

**Getting Started:**  
**A Quick Guide to AHNCC Nurse Coaching Certification**



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## Getting Started: Nurse Coaching Certification Quick Guide

Nurse Coaching is a skilled, purposeful, results-oriented, and structured relationship-centered, interaction-based role with clients based in the precepts of Holistic Nursing wherein clients are facilitated in achieving health-focused goals.

Here is a quick guide to help you apply for Certification in Nurse Coaching. A simple breakdown of the steps required. This guide might not directly apply to those who are currently international. You can find more information about that in our more detailed guide, or on our website.

<https://www.ahncc.org/certification/holistic-nurse-coach/>

### 1) Eligibility Criteria

- a. **ALL** applications/certifications require an unrestricted, current RN license. I am sorry but we **do not** accept LPN or LVN applicants.
- b. Active Practice:
  - I. Associate or Diploma degree in Nursing: RN for a minimum of 4 years full time or 8,000 hours part time within the past 7 years.
  - II. Baccalaureate degree in Nursing or higher: RN for a minimum of 2 years full time or 4,000 hours part time within the past 5 years.
- c. Completion of a minimum of 60 CNEs consistent with the Nurse Coach Core Values and competencies. Must be accrued over the past 3 years. You can find that information in the links below.
  - I. <https://www.ahncc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2023-NC-Core-Essentials-and-Competencies8.13.2023.pdf>
  - II. <https://www.ahncc.org/resources/professional-development-activities/>
- d. Completion of 60 hours coaching experience that has been mentored and/or supervised by an AHNCC certified Nurse Coach supervisor along with a validation letter.
  - I. Nurse Coach programs can help meet these requirements. You can find the list of Nurse Coaching programs at the link below. Some programs offer Holistic Nursing in addition to Nurse Coaching.  
<https://www.ahncc.org/certification/holistic-nurse-coach/>
  - II. You do not have to go through a Nurse Coaching program to sit for the exam. You can find a list of AHNCC Nurse Coaches who have offered to be a mentor/ supervisor. Keep in mind that each person might charge a fee for their services.  
<https://www.ahncc.org/resources/nurse-coach-resources/>

### 2) Exam Preparation

- a. The two primary resources are the Core Essentials for the Professional Nurse Coach Role and The Art and Science of Nurse Coaching: The Provider's Guide to Coaching Scope and Competencies, Second Edition (Hess, Dossey, Southard, Luck, Schaub, & Bark). Examination items are developed to test the Core Practice Competencies of Nurse Coaching.

- b. The competencies may be found as an appendix in the Core Essentials for the Professional Nurse Coach Role. Found in the link below.

<https://www.ahncc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2023-NC-Core-Essentials-and-Competenciesc8.13.2023.pdf>

- c. To purchase The Art and Science of Nurse Coaching: The Provider's Guide to Coaching Scope and Competencies, Second Edition (Hess, Dossey, Southard, Luck, Schaub, & Bark)  
<https://www.nursingworld.org/nurses-books/>
- d. The Nurse Coach practice test is available through C-NET. It is \$65 per attempt. Answers are not given to the questions that are incorrect. If you have an issue with the application or the practice test you must reach out to C-NET directly.

[info@cnetnurse.com](mailto:info@cnetnurse.com)

C-NET

800-463-0786

- e. You can find the practice exam and application for our Nurse Coach Certification below.

Nurse Coach- Board Certified (NC-BC)

<https://online-practice-exam.cnetnurse.com/ahncc-ncbc/> -Practice Exam

<https://www.cnetnurse.com/holistic-nursing-nc-bc> - Application

### 3) **Additional Information and Helpful Links**

- a. The Health and Wellness Nurse Coach Board Certified (HWNC-BC) is given to those who hold both the NC-BC and a Holistic Nurse certification. It replaces the Nurse Coaching certificate once both are held and remain active.
- b. AHNCC Video Library provides more in-depth information on specific topics.
  - i. <https://www.ahncc.org/resources/video-library/>
- c. Certification Applications and Supporting Documents
  - i. <https://www.ahncc.org/resources/document-library/>
- d. Professional Development and Continuing Competency
  - i. <https://www.ahncc.org/resources/professional-development-activities/>
- e. AHNCC Nurse Coach Page
  - i. <https://www.ahncc.org/certification/holistic-nurse-coach/>
- f. American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA)
  - i. <https://www.ahncc.org/resources/membership-in-the-american-holistic-nurses-association-ahna/>

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<https://www.ahncc.org>

