CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR THE
**NEUROSCIENCE ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDER**
AN ASSESSMENT-BASED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR THE
**SEIZURE AND EPILEPSY**
HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL
AN ASSESSMENT-BASED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR THE
**SPINE HEALTHCARE**
PROFESSIONAL
AN ASSESSMENT-BASED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

# CELEBRATION TOOL KIT

## Support Nurses by Celebrating Their Achievement in Earning Certification or Completing the Certificate Program

# Introduction

The purpose of the Celebration Tool Kit is to recognize and celebrate nurses who earn the Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse (CNRN®) or the Stroke Certified Registered Nurse (SCRN®) credential or complete the Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP), the Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional, or the Certificate Program for the Spine Healthcare Professional.

Certification in any field is a mark of professionalism. Over the last few decades, it has become increasingly clear that nursing certification advances the profession of nursing by encouraging and recognizing professional achievement. There are now more than 800,000 nurses certified by the American Board of Nursing Specialties, and this number increases significantly each year (*Impact of Nursing Certification on Nurses, Healthcare Employers and Patients*).

# Table of Contents


About the American Board of Neuroscience Nursing (ABNN) . . . . . 3

ABNN Certifications . . . . . 4

ABNN Certificate Programs. . . . . 5

Congratulatory Cards . . . . . 6

Social Media Images and Sample Messages . . . . . 7

Sample Letter to Share Your Accomplishment With Hospital Leadership. . . . . .10

How to Celebrate Your Nurse . . . . . .12

Support Other Nurses in Earning Certification
or Completing the Certificate Program . . . . . .13

Printable Poster. . . . . .14


©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved. 

Specialty nursing certification and education distinguishes nurses from their colleagues, facilitates a sense of professional accomplishment, and is Magnet-recognized.

# About the American Board of Neuroscience Nursing (ABNN)

## Our Mission and Vision

ABNN's mission is to promote and advance the practice of neuroscience nursing through specialty certification. ABNN's vision is that every person with neurological health needs receives care from ABNN-certified registered nurses.

## Our Goal

ABNN's goal is to recognize neuroscience and stroke specialty certifications as the standard of care.

## Our Purpose

- Encourage the study of neuroscience nursing.
- Promote and advance the practice of neuroscience nursing through specialty certification.
- Determine minimum requirements for individuals who seek certification in neuroscience nursing and its subspecialties.
- Conduct examinations for certification of qualified candidates.
- Provide a mechanism for recertification in neuroscience nursing and its subspecialties.

## Who We Are

ABNN is the independent, not-for-profit corporation established to design, implement, and evaluate certification programs for professional nurses involved in the specialty practice of neuroscience nursing and its subspecialties.

## Our Role in Certification

ABNN is solely responsible for the development, administration, and evaluation of the CNRN and SCRN certification and recertification programs. Certification provides a path for nurses to demonstrate specialty knowledge and expertise in clinical practice and serve as role models to others. This is accomplished through specialized, scientifically developed exams incorporating neuroscience and stroke nursing clinical practice. The examination outlines are based on periodic job analysis or role delineation studies that identify the knowledge and experiences required of a practicing neuroscience or stroke nurse.

## Our Role in the Certificate Program

The Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP), the Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional, and the Certificate Program for the Spine Healthcare Professional are joint projects between the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses (AANN) and ABNN. AANN is solely responsible for the development of the educational content, and ABNN is solely responsible for the development of the post-assessments and the certificate of added qualification.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

# ABNN Certifications

## CNRN

The CNRN credential represents specialized experience and knowledge in the care of patients with neurological trauma and illness. Earned and maintained by more than 3,600 nurses, the credential benefits patients, peers, and hospital administrators in recognizing unique abilities in caring for a very special patient population.

An eligible candidate

- must be engaged in neuroscience nursing clinical practice or employed as an administrator, consultant, educator, or researcher
- will have completed the equivalent of at least 1 year (2,080 hours) of full-time direct or indirect neuroscience nursing practice as a registered nurse (RN) within the last 3 years.

Eligible RNs engaged in the care of neuroscience patients earn the CNRN credential after successful completion of the 220-item CNRN certification examination.

The CNRN certification program is accredited by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC), the only nationally recognized accrediting body for specialty nursing certification programs. The examination is based on periodic role delineation studies that identify the knowledge and experience required of a practicing neuroscience nurse.

## SCRN

The SCRN credential represents specialized experience and knowledge in the care of stroke patients. Earned and maintained by more than 7,500 nurses, the credential benefits patients, peers, and hospital administrators in recognizing unique abilities in caring for a very special patient population.

An eligible candidate

- must be engaged in stroke nursing clinical practice or employed as an administrator, consultant, educator, or researcher
- will have completed the equivalent of at least 1 year (2,080 hours) of full-time direct or indirect stroke nursing experience within the last 3 years.

Eligible RNs engaged in the care of stroke patients earn the SCRN credential after successful completion of the 170-item SCRN certification examination.

The SCRN certification program is accredited by the ABSNC, the only nationally recognized accrediting body for specialty nursing certification programs. The examination is based on periodic role delineation studies that identify the knowledge and experience required of a practicing stroke nurse.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

# ABNN Certificate Programs

## Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider

The Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP) is an assessment-based certificate program that uses instructional design principles to deliver an online self-paced educational course followed by a post-assessment.

The primary purpose of this certificate program is to enhance foundational knowledge and promote the delivery of evidence-based care for neuroscience patients cared for by advanced practice providers. The program consists of 13 online modules, presented sequentially, with a post-assessment at the end of the program. The post-assessment is 80 questions in length.

## Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional

The Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional is an assessment-based certificate program that uses instructional design principles to deliver an online self-study educational course followed by post-assessments.

The primary purpose of this certificate program is to equip healthcare professionals with the foundational knowledge to provide evidence-based care to patients who have seizures and epilepsy, who are admitted to an epilepsy monitoring unit (EMU), and who are being evaluated for and/or undergoing surgery for medically refractory epilepsy. There are six online modules, presented sequentially, to be completed to earn the certificate. The post-assessment is 50 questions in length.

Two optional modules provide information on a nurse's role in a comprehensive epilepsy specialty clinic and an EMU. The completion of these two additional modules will enhance the professional's and facility's ability to care for patients admitted to a comprehensive epilepsy center or EMU and will meet the qualifications for National Association of Epilepsy Centers accreditation. The post-assessment is 70 questions in length.

## Certificate Program for the Spine Healthcare Professional

The Certificate Program for the Spine Healthcare Professional is an assessment-based certificate program that uses instructional design principles to deliver an online, self-paced, educational course followed by a post-assessment.

The primary purpose of this certificate program is to provide foundational knowledge and promote evidence-based care for patients who have disease or injury of the spine and require medical and/or surgical treatment. The program comprises 8 online modules, presented sequentially, with a post-assessment at the end of the program. The post-assessment is 75 questions in length.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

## Congratulatory Cards

Download a congratulatory card to send to a newly CNRN- or SCRN-certified nurse or to congratulate someone for earning the Neuro-APP Certificate, the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional Certificate, or the Spine Healthcare Professional Certificate.

Download the CNRN congratulatory card.

Download the SCRN congratulatory card.

Download the Neuro-APP Certificate congratulatory card.

Download the Seizure and Epilepsy Certificate congratulatory card.

Download the Spine Certificate congratulatory card.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved. 

## Social Media Images and Sample Messages

Copy a message and download an image to share your accomplishment on social media.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

## CNRN

### Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn

I am proud to share that I earned the Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse (CNRN) credential. The #CNRN is the only credential that represents an all-encompassing knowledge of and experience with fundamental neuroscience nursing concepts. Earning the CNRN credential demonstrates my credibility and professional distinction in neuroscience patient care. #neuronurse #certifiednurse

### X (formerly Twitter)

I earned the Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse (CNRN), the only credential that represents an all-encompassing knowledge and experience with fundamental neuro nursing concepts. Earning the #CNRN demonstrates my credibility and professional distinction. #certifiednurse

Download the "Achievement Unlocked" image.

Download the "Oh synapse!" image.

Download the "I'm Nacho Average Nurse" image.

Download the "I'm Kind of a Big Dill" image.

## SCRN

### Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn

I am proud to share that I earned the Stroke Certified Registered Nurse (SCRN) credential. Earning the #SCRN credential formally recognizes the attainment and demonstration of a unique body of knowledge necessary for the practice of stroke nursing and demonstrates my credibility and professional distinction in stroke patient care. #strokenurse #certifiednurse

### X (formerly Twitter)

I am proud to share that I earned the Stroke Certified Registered Nurse (SCRN) credential. Earning the #SCRN credential demonstrates my excellence and professionalism in stroke patient care. #strokenurse #certifiednurse

Download the "Achievement Unlocked" image.

Download the "Oh synapse!" image.

Download the "I'm Nacho Average Nurse" image.

Download the "I'm Kind of a Big Dill" image.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

## Neuro-APP Certificate

**Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter)**

I am proud to share that I completed the Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP). Earning the certificate shows I am committed to continuous professional development and am dedicated to better patient outcomes. #neuroAPP #advancedpractice

Download the "Achievement Unlocked" image.

Download the "Oh synapse!" image.

## Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional Certificate

**Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter)**

I am proud to share that I completed the Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional. Earning the certificate shows I am committed to continuous professional development and am dedicated to better patient outcomes. #epilepsy #seizure

Download the "Achievement Unlocked" image.

Download the "Oh synapse!" image.

## Spine Healthcare Professional Certificate

**Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter)**

I am proud to share that I completed the Certificate Program for the Spine Healthcare Professional. Earning the certificate shows I am committed to continuous professional development and am dedicated to better patient outcomes. #spine

Download the "Achievement Unlocked" image.

Download the "Oh synapse!" image.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

# Sample Letter to Share Your Accomplishment With Hospital Leadership

## CNRN

Dear **[Insert boss or hospital administrator's name]**:

I am proud to share that I have earned my Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse (CNRN®) credential.

The CNRN certification is the only credential that represents an all-encompassing knowledge of and experience with fundamental neuroscience nursing concepts. Earning the CNRN credential demonstrates my credibility and professional distinction in neuroscience patient care. The CNRN credential has been earned by more than 3,600 nurses who, like me, have set themselves apart and proven their dedication to succeeding in any neuroscience nursing unit.

Thank you for celebrating in my accomplishment. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thanks,
**[Your signature]**

## SCRN

Dear **[Insert boss or hospital administrator's name]**:

I am proud to share that I have earned my Stroke Certified Registered Nurse (SCRN®) credential.

The SCRN certification promotes excellence and professionalism in stroke patient care. Earning the SCRN certification demonstrates my excellence and professionalism in stroke patient care. The SCRN credential has been earned by more than 7,500 nurses who, like me, have proven themselves capable of providing specialized care for patients recovering from stroke.

Thank you for celebrating in my accomplishment. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thanks,
**[Your signature]**

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

## Neuro-APP Certificate

Dear **[Insert boss or hospital administrator's name]**:

I am proud to share that I have earned my Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP) Certificate.

Earning the Neuro-APP Certificate demonstrates my dedication to the highest standards of care and excellence in clinical practice and testifies to my commitment to continuous professional development. The certificate program has been completed by hundreds of healthcare professionals who, like me, demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of pathophysiology, clinical presentation, and management strategies for a broad range of neurological disorders.

Thank you for celebrating in my accomplishment. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thanks,

**[Your signature]**

## Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional Certificate

Dear **[Insert boss or hospital administrator's name]**:

I am proud to share that I have earned my Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional Certificate.

Earning the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional Certificate demonstrates my dedication to the highest standards of care and excellence in clinical practice and testifies to my commitment to continuous professional development. **[If you completed the 8-module program add: The Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional in a Comprehensive Epilepsy Center program was an additional two modules that enhances my ability to care for patients admitted to a comprehensive epilepsy center or epilepsy monitoring unit and meets the National Association of Epilepsy Centers accreditation requirements for nursing expertise in epilepsy.]** The certificate program has been completed by hundreds of healthcare professionals who, like me, have proven themselves capable of providing specialized care to patients with seizures and epilepsy.

Thank you for celebrating in my accomplishment. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thanks,
**[Your signature]**

## Spine Healthcare Professional Certificate

Dear **[Insert boss or hospital administrator's name]**:

I am proud to share that I have earned my Certificate for the Spine Healthcare Professional.

Earning the Spine Healthcare Professional Certificate demonstrates my dedication to the highest standards of care and excellence in clinical practice and testifies to my commitment to continuous professional development. The certificate program has been completed by hundreds of healthcare professionals who, like me, have proven themselves capable of providing specialized care to patients who have disease or injury of the spine.

Thank you for celebrating in my accomplishment. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Thanks,

**[Your signature]**

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

# How to Celebrate Your Nurse

## Purchase a Certification Pin

Order a CNRN or SCRN pin to proudly display certification. Order at AANN.org/onlinestore.

## Purchase ABNN Branded Merchandise

ABNN, in conjunction with Jim Coleman, Ltd., is offering CNRN-, SCRN-, and CNRN-/SCRN-branded products including t-shirts, scrub tops, fleece jackets, bags, pens, and water bottles. These items make great gifts for your friends and colleagues who earned certification. Or, purchase a gift to celebrate your own achievement. View the products and place your order today at ABNN.checkoutstores.com!

## Display a Plaque

Recognize the CNRNs or SCRNs at your institution with the official CNRN or SCRN Institution Plaque. Each plaque features a large brass plate engraved with the credential, your institution's name, and a description of the CNRN or SCRN certification. Smaller individual plates on the bottom of the plaque are engraved with your CNRNs' or SCRNs' names and initial certification dates. Place your order at ABNNcertification.org/recognition.

## Celebrate Certified Nurses Day

Each year on March 19, employers, certification boards, healthcare organizations, and many others around the nation join to recognize and support nurses who have taken the time to earn these credentials that signify their success. ABNN celebrates by mailing their CNRN and SCRN certified nurses a card each March. Plan a celebration to recognize your certified nurses on March 19.

## Nominate a Nurse for an ABNN Award

### Certified Clinical Nurse of the Year

Recognizes a certified neuroscience or stroke nurse providing direct patient care who demonstrates excellence in clinical practice, patient advocacy, mentoring, education, professional service, and promotion of certification.

### Certified Nurse Leader of the Year

Recognizes a certified neuroscience or stroke nurse serving in a leadership role who demonstrates outstanding leadership, professional development, innovation, advocacy, evidence-based practice, and service to the neuroscience nursing profession.

Nominations are due at the end of October each year.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

# Support Other Nurses in Earning Certification or Completing the Certificate Program

Support for the CNRN credential, the SCRN credential, the Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP), the Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional, or the Certificate Program for the Spine Healthcare Professional demonstrates your dedication to the highest standards of care and excellence in clinical practice. Earning any of these accolades testifies to the outstanding caliber of your healthcare providers and thereby makes your institution more attractive to prospective healthcare employees.

Hospital administrators can show support for certification and the certificate program by

- promoting current recipients through public recognition of their achievement and providing ongoing support for their continuing education
- challenging and inspiring staff to participate
- providing financial and career development incentives to those who demonstrate commitment to their patients and profession through professional development.

These actions will have a positive impact on staff performance and satisfaction while encouraging better outcomes for patients.

## ABNN's Hospital Registration Program

ABNN's Hospital Registration Program is an employer program designed to help nurses earn CNRN or SCRN certification.

- There is no minimum number of nurses required to test per year.
- There is no cost for employers to join.
- Nurses can test with no out-of-pocket fee.
- Enrolled employers pay monthly exam invoices after the nurse takes the exam. The employer receives a $100 discount for nurses who are unsuccessful in passing the examination.
- Nurses and employers receive free, ongoing program guidance to help promote the certifications.
- Enrolled employers also can receive group discounts on AANN's online review courses.

Learn more and sign up at ABNNcertification.org/hospital-registration-program.

## Institutional Pricing for the Certificate Program

Institutions are eligible for a discount when they purchase 10 or more subscriptions to the Neuro-APP certificate program, the seizure and epilepsy certificate program, or the spine certificate program. Contact info@aann.org to learn more and sign up.

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.

# Printable Poster

Print this poster and display it in your unit to encourage other nurses to earn certification or complete the certificate program.

**Specialty nursing certification and education distinguishes you from your colleagues, facilitates a sense of professional accomplishment, and is Magnet-recognized.**

CNRN
Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse

## Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse

The Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse (CNRN®) credential represents specialized experience and knowledge in the care of patients with neurological trauma and illness.

SCRN
Stroke Certified Registered Nurse

## Stroke Certified Registered Nurse

The Stroke Certified Registered Nurse (SCRN®) credential represents specialized experience and knowledge in the care of stroke patients.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR THE
**NEUROSCIENCE ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDER**
AN ASSESSMENT-BASED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

## Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP)

The Certificate Program for the Neuroscience Advanced Practice Provider (Neuro-APP) is an assessment-based certificate program that uses instructional design principles to deliver an online self-paced educational course followed by a post-assessment. This course will equip participants with the tools to safely care for neuroscience patients as an advanced practice provider, while providing quality care demanded by healthcare organizations, regulatory agencies, and patients.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR THE
**SEIZURE AND EPILEPSY**
HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL
AN ASSESSMENT-BASED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

## Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional Certificate

The Certificate Program for the Seizure and Epilepsy Healthcare Professional is an assessment-based certificate program that equips healthcare professionals with the foundational knowledge to provide evidence-based care to patients who have seizures and epilepsy, who are admitted to an epilepsy monitoring unit, and who are being evaluated for and/or undergoing surgery for medically refractory epilepsy.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR THE
**SPINE HEALTHCARE**
PROFESSIONAL
AN ASSESSMENT-BASED CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

## Spine Healthcare Professional Certificate

The Certificate Program for the Spine Healthcare Professional is an assessment-based certificate program that provides foundational knowledge and promotes evidence-based care for patients who have disease or injury of the spine and require medical or surgical treatment.

**Achieve professional recognition and credibility, personal achievement, career advancement, and potential for higher pay. Learn more and sign up at ABNNcertification.org.**

©2026 American Board of Neuroscience Nursing. All rights reserved.