for residents. In addition, staff can serve as role models in their communities. By getting vaccinated first, they can positively influence the vaccination decisions of coworkers, residents, friends, and family.



Information and resources to educate all staff members about the importance of COVID-19 vaccination are available at the CDC website [here](#).

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** starting on Feb. 16, 2021. Get more information at <https://www.nccapacademy.org/montessorihomeengagement>

Go to the new Facebook page "**Engagement Powered by NCCAP**" and check out the latest news regarding our courses for Engagement at <https://www.facebook.com/nccapengagement>

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 APPRENTICE CERTIFIED (APAC)

APAC is the entry-level to work in the activities and life enrichment field. MEPAP 1-APC is required and no work experience is needed. When the required experience hours are obtained, APAC converts to APC at no charge. APAC is valid for 6 years and must be renewed every 2 years with 20 CE hours.

2. 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.

3. 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,

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and an independently-administered National Exam. ADC must be renewed every 2 years with 30 CE hours.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. ENGAGEMENT CERTIFICATIONS

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

- Person-Centered Engagement (PCE)
- Memory Care Validation® (MCV)
- 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](#).



ACTIVITY PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITY CREDENTIALING
COUNCIL



NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COUNCIL
FOR ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS
Enriching Lives Through Person-Centered Engagement

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