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## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **U.S. Department of Education Continues Recognition of Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education**

The U.S. Department of Education has renewed its recognition of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) as a national nursing accrediting agency for 5 years, finding that CCNE is a reliable authority to determine the quality of nursing education programs at the baccalaureate, master's, doctoral, and certificate levels, including programs offering distance education.

This announcement, made by Deputy Under Secretary Jordan Matsudaira, follows a comprehensive, multi-step review process. In August, the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, which advises the Secretary of Education on matters related to higher education accreditation, voted to recommend that the Department renew CCNE's recognition, concurring with the recommendation made by the Department staff.

"The U.S. Department of Education's continued recognition of CCNE for the maximum 5-year period with no citations or concerns is a testament to CCNE's commitment to excellence, which is shared by nursing program administrators, faculty, practicing nurses, employers, students, and CCNE's dedicated volunteers, among other stakeholders," said Philip R. Martinez, Jr., EdD, MSN, APRN-BC, CCRN-CMC, Chair of the CCNE Board of Commissioners. "CCNE's commitment to continuous quality improvement is evidenced not only by the reviews undertaken by the nursing programs accredited by the Commission but also by CCNE itself, following this rigorous recognition process."

CCNE accreditation is based on compliance with the *CCNE Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs (Standards)*. In accordance with the *CCNE Standards*, programs are evaluated in four areas: mission and governance; institutional commitment and resources; curriculum and teaching-learning practices; and assessment and achievement of program outcomes. Additionally, the *CCNE Standards* convey CCNE's 12 core values, which include, but are not limited to, "Foster trust in the process, in CCNE, and in the professional community" and "Maintain integrity through a consistent, fair, and honest accreditation process." The *CCNE Standards*, including the 12 core values, can be accessed on the CCNE [website](https://www.ccneaccreditation.org).

CCNE accredits more than 2,000 baccalaureate degree, master's degree, Doctor of Nursing Practice, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) certificate programs at approximately 875 institutions in the United States and its territories. Additionally, CCNE is the first organization in the United States to accredit nurse residency

programs. These are found in a variety of settings across the country and are developed and managed by academic-practice partnerships. For more information about CCNE accreditation or the application process, please visit [ccneaccreditation.org](http://ccneaccreditation.org).

*The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency contributing to the improvement of the public's health. CCNE strives to promote the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate, and residency/fellowship programs in nursing. As a voluntary, self-regulatory process, CCNE accreditation supports and encourages continuous quality improvement in nursing education and nurse residency/fellowship programs.*

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