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## **From the CEO:**



Having spent the first few weeks of the year in isolation at home due to testing positive for COVID, I have fortunately entered the ranks of those who are fully vaccinated. Only time will tell whether this allows the start of a return towards life with fewer restrictions.

Otherwise, the COVID Pandemic continues to dominate our lives. Like many of us, I grow more weary each day with a life that remains in many respects “virtual”. Masking and hand washing are automatic routines. We are now accustomed to hearing the voice of loved ones only through a computer or phone. Visits occur in two dimensions on a flat screen the size of a deck of cards or a book. We know many of these “virtual” realities have made their way into the delivery of the life-enriching services provided by Activity Professionals. We

understand that in response to the increased isolation and depression experienced by residents, CMS is looking to improve quality of life. Based upon this guidance, NCCAP has adjusted our Certification Standards to allow for an expanded workforce. At the same time, we are strengthening our MEPAP curriculum with person-centered care principles that also improve quality of life.

In addition to ensuring the highest quality knowledge and skills through NCCAP Certification, we again want to emphasize the self-care needed for each Activity Professional to remain an essential and resilient member of the integrated care team.

With appreciation for the care and service you provide,  
Peter Illig, NCCAP CEO

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## **National Exam Update: Remote Proctoring Details**

Prometric test company offers our NCCAP National Exam online by remote proctor. This is a popular option that allows you to take the exam from home.

When using the remote proctor option, there are a number of important conditions you must follow. NCCAP provides a list of “Do's and Don'ts” to follow.

Prometric provides detailed guidelines as well as an informative video and tutorial. You are responsible to review and comply with this information. It requires you to verify the computer you use and the desk area meets requirements that allows the remote proctor to observe you. If you do not follow these detailed guidelines you will not be able to take the exam and you will forfeit the exam fee.



The applicant must ensure their official identification, which is presented to the test proctor or at the test center, matches the name submitted to the testing company. If the name does not match, the candidate will not be permitted to take the exam. This will require the candidate to re-schedule and pay the test fee again. If this occurs, you need to contact NCCAP and pay a re-test fee to re-schedule and take the exam. Start by reading the "Do's and

Don'ts" NCCAP sends in the test approval email. Also check out the Prometric website for their remote proctor guidelines. Please contact us if you have any questions on taking the exam.

#### HELPFUL HINTS:

- *Don't wait until the last minute to review the "Do's and Don'ts" and Guidelines.*
- *Don't use a work computer because they always have security features that won't work with the remote proctor system.*

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## Pioneer Network's "Listen, Learn, Explore"



Pioneer Network has launched a new educational program, "Listen, Learn, Explore."

This wonderful new educational innovation pairs a recorded audio podcast with a virtual variation of a learning circle.

Starting with a podcast, listeners will have an opportunity to hear unique insights on a variety of topics from thought leaders in the field of resident-directed care.

Following the podcast, Pioneer Network invites listeners to register for an interactive program where they will have the opportunity to join others in a

deeper, live conversation with the podcast guest speaker.

We welcome you to join us [here](#).

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## 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>

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 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*

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## 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](mailto:info@nccap.org)

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## 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](#).

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ACTIVITY PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITY CREDENTIALING  
COUNCIL



NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COUNCIL  
FOR ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS

*Enriching Lives Through Person-Centered Engagement*