



## ABPANC | CPAN and CAPA News & Updates | June 2022

### A Letter from ABPANC President Lynn Nolan, MSN, RN, CAPA, CPAN, NEA-BC

Dear Certified Perianesthesia Nurses,

As I reflect on the past two years serving as the President of ABPANC's Board of Directors, I am truly honored to have represented certified nurses.

When I started this role in July of 2020 the world was in chaos and there were no longer "norms" of our specialty or certification. With surgeries shut down, the nursing world was quickly innovating and transforming patient care. We went to work while others stayed home and our pride in our profession was unmatched.

ABPANC had no playbook for a pandemic and we too needed to transform and innovate. ABPANC introduced remote proctoring in the fall of 2021, giving perianesthesia nurses the ability to take the certification exam in the comfort and safety of their own homes. We put hardship policies in place as we received letters from perianesthesia nurses describing true hardships.

With travel and gathering restrictions from our states and hospitals, many ASPAN regional component meetings became virtual, and we found that attendance to multiple meetings in one day was possible. During Perianesthesia Nurse Awareness Week, I attended an East Coast and West Coast component meeting on the same day! Virtual meetings have now become more prevalent as we continue to be challenged by conference and travel costs and staffing in one of the greatest nursing shortages we have experienced.

As I transition to ABPANC Past President, my wish in this coming year is that we look forward and focus on wellness, kindness, and self-care. Certified perianesthesia nurses have much to be proud of and we have shown how truly versatile we are during unprecedented times. I am honored to have served and continue to be so proud to be a certified perianesthesia nurse.

Thank you to all those who supported me in this journey, and **Thank You Certified Perianesthesia Nurses** for continuing to strive to be the very best in perianesthesia nursing care!

Sincerely,  
Lynn Nolan, MSN, RN, CAPA, CPAN, NEA-BC  
President, ABPANC Board of Directors, 2020-2022

---

## CPAN/CAPA Celebration Luncheon Recap: Congratulations to our 2022 Award Winners!

We were thrilled to see so many CPAN and CAPA certified nurses back together again at the ASPAN National Conference in Philadelphia in April!

The CPAN/CAPA Celebration Luncheon on [April 8](#) provided an opportunity to reconnect with one another, recognize outstanding achievements and, most importantly, celebrate!

Congratulations to our 2022 Award Winners!

- **Advocacy Award:** Tanya Gros, RN, CPAN - Oschner Medical Center North Shore, Slidell, Louisiana. [Read more.](#)
- **President's Award:** Vonda Fitch, RN, CPAN, CAPA - Carlsbad Medical Center, Carlsbad, New Mexico. [Read more.](#)
- **Shining Star:** This award publicly recognizes ASPAN Components for supporting and encouraging CPAN® and CAPA® certification at the local level. [View the 16 ASPAN Components who received this award.](#)

[View the Celebration Luncheon Photo Gallery](#)

***Do you know an outstanding CPAN and/or CAPA certified nurse who has gone above and beyond to meet the needs of a perianesthesia patient and/or their family?*** Nominate them for the 2023 Advocacy Award! This is your chance to recognize these outstanding nurses. Nominations are now open. [Learn more and submit a nomination.](#)

---

## Earn National Recognition for your Department through ABPANC's Certification Achievement Award

ABPANC's prestigious Certification Achievement Award recognizes departments that have achieved at least 75% or 100% of eligible perianesthesia nurses holding the CPAN and/or CAPA certification. Earn national recognition for your department by setting and achieving this goal! Applications are due Feb. 15, 2023; start planning now by encouraging colleagues to register for the Fall 2022 exam window! [Learn more.](#)

# Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming Key Dates

## Become Certified:

**July 1- Sept. 15:** Fall exam registration window

**Sept. 15-Nov. 15:** Fall testing window

Exams can be taken in-person or online. [Learn more.](#)

[Certification Information](#)

## Recertification Dates:

**July 1- Oct. 31:** Fall recertification window

Prepare now for your recertification window by logging into ABPANC's Learning Builder to track your recertification requirements. [Learn more.](#)

[Recertification Information](#)

**Did you know?** The perianesthesia scope of practice requirements include any role that supports or advances perianesthesia nursing, such as care coordination, direct patient care, education, informatics, leadership, navigation, patient/family liaison, quality improvement and research. The practice area for perianesthesia nursing is defined by Schick & Windle (2021) as:

*“Perianesthesia nursing encompasses caring for patients during the pre-anesthesia level of care, (pre admission and day surgery/procedure), in post-anesthesia levels of care (Phase I, Phase II, and Extended Care), ambulatory care settings, extended observation settings, and special procedure areas (e.g. endoscopy, radiology, cardiovascular, oncology), obstetric units, pain management services, and physician or dental offices.” (p. xi).*

---

## Scholarship Program: Apply by June 30 for Fall Window

ABPANC offers a limited number of scholarships for both certification and recertification. If your employer provides no monetary support for these programs, you may be eligible to apply. **Applications are now being accepted through June 30 the Fall 2022 certification and recertification windows.** [Learn more.](#)

---