



8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3492

1.800.284.2378  
301.628.5000 *tel*  
301.628.5004 *fax*  
[www.nursecredentialing.org](http://www.nursecredentialing.org)

## **Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Board Certification Test Content Outline - effective date: March 1, 2010 Based on the 2008 NP Role Delineation Study**

There are 175 questions on this examination. Of these, 150 are scored questions and 25 are pretest questions that are not scored. Pretest questions are used to determine how well these questions will perform before they are used on the scored portion of the examination. The pretest questions cannot be distinguished from those that will be scored, so it is important for a candidate to answer all questions. A candidate's score, however, is based solely on the 150 scored questions. Performance on pretest questions does not affect a candidate's score.

This Test Content Outline identifies the areas that are included on the examination. The percentage and number of questions in each of the major categories of the scored portion of the examination are also shown.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Domains of Practice</b>	<b>No. of Questions</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>I</b>	Foundations of Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practice	46	30.67%
<b>II</b>	Health Care Policy and Delivery	16	10.67%
<b>III</b>	Clinical Assessment	41	27.33%
<b>IV</b>	Clinical Management	47	31.33%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Board Certification  
Test Content Outline - effective date: March 1, 2010  
Based on the 2008 NP Role Delineation Study**

**Please note that the categories and subcategories throughout this test content outline are associated with major life span/problem areas as indicated in the following notes:**

**Note 1: Life Span Areas**

1. Non – age-specific
2. Infancy – birth to 11 months
3. Early Childhood – 1 to 4 years
4. Middle Childhood – 5 to 10 years
5. Early Adolescent – 11 to 14 years
6. Mid Adolescent – 15 to 17 years
7. Late Adolescent – 18 to 21 years

**Note 2: Body Systems and Problem Areas**

1. Non-Specific
2. Integumentary
3. Nutrition
4. Head, Ears, Eyes, Nose, Throat
5. Respiratory
6. Cardiovascular
7. Hematologic
8. Gastrointestinal
9. Genitourinary
10. Neurological
11. Mental Health
12. Behavioral
13. Developmental
14. Musculoskeletal
15. Reproductive
16. Lymphatic
17. Endocrine
18. Immune
19. Infectious Disease

**I. Foundations of Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practice (30.67%)**

**A. Communication**

Knowledge of:

1. Communication principles and techniques (e.g., verbal, written, and non-verbal)
2. Barriers to communication (e.g., age related cognitive abilities)

Skill in:

3. Establishing rapport (e.g., trust, comfort; active listening, boundaries, developmentally appropriate communication)
4. Recognizing and communicating urgent situations
5. Discussing difficult issues

**B. Health Promotion/Disease Prevention**

Knowledge of:

1. Healthy behaviors
2. Risk factors (e.g., life-style, safety/injuries, behavior, environmental)
3. Health promotion/prevention guidelines and resources (Healthy People 2020, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], American Academy of Pediatrics [AAP], Bright Futures, U.S. Preventative Health Services Task Force [USPHSTF], life-style modification, immunization schedules)

**Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Board Certification  
Test Content Outline - effective date: March 1, 2010  
Based on the 2008 NP Role Delineation Study**

Skill in:

4. Conducting wellness evaluations, health screenings and risk analyses (e.g., genetics; epidemiology; past medical history; nutrition, age-related surveillance, environmental exposures, injuries, health behaviors, occupational risks)
5. Providing anticipatory guidance
6. Effecting behavioral change

**C. Growth and Development**

Knowledge of:

1. Developmental milestones/stages
2. Growth and developmental theories related to individuals and families (e.g., psychosocial, cognitive; Erickson, Piaget, Kohlberg, family systems, temperament theory)

Skill in:

3. Assessing normal and abnormal development
4. Conducting a family assessment (e.g., dynamics, support structures, stages)

**D. Influences on Care**

Knowledge of:

1. Psychosocial influences (e.g., caregiver stress; family interaction/support; isolation; violence, abuse and neglect)
2. Socioeconomic influences (e.g., financial, housing, employment, educational level, health literacy)
3. Cultural/spiritual influences

Skill in:

4. Incorporating cultural/spiritual competences into a therapeutic plan

**E. Teaching/Guidance**

Knowledge of:

1. Teaching/learning principles and strategies (e.g., change theory, learning styles, methods, tools)
2. Learning barriers (e.g., development, literacy)

Skill in:

3. Assessing educational needs
4. Adapting educational materials/strategies to patient and families needs
5. Evaluating comprehension and outcomes

**F. Scope and Standards of Practice**

Knowledge of:

1. Scope of practice of the pediatric nurse practitioner
2. Standards of practice of the pediatric nurse practitioner
3. Clinical practice guidelines
4. Continuous quality improvement

Skill in:

5. Minimizing clinical errors and complications
6. Identifying and referring situations beyond scope of practice
7. Modifying practice based on evidence

**II. Health Care Policy and Delivery (10.67%)**

**A. Legal, Ethical, and Regulatory issues**

Knowledge of:

1. Health care/public policy
2. Regulatory guidelines (e.g., reporting of communicable diseases, abuse, neglect; Health Information Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA])
3. Reimbursement regulations (e.g., Medicaid, Medicare, insurance)
4. Applied ethical principles (e.g., beneficence, nonmaleficence)
5. Access to Care (e.g., location, cost, health care disparities)

**Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Board Certification  
Test Content Outline - effective date: March 1, 2010  
Based on the 2008 NP Role Delineation Study**

Skill in:

6. Obtaining informed consent/assent
7. Coding and billing
8. Determining emancipation and guardianship
9. Advocating for the needs of children, adolescents, and their families

**B. Documentation**

Skill in:

1. Documenting in accordance with current regulatory processes and payer systems
2. Synthesizing and recording relevant patient information for the management plan
3. Accessing and releasing health care information in accordance to federal regulations (e.g., Health Information Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA], confidentiality)
4. Using informatics in clinical practice (e.g., electronic medical record, personal digital assistance [PDA], computer applications, Internet access, electronic prescription)

**III. Clinical Assessment (27.33%)**

**A. Anatomy, Physiology and Pathophysiology**

Knowledge of:

1. Anatomy and physiology (including age specific variations)
2. Pathophysiology

**B. Health Assessment**

Knowledge of:

1. Sources of medical history information (e.g., patients, caregivers, institutional staff, clinical database)
2. Health beliefs and behaviors (e.g., guidelines, substance use/abuse, lifestyle, adherence, risk taking behaviors)

Skill in:

3. Obtaining a comprehensive, focused, and/or interim health history
4. Performing a comprehensive and/or focused physical examination
5. Modifying assessment based on growth and development
6. Performing a risk analysis (e.g., genetics, epidemiology, past medical history, environmental exposures, risk for unintentional injuries, travel)

**C. Advanced diagnostic reasoning**

Knowledge of:

1. Clinical tests and procedures (screening, diagnostic, and monitoring)

Skill in:

2. Using history and physical exam findings to order and determine appropriateness of testing
3. Analyzing data and interpreting results (including co-morbidities)
4. Developing and prioritizing a differential diagnosis list

**IV. Clinical Management (31.33%)**

**A. Clinical practice guidelines, Standards of Care and Evidence Based Practice**

Knowledge of:

1. Research methodology
2. Clinical practice guidelines
3. Standards of care

Skill in:

4. Evaluating research and other forms of evidence
5. Integrating evidence based recommendations into practice

**Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Board Certification  
Test Content Outline - effective date: March 1, 2010  
Based on the 2008 NP Role Delineation Study**

B. Clinical decision-making

Knowledge of:

1. Pharmacotherapeutics (including pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic changes in children and adolescents, polypharmacy)
2. Clinical therapeutics (e.g., nonpharmacological, complementary and alternative therapies, rehabilitation and nutrition services)
3. Interdisciplinary team care (e.g., IEPs, early intervention)
4. Transitions of care (e.g., information needing to be communicated to other health care provider concerning special care needs, goals of care)
5. Public Health principles (e.g., immunizations, infection control)

Skill in:

6. Prioritizing current and potential problems
7. Formulating a plan of care
8. Modifying health care risks (e.g., life style modification, behavior, Healthy People 2020)
9. Clarifying the goals of care based on outcome expectation
10. Coordinating care (e.g., community resources, day care, appropriate referrals, school nurse)

Updated: 04/22/2009

Copyright © 2009 by American Nurses Credentialing Center. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system.