



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why should I get certified?

- ✎ Certification provides an added credential beyond licensure and demonstrates by examination that the Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner has acquired a core body of specialized knowledge and adheres to specialized nursing standards. It assures consumer protection and confers peer and public recognition to those individuals who prove proficient in their practice. The Dermatology Nursing Certification Board (DNCB) is a member of the American Board of Nursing Specialties.

### How long does certification last?

- ✎ Each certification granted by the Dermatology Nurse Certification Board (DNCB) is valid for a three-year period.

### When certification expires, how do I recertify?

- ✎ Recertification candidates must also pay recertification fees, and must meet one of the following criteria:
  - Successful completion of the certification examination prior to the certification expiration, OR
  - Submission of completed application for recertification through continuing education prior to certification expiration.

### What are the eligibility requirements to become a DNC?

- ✎ Hold a current and unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) in the U.S. or Canada.
- ✎ Have a minimum of 2 years of dermatology nursing experience as an RN.
- ✎ Have a minimum of 2000 hours of work experience in dermatology nursing within the past 2 years in a general staff, administrative, teaching, or research capacity.

### What does the DNC exam consist of?

- ✎ The test consists of 175 multiple choice items, written within the framework of the nursing process.

### What are the objectives of the DNC exam?

- ✎ The dermatology nursing certification examination is designed to measure the nurse's ability to:
  - Assess and monitor the status of patients with dermatologic disorders before, during, and after treatment. (30%)
  - Plan, administer (or assist others to administer), and monitor the medical, surgical, and phototherapeutic interventions for patients with dermatologic disorders. (30%)
  - Select appropriate strategies to meet the educational, health promotion, and psycho-socio-cultural needs of dermatology patients, their significant others, and the community. (29%)
  - Coordinate care to ensure safe, efficient delivery of high-quality dermatology care, in collaboration with other healthcare providers and community resources. (11%)

### How do I apply for the DNC exam?

If you meet all of the eligibility requirements, [download the Certification Application and Exam Brochure](#).

Complete the application, include supporting documentation and payment and mail to:

DNCB Certification Program  
c/o C-Net  
35 Journal Square, Suite 901  
Jersey City, NJ 07306

### How much does it cost to take the DNC exam?

- ✎ DNA member: \$200
- ✎ Nonmember: \$275

### What are the eligibility requirements to become a DCNP?

- ✎ Current NP State Licensure
- ✎ Master's degree in nursing
- ✎ National certification as a nurse practitioner
- ✎ Minimum of 3,000 hours of general dermatology practice with current practice in dermatology (hours obtained from a formal dermatology NP academic program count towards the 3,000 hours)

### What does the DCNP exam consist of?

- ✎ The test consists of approximately 175 multiple choice items, written within the Nurse Practitioner scope of practice.

### What are the objectives of the DCNP exam?

- ✎ The Dermatology Nurse Practitioner Certification Examination is designed to measure the nurse practitioner's ability to:
  - Assess and diagnose acute and chronic conditions that occur across the life span in dermatology. (35%)
  - Prescribe interventions, including evidence-based treatment, therapies, and procedures. (33%)
  - Teach patients, significant others, community, and colleagues about prevention and management of dermatological conditions. (24%)
  - Consult for and with peers and other health care professionals regarding specific cases. (5%)
  - Analyze research data in order to implement effective evidence-based data. (3%)

### How do I apply for the DCNP exam?

- ✎ If you meet all of the eligibility requirements, [download the Certification Application and Exam Brochure](#). Complete the application, include supporting documentation and payment and mail to:

DNCB Certification Program  
c/o C-Net  
35 Journal Square, Suite 901  
Jersey City, NJ 07306

### How much does it cost to take the DCNP exam?

- ✎ NP Society member: \$300
- ✎ Current DNC status: \$300
- ✎ Nonmember: \$400

### What materials does DNA suggest for studying?

- ✎ DNC
  - Visit the [DNC Study References](#) section of the DNA website.
- ✎ DCNP
  - Visit the [DCNP Study References](#) section of the DNA website.

### When can I take the exam?

- ✎ Please see the available dates and deadlines on our [exam calendar](#).