

## WHAT IS AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE?

Advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) are a vital part of the health system of the United States.

- Registered Nurses (RN) educated at a Masters or Post-Masters Level
- Educated in a specific Role or Patient Population
- APRNs are prepared by education and certification to:

Assess	Perform Treatments & Procedures
Diagnose	Manage Patient Problems
	Order/Interpret Diagnostic Tests

## LEGISLATIVE GOALS FOR APRNs

### TO PRACTICE TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THEIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

**Purpose:** Enlarge the scope of practice of CNSs and CRNAs to reflect education and training.  
Clarify practice of NPs and CNMs.

**Background:** Four different APRN roles are recognized nationally and in Arizona: Nurse Practitioners (NP), Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNM), Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA). A number of national organizations, including the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, have recommended that the expansion of practice of APRNs could address issues of healthcare access and economics and could safely provide additional services to the public.

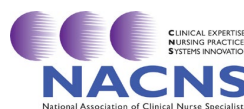
## Provisions

Provide for certification for prescribing authority for those CNSs and CRNAs who meet the requirements of rules adopted in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy and the MD and DO Boards. Prescribing authority would be limited by the scope and focus of care of the APRN.

Repeal scope of practice requirements for CRNAs found in 32-1634.04 (direction and presence requirements for the administration of anesthetics) and incorporate with scope of practice provisions for APRNs.

Address ambiguity of the use of the term "collaboration" in A.R.S. section 32-1606 B. 12 by repealing existing language and replacing with Nursing Board authority to adopt rules consistent with scope established by statute (and subject to the limitations of Title 36, Chapter 20, Article 1).

Make technical conforming changes in statutes related to education regulation, licensing and fees



# THERE ARE FOUR MAIN APRN GROUPS

## CRNA

### Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Prepared to provide care for:

- full spectrum of patients' anesthesia and anesthesia-related needs across the lifespan
- those whose health status may range from healthy through all levels of immediate, severe or life-threatening illnesses or injuries

This care is provided in diverse settings, including:

- hospital surgical suites
- community based surgical centers

## CNM

### Certified Nurse Midwife

Prepared to provide care for:

- full range of primary health care services to women throughout the lifespan
- general women's healthcare
- family planning services
- preconception care
- prenatal and postpartum care
- childbirth
- care of the newborn
- treating the male partner of their female clients for sexually transmitted infections and reproductive health

This care is provided in diverse settings, including:

- home
- hospital
- birth center
- private offices
- community and public health clinics

## CNP

### Certified Nurse Practitioner

Prepared to provide care for:

- health promotion
- disease prevention
- health education
- counseling
- diagnosis and management of acute and chronic diseases
- initial, ongoing and comprehensive care to patients in:
  - family practice
  - child health
  - adult health/older adults
- psychiatric/mental health
- women's health

CNPs are prepared to practice as primary care CNPs or acute care CNPs, which have separate national competencies and unique certificates

## CNS

### Clinical Nurse Specialist

Experts in a specialized area of nursing practice

Clinical Expertise may be in:

- a population (e.g. children, older adults, women)
- a setting (e.g. critical care, emergency department)
- a disease or sub-specialty (e.g. diabetes, oncology)
- a type of care (e.g. rehabilitation)
- a type of health problem (e.g. pain, wounds, stress)

Scope of practice includes diagnosing and treating diseases, injuries and/or disabilities within a field of expertise.

- Provides direct patient care
- Serves as expert consultant for nursing staffs
- A Leader in improving health care delivery

767

235

5,570

286

NUMBER IN ARIZONA IN 2015