



# American College of Cardiology

*Application for Associate of the American College of Cardiology*



## Apply for A.A.C.C. Today!

HELPING CARDIOVASCULAR PROFESSIONALS LEARN. ADVANCE. HEAL.

# Associate of the American College of Cardiology:

For those who qualify, the Associate of the American College of Cardiology (A.A.C.C.) designation signals a commitment to the highest standards of cardiovascular care. To become an A.A.C.C., one must complete a national board certification in an area of cardiovascular expertise, continue their education in the field of CV medicine, and demonstrate a commitment to their professional development.

## **The full list of applicant criteria is as follows:**

- 1.** Hold a current and valid state license
- 2.** Hold a nationally recognized board certification
- 3.** Demonstrate that the majority of professional activities are devoted to the field of cardiovascular disease
- 4.** Provide three sponsorship letters from current F.A.C.C. members
- 5.** Be employed in a practice that is primarily focused on CV care
- 6.** Demonstrate commitment to CV practice for five years or more
- 7.** Be a CCA member of the ACC for two years prior to applying for designation
- 8.** Obtain at least 12 hours of CV related CE credit hours annually
- 9.** Be a current member of the ACC's Cardiovascular Team Section

### How to become an A.A.C.C.?

1. Complete the A.A.C.C. application form.
2. Obtain and attach three letters of recommendation from current F.A.C.C. members.
3. Provide a copy of current license, proof of board certification and CE activities for the last calendar year.
4. Payment of \$25 application fee (credit card or check payable to the American College of Cardiology).

Completed applications and materials should be mailed or faxed to:

American College of Cardiology  
Resource Center  
2400 N Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037

OR

Fax: (202) 375-6842

OR

Access a PDF of the application at [http://www.acc.org/about/join\\_acc.htm](http://www.acc.org/about/join_acc.htm)

Questions regarding the application process? Please contact Kelli Bohannon at (800) 253-4636, ext. 6635 or via email at [kbohanno@acc.org](mailto:kbohanno@acc.org).





# Associate of the American College of Cardiology

## APPLICATION FORM

### BE SURE TO ENCLOSE:

1. COMPLETED APPLICATION
2. SIGNED LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
3. PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PRACTICING LICENSE AND PROOF OF CE ACTIVITIES
4. PAYMENT

### MAIL OR FAX TO:

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY  
 Resource Center  
 2400 N Street, NW  
 Washington, DC 20037  
 Phone: (202) 375-6000, ext. 5603  
 (800) 253-4636, ext. 5603  
 Fax: (202) 375-6842

### PERSONAL DATA

Birth Date (Month/Day/Year) \_\_\_\_\_

Gender  M  F

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Practice/Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Your Position \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

### EDUCATION

	Name of Institution	City/State	Date Graduated	Degree
College or University				
Postgraduate Training				

### PAYMENT INFORMATION

Check (payable in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank) Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Mastercard  VISA  American Express  Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ CSC# (3 Digits) \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEDICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

Name of Society	Office Held (if any)	Dates

## MILITARY SERVICE

Branch and Assignment	From	To

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

BOTH PAST AND PRESENT. FILL IN ALL SECTIONS OR WRITE "NONE" IF THAT IS THE CASE.\*

Name, City and State of Institution	Position or Title	Inclusive Dates	Duration (in years)

## HOSPITAL APPOINTMENTS

BOTH PAST AND PRESENT, INCLUDING STAFF APPOINTMENTS AND ADMITTING PRIVILEGES. FILL IN ALL SECTIONS OR WRITE "NONE" IF THAT IS THE CASE.\*

Name, City and State of Institution	Position or Title	Inclusive Dates	Duration (in years)

\* "See Attachments" or "See CV" is not acceptable; however, if additional space is required, please attach a document with additional information to this application.



## PRACTICE

### 1. Primary work setting (select one):

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiovascular practice group                           | <input type="checkbox"/> HMO group model              | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-specialty group practice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governmental hospital or agency—medical                 | <input type="checkbox"/> HMO staff model              | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental hospital      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governmental hospital or agency—Veterans Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical school or university | <input type="checkbox"/> Solo practice                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |   |   |

### 2. Primary practice setting (select one):

- Inpatient                       Outpatient                       Both

### 3. Primary practice focus (select one):

- |   |  |  |   |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiothoracic Surgery | <input type="checkbox"/> General Cardiology            | <input type="checkbox"/> Peripheral Vascular | <input type="checkbox"/> Congestive Heart Failure | <input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preventive Cardiology  | <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnostic Imaging            | <input type="checkbox"/> Interventional      | <input type="checkbox"/> Valvular Heart Disease   | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrophysiology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pediatrics/Neonatal    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please indicate) _____ |  |   |  |

### 4. Areas of interest (select as many as needed):

- |  |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acute Critical Care           | <input type="checkbox"/> CV Education (patient)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Anticoagulation Clinics | <input type="checkbox"/> CV Education (staff) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lipids Clinic                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Arrhythmias and Devices | <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetic Management    | <input type="checkbox"/> Pediatrics/Neonatal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiac Rehab        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnostic Testing            | <input type="checkbox"/> Preventive              | <input type="checkbox"/> Chest Pain             | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Care          | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality Assurance    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congestive Heart Failure      | <input type="checkbox"/> General Cardiology      | <input type="checkbox"/> Research               | <input type="checkbox"/> Consulting/Consultation | <input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Health                | <input type="checkbox"/> MR/CT Cardiology        | <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiography           |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please indicate) _____ |  |   |  |   |

### 5. Years working in CV Medicine (must be greater than or equal to 5 years):

- 5–10 years                       10–15 years                       15–20 years                       More than 20 years

### 6. CCA Member Join Year

(You can request this information from the ACC if you are unsure.) \_\_\_\_\_

## CCA MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

Please provide the names of any ACC committees, councils, task forces, writing committees, etc. that you have participated in since becoming a member of the College. (You may request this information from the ACC if you are unsure.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR YOUR REFERENCE.

### Credentialing Bodies for the Associate of the American College of Cardiology (A.A.C.C.)

The following credentialing bodies are deemed acceptable for the Associate of the American College of Cardiology (A.A.C.C.) designation. Each of the following credentialing bodies provides board examinations that are nationally recognized.

#### I. Accreditation Council for Clinical Lipidology (ACCL)

(<http://www.lipidspecialist.org>) is an independent certifying organization that has developed standards and an examination in the field of Clinical Lipidology for the growing number of allied health professionals who manage and treat patients with lipid and other related disorders.

#### II. American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN)

(<http://www.aacn.org>) AACN is the largest specialty nursing organization in the world, representing the interests of more than 500,000 nurses who are charged with the responsibility of caring for acutely and critically ill patients. The association is dedicated to providing our members with the knowledge and resources necessary to provide optimal care to critically ill patients. AACN Certification Corporation administers certification and renewal programs for nurses to proudly demonstrate the specialized knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for safe and effective acute and critical care nursing practice. A mark of excellence, certification contributes to improved patient health and safety by establishing and promoting high standards of professional practice. AACN Certification Corporation specialty exams, CCRN, CCNS and PCCN, as well as the subspecialty exams, CMC and CSC, have all been accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), the accreditation arm of the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA).

#### III. American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)

(<http://www.nursecredentialing.org>). A subsidiary of the American Nurses Association, ANCC provides individuals and organizations throughout the nursing profession with internationally renowned credentialing programs that certify nurses in specialty practice areas, recognize healthcare organizations for nursing excellence through the Magnet Recognition Program®, and accredit providers of continuing nursing education. ANCC is the largest and most prestigious nurse credentialing organization in the world, providing certification exams to validate nurses' skills, knowledge, and abilities. More than a quarter million nurses have been certified by ANCC since 1990, including more than 75,000 advanced practice nurses. ANCC offers nursing certification in 26 different specialties, including CCRN for critical care, CCNS for clinical nurse specialists, PCCN for progressive care nurses; ACNPC certification for acute care nurse practitioners, CNML certification for nurse managers and leaders; and two subspecialty certifications in cardiac medicine (CMC) and cardiac surgery (CSC). ANCC's exams are accredited by the American Board of Nursing Specialties and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

#### IV. American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)

(<http://aanpcertification.org>). The purpose of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners National Certification Program is to provide a valid

and reliable program for entry-level nurse practitioners to recognize their education, knowledge and professional expertise. The National Certification Program provides a process for validation of an advanced practice nurse's qualifications and knowledge for practice as a nurse practitioner. The National Certification Program was established as a certification body for the evaluation of individuals who wish to enter, continue and/or advance in the profession through the certification process. The certification program is an independent incorporated non-profit organization.

#### V. Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS) (<http://www.bpsweb.org/>)

is a certifying body that provides certification for clinical pharmacists. Board certification through BPS—the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties—is key to fostering pharmacists' inevitable evolution from order-filling agents to integral members of the patient care team. The Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners (JCPP) predicts that, by the year 2015, pharmacists "...will be the patient care providers that healthcare systems and payers recognize as being responsible for ensuring desired medication use outcomes."

#### VI. National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants

(NCCPA) (<http://www.nccpa.net>) is the only credentialing organization for physician assistants in the United States. Established as a not-for-profit organization in 1975, NCCPA is dedicated to assuring the public that certified physician assistants meet established standards of knowledge and clinical skills upon entry into practice and throughout their careers. Every U.S. state, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories have decided to rely on NCCPA certification as one of the criteria for licensure or regulation of physician assistants. Approximately 60,000 physician assistants have been certified by NCCPA.

#### VII. NASPE (now Heart Rhythm Society) (<http://www.ihre.org>)

created a wholly owned subsidiary, NASPEXAM®, to develop and administer an "Examination of Special Competency in Cardiac Pacing and Cardioversion Defibrillation" for the physician. The examination was first offered in 1986. At the request of non-physician Allied Professionals, i.e., engineers, technicians, physician assistants, and nurses employed by hospitals, in academe or by industry, an "Examination of Special Competency in Cardiac Pacing and Cardioversion Defibrillation" for the Allied Professional, NASPEXAM® AP/Pacing, was developed and initially administered in 1989 after being administered on a trial basis to a select group of examinees in 1988. This examination was administered in 1989, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2001, and 2003 and is now offered biennially during the Annual Scientific Sessions.

#### VIII. Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB) (<http://www.pncb.org>)

gives national examinations for pediatric nurses and nurse practitioners that are the only certification exams collaboratively designed by CPNPs®, CPNs®, and pediatricians. PNCB exams are recognized and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the Society of Pediatric Nurses (SPN), the Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (AFPNP) and the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP). All PNCB certification programs are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

## Nationally Recognized Credentials for the Associate of the American College of Cardiology (A.A.C.C.)

CREENTIAL DESCRIPTION	CREENTIAL	CREENTIALING BODY
<b>Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)</b>		
Clinical Nurse Specialist in Pediatrics	PCNS-BC	ANCC
Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Health	ACNS-BC	ANCC
Clinical Nurse Specialist in Gerontology	GCNS-BC	ANCC
Certification for Adult, Neonatal and Pediatric Acute and Critical Care Clinical Nurse Specialist	CCNS	AACN
Certified Pediatric Nurse	CPN	PNCB
Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse	CPEN	PNCB
<b>Nurse Practitioners (NPs)</b>		
Family Nurse Practitioner	FNP-BC	ANCC
Adult Nurse Practitioner	ANP-BC	ANCC
Acute Care Nurse Practitioner	ACNP-BC	ANCC
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner	PNP-BC	ANCC
Gerontological Nurse Practitioner	GNP-BC	ANCC
Certification for Acute Care Nurse Practitioners	ACNPC	AACN
Certified Nurse Practitioners	NP-C	AANP
Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner — Primary Care	CPNP-PC	PNCB
Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner — Acute Care	CPNP-AC	PNCB
<b>Physician Assistants (PAs)</b>		
Certified Physician Assistant	PA-C	NCCPC
<b>Registered Nurses (RNs)</b>		
Cardiac Rehabilitation Nurse	RN-BC	ANCC
Cardiac Vascular Nurse	RN-BC	ANCC
Certification for Adult, Neonatal and Pediatric Acute and Critical Care Nurse Practitioners	CCRN	ANCC
Certification for Progressive Care Nurses	PCCN	AACN
Cardiac Medicine Certification	CMC	AACN
Cardiac Surgery Certification	CSC	AACN
Certified Pediatric Nurse	CPN	PNCB
<b>Clinical Pharmacists (PharmDs)</b>		
Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist	BCPS	BPS
Added Qualification in Cardiology	AQ (Cardiology)	BPS
<b>Allied Health Professionals (PAs, NPs, CNS, RN, and/or PharmDs)</b>		
Clinical Lipid Specialist	CLS	ACCL
International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners	IBHRE	HRS

\* Clinical Lipid Specialty (CLS) Board Certification: Primary national board certification for RNs, CNSs only. Secondary national board certification for NPs, PAs, and PharmDs. NPs, PAs, and PharmDs must have the appropriate national board certification for their field.

## Certification Verification Web Sites for the Associate of the American College of Cardiology (A.A.C.C.)

The majority of the national board certifications can be confirmed online.

CREENTIALING BODY	VERIFICATION WEBSITE
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN)	<a href="http://www.aacn.org/WD/Certifications/Content/verification.pcms?menu=Certification">http://www.aacn.org/WD/Certifications/Content/verification.pcms?menu=Certification</a>
American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)	<a href="http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Certification/VerifyCertification.aspx">http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Certification/VerifyCertification.aspx</a>
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)	<a href="http://aanpcertification.org/">http://aanpcertification.org/</a>
Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS)	<a href="http://www.bpsweb.org/mybps/index.cfm">http://www.bpsweb.org/mybps/index.cfm</a>
National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)	<a href="https://www.nccpa.net/pa/credentialpublic.aspx">https://www.nccpa.net/pa/credentialpublic.aspx</a>
NASPE (now Heart Rhythm Society)	<a href="http://www.ibhre.org/Certification/CertificationAPPacing.htm">http://www.ibhre.org/Certification/CertificationAPPacing.htm</a>
Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB)*	<a href="http://www.pncb.org/ptistore/control/verif/index">http://www.pncb.org/ptistore/control/verif/index</a>

\* There are fees associated with verification services.



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Washington, DC 20037

*resource@acc.org*

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Fax: (202) 375-6842