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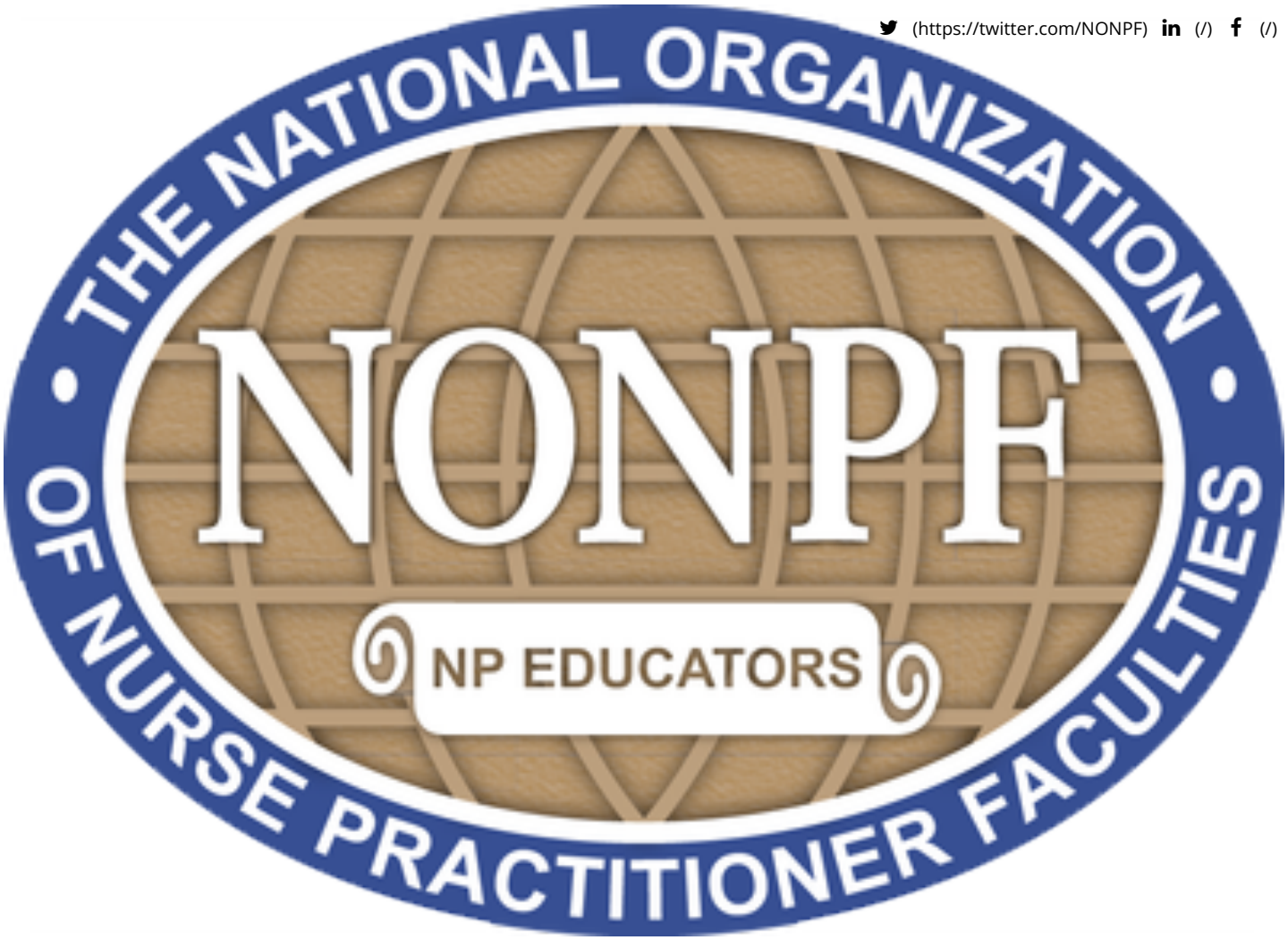

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National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties' Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies

Excellence in NP Education

NONPF's NP Role Core Competencies (/resource/resmgr/competencies/20220825_nonpf_np_role_c

Since 1990, the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) has identified *Core Competencies* for all nurse practitioners (NPs). These represent the competencies achieved for entry into practice upon graduation from an NP educational program. In 2008, the NP Core Competency revisions were released to reflect NONPF's endorsement of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) as entry-level for NP practice. At that time, the Core Competencies were written at the doctoral level to measure and evaluate NP programs (NONPF, 2018).

In mid-2021, the NONPF Board charged the NONPF Curriculum Leadership Committee to revise the NP competencies to be congruent with the 2021 AACN Essentials. The committee drafted domains that were released in December 2021 and open for public comment. In March 2022, the committee released second draft NP Role Core Competencies for public comment. All comments and edits were considered.

In July 2022, NONPF released the revised Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies, (/resource/resmgr/competencies/20220825_nonpf_np_role_core_.pdf)replacing the prior NP Core Competencies. They are written to be measured and evaluated at the clinical doctoral level. NONPF continues to endorse the DNP as entry into NP practice which is reflected in the competencies released.

These competencies are for entry to practice for all nurse practitioners regardless of population focus as the competencies are essential behaviors of all NPs. These competencies are demonstrated upon graduation and are necessary for NPs to meet the complex challenges of translating rapidly expanding knowledge into practice and function in a changing health care environment.

The NONPF NP Role Core Competencies (/resource/resmgr/competencies/20220825_nonpf_np_role_core_.pdf)cascade from The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education, herein called the Essentials. The model of nursing education depicted in the Essentials, Figure 1 (page 22) defines Level 1 Entry-Level Professional Nursing Education sub-competencies and Level 2 Advanced-Level Nursing Education sub-competencies-and-specialty/role requirements/competencies. The NP Role Core Competencies are an extension of the Level 2 Sub-Competencies and are integrated with and complement the Essential Competencies. NP Programs are to meet all the Essential Competencies as well as NONPF's NP Role Core Competencies in the academic preparation of NP students. In addition, NP education programs are required to include three graduate-level courses delineated in The Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, and Education: Advanced physiology and pathophysiology, which includes general principles that apply across the lifespan; Advanced health assessment, which includes assessment of all human systems, advanced assessment techniques, concepts, and approaches; and Advanced pharmacology, which includes pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics and pharmacotherapeutics of all broad categories of agents (APRN Consensus Work Group & NCSBN APRN Advisory Committee, 2008).

The NP Role Core Competencies revisions include ten domains with unique NP descriptions. Each Domain has NP role-specific competencies. In some cases, the only difference between the NP Role Competencies and the Essential Competency is the unique NP focus. In other cases, the domain has been expanded to include competencies specific to the NP scope of practice.

Nurse Practitioner graduates have knowledge, skills, and abilities that are essential to autonomous clinical practice. The NP Role Core Competencies are acquired through mentored patient care experiences with an emphasis on interprofessional practice; use of technology to deliver and enhance patient and population health outcomes; analytic skills for evaluating and providing

evidence-based, person-centered care across settings; and advanced knowledge of the health care delivery system. Doctorally-prepared NPs apply knowledge of scientific foundations in practice for quality care and engage in practice inquiry to improve health outcomes, health policy, and healthcare delivery. The Competencies elaborated here build upon previous work that identified knowledge and skills essential to DNP NP Competencies.

Using the Competency Table

The NP Role Core Competencies are an extension of the AACN Essential Level 2 Sub-Competencies and are integrated with and complement the Essential Competencies. NP Programs are to meet all the Essential Competencies as well as to NONPF's NP Role Core Competencies.

NONPF's Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies Table

(/resource/resmgr/competencies/20220825_nonpf_np_role_core_.pdf) presented with the Essentials Level 2 Sub-Competencies to the left and the NP Role Competencies to the right. This design show how the NP Role Core Competencies are scaffolded from the AACN Essentials.

Below is a preview of the NP Role Core Competencies Table. To download the entire document, please click here (/resource/resmgr/competencies/20220825_nonpf_np_role_core_.pdf).
(/resource/resmgr/competencies/20220825_nonpf_np_role_core_.pdf)

NONPF Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies:
The table is presented with the Essentials Level 2 sub-competencies in the Column B and the draft NP Role Competencies column D so faculty can see how the NP Role competencies are scaffolded from the Essentials.
The NP Role Core Competencies are an **extension of the Level 2 sub-competencies** and are integrated with and complement the Essential competencies.
NP Programs are to meet all the Essential competencies as well as to NONPF's NP Role Core Competencies.

	AACN Essentials Advanced-Level Nursing Education	NONPF Nurse Practitioner (NP) Role Core Competencies
Domain 1	Domain 1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice Descriptor: Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a foundation in liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.	NP Domain 1: Knowledge of Practice The nurse practitioner integrates, translates, and applies established and evolving scientific knowledge from diverse sources as the basis for ethical clinical judgement, innovation, and diagnostic reasoning.
	1.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the discipline of nursing's distinct perspective and where shared perspectives exist with other disciplines	NP 1.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the discipline of nursing's and the NP's role distinct perspective and where shared perspectives exist with other disciplines
	1.1e Translate evidence from nursing science as well as other sciences into practice.	NP 1.1h: Integrate historical, foundational and population focused knowledge into NP practice.
	1.1f Demonstrate the application of nursing science to practice.	NP 1.1i: Translate evidence from nursing science and other sciences into NP practice.
	1.1g Integrate an understanding of nursing history in advancing nursing's influence in health care.	NP 1.1j: Evaluate the application of nursing science to NP practice.
	1.2 Apply theory and research-based knowledge from nursing, the arts, humanities, and other sciences.	NP 1.2 Apply theory and research-based knowledge from nursing, the arts, humanities, and other sciences.
	1.2f Synthesize knowledge from nursing and other disciplines to inform education, practice, and research.	NP 1.2k: Synthesize evidence from nursing and other disciplines to inform and improve NP practice at a micro, meso, and macro level.
	1.2g Apply a systematic and defendable approach to nursing practice decisions.	NP 1.2l: Translate science-based theories and concepts to guide one's overall NP practice.
	1.2h Employ ethical decision making to assess, intervene, and evaluate nursing care.	NP 1.2m: Employ ethical decision making to manage and evaluate patient care and population health.
	1.2i Demonstrate socially responsible leadership.	NP 1.2n: Practice socially responsible leadership.
	1.2j Translate theories from nursing and other disciplines to practice.	

The National Organization of Nurse Practitioners recognized the contributions of the Curricular Leadership Committee members to produce the 2022 NONPF Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies.

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(https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/AcademicNursing/pdf/Essentials-2021.pdf)APRN Consensus Work Group & National Council of State Boards of Nursing APRN Advisory Committee. (2008). Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, Education. Accessible on line at https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/AcademicNursing/pdf/APRNReport.pdf (https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/AcademicNursing/pdf/APRNReport.pdf)

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(http://www.nonpf.org/associations/10789/files/ClinicalEducationIssuesPPRFinalApril2010.pdf)

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