

What is an ARNP?

An Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) is a registered nurse with additional education at the masters or doctorate level. There are four advanced practice roles recognized in Iowa which include the Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Anesthetist, Nurse Midwife, and Clinical Nurse Specialist. The ARNP is board *certified* to provide comprehensive healthcare in a specialized field and is licensed by the Iowa Board of Nursing for licensing. All ARNPs have full practice authority in Iowa.

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA):

Basic education for admission: Bachelor's degree, licensed as Registered Nurse, one or more years of critical care experience.

Education/training: Masters or Doctorate, 600-1000+ clinical hours, successfully pass initial certification exam by the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA).

Maintenance: Must meet the CE requirements of the certifying body and the state licensure; maintain current board certification, license, and drug registrations.

Scope of practice: Provides the full spectrum of anesthesia and anesthesia-related care for individuals across the lifespan, whose health status may range from healthy to all recognized levels of acuity, including persons with immediate, severe or life-threatening illnesses or injury.

Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP):

Basic education for admission: Bachelor's degree, licensed as Registered Nurse, some patient population programs require minimum experience in specific clinical areas.

Education/training: Masters or Doctorate, 600-1000+ clinical hours, successfully pass initial certification exam by an approved specialty certification organization.

Maintenance: Must meet the CE requirements of the certifying body and the state licensure; maintain current board certification, license, and drug registrations.

Scope of practice: Provide initial and ongoing comprehensive care through health assessment and screening activities and through the diagnosis, treatment, and management of patients with acute and chronic illnesses and diseases. CNPs order, supervise, and interpret laboratory and imaging studies; prescribe medications and durable medical equipment; and make appropriate referrals for patients and families. Primary-care CNPs and acute-care CNPs have separate competencies and certification processes. CNPs provide care in a wide variety of general and specialty populations, including adult, family, pediatric, neonatal, women's health, and psychiatric-mental health.

Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM):

Basic education for admission: Bachelor's degree, licensed as Registered Nurse.

Education/training: Masters or Doctorate, 600-1000+ clinical hours, successfully pass initial certification exam by the American Midwifery Certification Board.

Maintenance: Must meet the CE requirements of the certifying body and the state licensure; maintain current board certification, license, and drug registrations.

Scope of practice: Provide a full range of primary health care services to women, including gynecologic care, family planning services, preconception care, prenatal and postpartum care, childbirth, and care of the newborn up to six weeks.

Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS):

Basic education for admission: Bachelor's degree, licensed as Registered Nurse.

Education/training: Masters or Doctorate, 500 clinical hours, successfully pass initial certification exam by an approved specialty certification organization.

Maintenance: Must meet the CE requirements of the certifying body and the state licensure; maintain current board certification, license, and drug registrations.

Scope of practice: Integrate care across the lifespan through influence on the patient, nurse, and health system. The primary goal is continuous improvement of patient outcomes and nursing care. The CNS provides diagnosis and treatment of health/illness states, disease management, health promotion, and prevention of illness and risk behaviors among individuals, families, groups, and communities.

Where can I find an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner?

ARNPs provide care in every healthcare setting including, but not limited to, hospitals, clinics, schools, retail clinics, long term care facilities, and surgical centers. ARNPs are especially noted for providing care in rural settings where healthcare access is limited. Any individual can request an ARNP when seeking care.

How are Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners reimbursed?

Services provided by ARNPs can be reimbursed through insurance companies, Medicare and Medicaid, health savings accounts, and flex plans. In special situations county monies may be available for those who do not qualify for other government or private payment.

American Association of Nurse Practitioners. (2014). Retrieved from <https://aanp.enpnetwork.com/>

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