



November 2020

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From the CEO:

Infection and burnout remain real challenges faced by our Activity Professionals each day. Physical, emotional, and psychological exhaustion are endemic, and our residents continue to have the highest death rates from COVID. Families cannot visit. Volunteers remain away. Staff positions go unfilled.

One of the outcomes we hear from the recent election is a renewed strategy to address this pandemic. This provides hope for caregivers who remain on the frontline of a truly hazardous situation.

NCCAP's strategy remains focused on developing a new and younger workforce. Our enhanced educational curriculum will continue to lead to the highest certification accepted by CMS. NCCAP certification

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

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ensures you possess the personal and professional tools to meet the daily challenges you face. Importantly, this includes the ability, with our renewed encouragement, to deliver self-care.

Self-care is especially needed as we approach the increased demands of residents and families during the approaching Holidays.

With sincere best wishes,

Peter Illig, NCCAP CEO

Certification Standards Updates



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ation (CE) Clock Hours Are No Longer Required For Initial Certification*

Consistent with national Best Practices for credentialing standards, NCCAP no longer requires CE hours for initial certification.

Importantly, CEs remain an essential requirement for all certification renewals.

NCCAP's independent *Clinical and Curriculum Advisory Board* of experts in long-term care validated that the knowledge and skills required to meet the Professional Standards of Practice established by our Professional Association NAAP are obtained by taking the required curriculum for certification.

For Activity Professional Apprentice, Activity Professional, Activity Director* and Activity Consultant Certifications, the *Modular Education Program for Activity Professionals* (MEPAP) is the required curriculum for NCCAP Certification. Further, only

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NCCAP Certification meets the NAAP Professional Standards of Practice to be an Activity Professional.

If you are applying for the first time, CEs are no longer required to apply for NCCAP Certification. If you completed the MEPAP, have a High School diploma or GED, and meet the required hours of work experience, apply online today!

For more details and to apply see our [NCCAP Certification Standards](#).

(*ADC Track 4 and 5 require CEs)

Pioneer Network Holiday Ideas...



The celebrations that we usually have in November and December are going to be a little different this year no matter where we live.

Pioneer Network has gathered some ideas for Celebrating in Times of COVID. Check out this helpful [page](#) for ideas you can use.

National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month

President Ronald Reagan designated November as National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month in 1983. At the time, fewer than 2 million Americans had Alzheimer's; today, the number of people with the disease has soared to nearly 5.4 million.

Get involved this month and help raise awareness for Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's Awareness Month, which occurs every November, was established to honor the millions of Americans living with Alzheimer's, through advocacy for a cure, awareness, and education.



Designing Gardens to Attract Activity

A new white paper authored by Maggie Calkins of the IDEAS Institute and developed by Pioneer Network with the generous support of the WhisperGLIDE company gives senior living communities (including independent, assisted, nursing home and memory care) a blueprint to follow to design outdoor spaces that are practical, accessible and useable.

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This paper is well-timed as we know that being outdoors is one of the safest places during this pandemic period. As Maggie states, “there is clear evidence that people are at lower risk of infection when spending time outdoors, practicing social distancing and wearing masks, than when following the same precautions indoors.”

The first section of the paper focuses on the research-based importance of outdoor space while the second explores how to design areas where people want to spend time. Resources

for getting started are included. Download your copy [HERE](#).

How to Renew Your 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

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NAAP is excited to be back with professionals from around the globe! The 2021 conference brochure & registration will be open this fall at naap.info. What type of education should you expect in 2021?

- Memory Care/Programming
- Leadership/Management
- MEPAP Instructor Education
- Share/Panel Discussions
- Regulation and Compliance
- Cultural Diversity

Save the Date!

NAAP will be holding its 39th Annual Conference at the Crown Plaza in Bloomington, Minnesota located directly across from the Minneapolis International Airport on April 20-23, 2021. Watch for upcoming details...

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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