

we need you!



VOLUNTEER AS AN ACEN
PEER EVALUATOR

Volunteering matters!

Accreditation is a peer-review process, which means it is powered by you and your colleagues!

Volunteering in the ACEN accreditation review process assists in the fostering of quality, equity, access, opportunity, mobility, and preparation for practice, or transition-to-practice, at all levels of nursing preparation.



What is a Peer Evaluator?

An ACEN Peer Evaluator is a representative of the ACEN who makes recommendations for a program's accreditation status to the ACEN Board of Commissioners (BOC). Peer evaluators may be nurse administrators, nurse educators, or nurse clinicians.

Peer evaluators are knowledgeable about common, contemporary, and best practices within the various program types, appropriate curricula, and conventions as well as current trends in healthcare, nursing education, and/or nursing practice.

WHAT DOES A PEER EVALUATOR DO?

Peer evaluators volunteer in two essential components of the accreditation process:

Site Visit

On-site review of a program conducted to determine the extent to which the program meets the ACEN Standards and Criteria by clarifying, verifying, and amplifying the information (narrative/evidence) presented in the program's Self-Study Report (self-assessment). Findings are recorded in the Site Visit Report.

Evaluation Review Panel (ERP)

A panel of peer evaluators that review the Self-Study Report and the findings of the Site Visit Report to make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. ERP provides an opportunity to ensure recommendations are consistent amongst programs being reviewed.

SITE VISIT RESPONSIBILITIES

Site Visit Team Member

- Participate in onsite interviews, meetings, and observations
- Review supporting documents and exhibits
- Contribute to the written Site Visit Report
- Visit any additional teaching locations as needed

Site Visit Team Chair

- Act as official spokesperson for the team
- Facilitate team member responsibilities
- Facilitate meetings with the program nurse administrator
- Inform the nurse administrator about team findings as the visit progresses
- Request additional information as needed

EVALUATION REVIEW PANEL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Independent review of all assigned programs
- Creation of a report presentation in advance of the ERP meeting
- Meet to deliberate on findings with other peer evaluators
- Make a recommendation to the entire BOC

BENEFITS OF BECOMING A PEER EVALUATOR



Learn

Observe practices in other nursing education programs that may benefit your program



Develop

Foster your development as a nurse educator and enhance your knowledge about the Standards and Criteria for accreditation



Expand

Increase your accreditation expertise, which will benefit your professional development and your nursing program



Travel

Visit programs outside your state or country and multiply your network of colleagues

STIPENDS, HONORARIUMS & REIMBURSEMENTS

Peer evaluators receive per diem stipends and a one-time honorarium when serving on a site visit or the Evaluation Review Panel.

The ACEN will reimburse peer evaluators for all reasonable and necessary expenses while traveling on authorized ACEN business in compliance with the [ACEN Travel Policy](#).

REQUIRED ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

Peer evaluators must have certain academic preparation depending on the type of program they are reviewing.

Nurse Educator/Administrator

Clinical Doctorate and Master's Programs

- Earned doctoral degree from an accredited college/university and a graduate degree with a major in nursing or related field from an accredited college/university

Baccalaureate, Associate, Diploma, and Practical Programs

- Graduate degree with a major in nursing or related field from an accredited college/university

Nurse Clinician

APRN Program Options

- Graduate degree with a major in nursing or related field from an accredited college/university

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE: NURSE EDUCATOR/ADMINISTRATOR

1. Currently hold a full-time faculty, part-time faculty, or administrative appointment in an ACEN-accredited program.
 2. Previously held a full-time faculty or administrative appointment in an ACEN-accredited program and now holds a part-time faculty or administrative appointment in an ACEN-accredited program.
 3. Held a full-time faculty, part-time faculty, or administrative appointment in an ACEN-accredited program and is retired for no more than two years from this position.
 4. Held a full-time faculty or administrative appointment in an ACEN-accredited program and then held a part-time faculty or administrative appointment in an ACEN-accredited program and is retired for no more than two years from the part-time position.
- Knowledge of postsecondary and/or higher education; curriculum and instructional methods; current issues in nursing education and practice.
 - Expertise in communication, group dynamics, information literacy, use of technology, best practices in educational and clinical settings.
 - Contributions in scholarship/research, practice, community service, professional service.

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE: NURSE CLINICIAN

- Full-time or part-time time position in a clinical practice environment
- Knowledge of current nursing practice, contemporary issues in healthcare settings, transition of new graduates into nursing practice.
- Expertise in communication, group dynamics, information literacy, use of technology, best practices for patient health and safety.
- Contributions in scholarship/research, practice, community service, professional service.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are accepted from

September 23 through April 30

To apply, please visit the [ACEN website](#).

Once eligibility is established, you will receive an email with a secure web link to complete online peer evaluator training at your convenience. The training is available 24/7 and will take between 4–6 hours to complete.

Once the training is complete, you will earn 5.75 CEs and will be eligible to serve as a team member on a site visit team.

QUESTIONS?

We'd love to hear from you!

Contact a member of the ACEN
staff at 404-975-5000 or email us at
info@acenursing.org