



National Association for Practical Nurse Education & Service, Inc.
P.O. Box 25647 Alexandria, VA 22313

NAPNES ONLINE CERTIFICATION IN PHARMACOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

The National Association for Practical Nurse Education & Service, Inc. (NAPNES) is pleased to offer the NAPNES Pharmacology Certification Exam ONLINE.

Since the 1960s, the respected "NAPNES Card" in Pharmacology has been asked for by name by employers and earned by LP/VNs.

The NAPNES Pharmacology certification is nationally recognized and respected as an educational tool against which LP/VNs measure their knowledge, build skills, and demonstrate employability.

Successful Candidates

Successful candidates receive an AFFIDAVIT online to sign before a Notary Public attesting to adherence to the exam process. The certification process is NOT complete until the AFFIDAVIT is presented to NAPNES for a certification card that documents the LP/VN passed the exam(s).

Unsuccessful Candidates

Unsuccessful candidates receive a computer analysis outlining areas of weakness for which more study is needed before re-taking the exam.

ADMINISTRATION

To administer the exam on line, NAPNES has retained the services of CASTLE Worldwide, Inc., a company with over 14 years experience serving a multitude of major organizations and professions worldwide. CASTLE Worldwide, Inc., offers a variety of testing capabilities in more than 40 countries so when NAPNES needed innovative technology, to offer its exams on line for the very first time, CASTLE was an obvious choice!

The service of nursing is a national priority and NAPNES proudly offers certification opportunities to LP/VNs providing valuable nursing service to patients, clients and residents.

The information contained herein allows you to determine if you are eligible to take the NAPNES exams administered online by CASTLE Worldwide, Inc.

RECERTIFICATION

Certification in Pharmacology is for a period of five years from the date of initial certification. Unless re-certified, certification expires on the last day of the month five years after certification is initially earned. The options for re-certification for Pharmacology are outlined in a separate information packet available from [NAPNES](#). One option in NAPNES certification programs is to re-certify by examination.

LP/VNs who wish to re-certify by examination must meet the eligibility criteria in effect at the time they re-test.

PHARMACOLOGY CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY

The NAPNES Pharmacology Certificate is available to any person who meets all the following:

- holds a current LP/VN license, or who meets the educational requirements to take the NCLEX licensure examination for LP/VNs (signature of program director required on application), AND
- receives a passing grade on the NAPNES Pharmacology Certification Examination.

PREPARATION

Preparation for this examination is incorporated in the curriculum of many P/VN nursing schools across the country and is often taught as a separate course as well. Optional study materials are available from NAPNES (order form enclosed.) Candidates may either take the examination upon completion of their course work or may challenge the examination based on work experience and/or prior training. Certification equivalency through alternative pharmacology examinations is not recognized by NAPNES.

THE PROCESS

Eligibility criteria are listed above.

Ethics and Security

Giving or receiving help from persons or books and study materials during the exam is considered unethical and a breach of the AFFIDAVIT you must sign before a Notary to complete the Certification process. Your signature on the AFFIDAVIT attests to the fact that you followed the terms of the agreement and use of NAPNES copyrighted exam(s.) Distribution of NAPNES copyrighted material through any form of reproduction or through oral or written communication is strictly prohibited and punishable by law. Documented failure to adhere to the "acceptance of agreement and terms of use" may result in revocation of certification or denial of future approval to take the exam(s) at the discretion of the Pharmacology/Long-Term Care Certification Boards.

Successful Candidates

Successful candidates receive an AFFIDAVIT online to immediately print and then sign before a Notary Public attesting to the exam process. The certification process is NOT complete until the AFFIDAVIT is presented to NAPNES for a certification card that documents the LP/VN passed the exam(s). The AFFIDAVIT must be presented to NAPNES within 60 days of the test date. Failure to do so results in assessment of a \$20 excess processing fee.

Signature of the LP/VN on the AFFIDAVIT attests that the nurse abided by the examination rules as set forth in the "acceptance of agreement and terms of use" prior to accessing the exam online. Documented failure to adhere to the "acceptance of agreement and terms of use" may result in revocation of certification or denial of future approval to take the exam(s) at the discretion of the Pharmacology Certification Board.

Unsuccessful Candidates

Unsuccessful candidates receive a computer print out analysis from CASTLE outlining areas of weakness for which more study is needed before attempting the exam again.

Three attempts of exam are possible without documentation of further study and review. Candidates are not required to pay additional application fees for the second and third exam attempts to NAPNES but candidates must pay an additional exam fee online for each attempt online. (See FEES section for complete fee information.)

Candidates must wait at least 15 days between each of the three allowed attempts to pass the exam(s).

Technical Support

CASTLE provides technical support to registered NAPNES candidates on a 24-hour basis. Candidates who encounter any difficulty during the test delivery process may contact CASTLE technical support staff at any time either through electronic message or toll-free telephone, provided prior to commencement of exam(s.) CASTLE support staff response will be immediate.

Any technical problem that cannot be resolved by the support staff will be reported to CASTLE's Level II technicians, who will address the problem within 24 hours. If a candidate's testing session is interrupted due to technical problems that cannot be resolved immediately, CASTLE will issue a new user identification number and password free of charge so that the candidate may complete the test. In the unlikely event of technical difficulty, please use the provided number to call CASTLE. Do not waste precious time calling NAPNES. NAPNES cannot provide technical support for online testing.

FEES

(Registration fees are paid to NAPNES – Testing fees are paid to CASTLE online.)

Registration with NAPNES

Initial Application Fee payable to NAPNES

Initial application \$100.00

If not used in 60 days \$20.00 additional fee for each application renewal.

Registration and application can be made online at [NAPNES](#) website or using the application form that can be downloaded at the NAPNES website or requested by telephone.

Note: NAPNES accepts money orders, Visa or MasterCard, and personal checks. Applications paid by check require two additional weeks for processing. There is a non-refundable \$30 bank fee on all returned checks. NAPNES cannot accept checks made payable to CASTLE Worldwide, Inc.

Exam Fees payable online to CASTLE Worldwide, Inc

Must be paid via Mastercard or Visa through secure, e-commerce site online prior to accessing the exam(s.)

Online Testing Fee

First Attempt \$60.00

Additional Attempts \$50.00 per attempt

CERTIFICATION CARDS

LP/VNs who meet the criteria and pass the exam(s) complete the process by printing the AFFIDAVIT and signing it before a Notary Public and mailing it to NAPNES within 60 days of receipt. NAPNES will issue a certification card with expiration date five years from the date of receipt of the AFFIDAVIT. NAPNES requires re-certification every five years. NAPNES sends one re-certification notice approximately six to nine months prior to expiration of the certification card to the address on file. It is the responsibility of the LP/VN to notify NAPNES of change of name or address during the certification period. Re-certification packets are sent with the notice.

Name Change

NAPNES will issue duplicate certification cards for the fee of \$10 during the five year certification period. Documentation in the form of court records (i.e., marriage certificate, divorce decree) must accompany application for duplicate cards.

NAPNES PHARMACOLOGY CERTIFICATION TESTING CONTENT OUTLINE



The NAPNES Pharmacology Certification Examination allows the candidate to measure his/her knowledge against a national exam that is based on the following content outline:

The NAPNES Pharmacology Certification exam will cover the following areas:

- **Pharmacology:**
 - **General Principles of Pharmacology**
 - Overview of Pharmacology; Additional Consideration in the Study of Pharmacology.
- **Pharmacology and the Role of the LP/VN**
 - The Nursing Process in Drug Therapy
 - Assessment
 - Planning
 - Implementation: Promoting and Monitoring Therapeutic Drug Effects
 - Evaluation: Effectiveness of Drug Therapy
 - Legal, Ethical and Cultural Considerations
- **Drug Therapy Affecting the Nervous System**
 - Central Nervous System Stimulants
 - Anesthetic Agents
 - Sedative and Hypnotic Agents
 - The NSAIDs (Non-narcotic analgesic agents)
 - Narcotic Analgesic Agents
 - Antiepileptic Agents
 - Psychotherapeutic Agents
- **Drug Therapy Affecting Kidney and Body Fluid Composition**
 - Diuretic Agents
 - Fluid and Electrolytes
- **Drug Therapy Affecting the Cardiovascular System**
 - Drugs that Affect the Heart
 - Drugs that Affect the Blood Vessels
 - Drugs that Affect Blood
- **Drug Therapy in Infection**
 - Antibiotics
 - Sulfonamides and Drugs for Urinary Infections
 - Anti-Infectives used in Specific Infections
 - Antiviral Agents
- **Drug Therapy in Cancer**
 - Antineoplastic Agents
 - Uses in Antineoplastic Agents
 - Methods of Administration
 - Nursing Process in Caring for a Patient Receiving Antineoplastic Agents

