

Newly Accredited ANCC Practice Transition Accreditation Program (PTAP): Ohio State University Case Study

When the James Cancer Hospital at The Ohio State University decided to apply for the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC's) Practice Transition Accreditation Program™, it sought to validate the strength of its transition program and to learn from other accredited organizations.

“This was an important journey to go on because it allowed us to not only validate what we were doing well, but highlight where we had opportunity to grow and improve. For example, after a focus group our director conducted with our fellows last winter, we discovered an opportunity to revive our preceptor course,” said Robin M. Rosselet, DNP, RN, CNP, AOCN, director of advanced practice providers at the James Cancer Hospital Oncology Nursing Administration. “We updated the curriculum and offered many sessions over the summer, making it mandatory for fellowship preceptors to attend. We had great feedback from participants and will continue to monitor the effects of the course.”

At first glance, Rosselet said, the self-study portion of the PTAP application looked intimidating. However, the team was able to work together to divide and conquer each of the sections, so that each member contributed their own strengths in writing the document. The fellows also contributed firsthand examples of how the program had achieved criteria within each domain.

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Rosselet said the biggest reward in achieving accreditation has been the recognition and buy-in from senior leaders.

“This year we were able to form an advisory committee to seek feedback about our fellowship, and it has been so exciting to collaborate with senior nursing and medical leadership in discussing how we all envision taking our fellowship to the next level,” she said.

Rosselet said the program's nurse practitioners (NPs) are impacted by the PTAP accreditation because they are now provided a well-structured, yearlong transition to advanced oncology and critical care practice. According to Rosselet, they are afforded more time to develop their NP skills and are at times more confident in the clinical environment compared with their colleagues with similar experience who did not go through the fellowship.

“Our health care organization is impacted by our accredited practice transition program because it raises the bar for onboarding and transitioning new graduate NPs to practice, and it creates a flow of new, oncology-trained NPs for our growing workforce,” she said. “Our patients benefit from our accredited practice transition program because, like our other achievements, such as Magnet® designation, having a program like this reassures our patients and their families that they are being cared for by the highest-quality NPs.”



Rosselet recommends aspiring PTAP applicants go to ANCC's Practice Transition Accreditation Program website and complete the Gap Analysis Tool.

"It's the best way to gauge your program's readiness to go on the accreditation journey. And if you're not yet ready, it will help you determine what areas to focus on to get there. Consider having an advisory committee that can give you honest feedback and take your program to the next level," she said. "The staff at ANCC was amazing to work with. They were prompt in responding to emails and phone calls when we had questions and were seeking clarification on our document. The journey only made our program even better."

For more information about PTAP and to read about other PTAP organizations, visit www.nursecredentialing.org/CaseforPTAP.

About The Ohio State University

Founded in 1870, The Ohio State University's campus in Columbus has been the stage for academic achievement and a laboratory for innovation.

The university's main campus is one of America's largest and most comprehensive. As Ohio's best and one of the nation's top 20 public universities, Ohio State is further recognized for a top-rated academic medical center and a premier cancer hospital and research center. As a land-grant university, it has a physical presence throughout the state, with campuses and research centers located across Ohio.

About the ANCC Accreditation Program

The ANCC Accreditation program recognizes the importance of high-quality continuing nursing education and skills-based competency programs. Around the world, ANCC-accredited organizations provide nurses with the knowledge and skills to help improve care and patient outcomes.

Accreditation by ANCC validates that a nursing residency or fellowship program has been operationalized to meet ANCC standards, regardless of whether the curriculum is developed in-house or purchased from a provider. Use of any course/material/service does not imply eligibility for or successful performance in the submission of credential applications, nor is it a requirement to qualify for accreditation. ANCC does not endorse any products or services.

About ANCC

ANCC is the world's largest and most prestigious nurse credentialing organization. ANCC's internationally renowned credentialing programs certify nurses in specialty practice areas; recognize health care organizations for promoting safe, positive work environments through the Magnet Recognition Program[®] and the Pathway to Excellence[®] Program; and accredit providers of continuing nursing education, skills competency programs, and transition-to-practice programs. ANCC provides leading-edge information and education services and products to support its core credentialing programs. ANCC continues to drive nursing excellence, quality care, and improved outcomes globally through innovation, research, and operational positive practice.

ANCC is part of the ANA Enterprise. The ANA Enterprise comprises the American Nurses Association, the American Nurses Credentialing Center, and the American Nurses Foundation.