



Hospice and Palliative Accrual for Recertification (HPAR) Frequently Asked Questions for ACHPN® and CHPN® HPAR

Q: What is HPAR?

A: Certificants who meet the requirements must renew their certification through a process known as the Hospice and Palliative Accrual for Recertification (HPAR). The process includes a practice hour requirement plus the accumulation of points of professional development activities over the preceding four years.

Q: How are points accrued?

A: Points can be accrued through the Situational Judgment Exercise (required); Continuing Education (nursing/medical/other healthcare disciplines through live, self-study, online, etc.); Scholastic Accomplishments (academic education, professional presentations, professional publications); and Professional Contributions (precepting healthcare professional students enrolled in an academic program, orienting staff, volunteer service in professional healthcare related organizations). Each category varies as to how the points are calculated and how many of the total points can be obtained in that category.

Q: What are the requirements for the activities?

A: Each activity must correlate with the test content outline. More details and instructions are in the [ACHPN HPAR packet](#) and the [CHPN HPAR packet](#).

Q: How much does HPAR cost?

A: Fees vary for each certification program. See "[Deadlines & Fees](#)" in the "Resources" column under "Certification" at www.goHPCC.org.

Q: What is the required Situational Judgment Exercise?

A: The Situational Judgment Exercise (SJE) uses a series of case based scenarios to test critical reasoning and clinical application of content beyond the level of the initial certification exam. See the [SJE FAQs for ACHPN and CHPN](#) for more details.

Q: When do I accumulate points and when is the application due?

A: Points may be accrued throughout your certification cycle that is from your exam date through certification expiration date.

The deadline for HPAR submission is 1 year to 8 weeks prior to expiration of certification for the standard recertification certification fee. If you submit your application during the extended deadline period which is 8 weeks or less prior to expiration of certification, an additional application fee will be assessed.

Q: Where is the application found?

A: HPCC has taken the lead in the area of recertification by developing a new model to promote continuing competence as well as provide a new online system through LearningBuilder. This exciting new opportunity offers many

enhancements to the recertification process including ease of entry, dropdown boxes to assist with information, online payment and submission, and easy connection to the review team at HPCC for any questions. Access to LearningBuilder is through the website www.goHPCC.org.

Q: How many points do I receive for continuing education?

A: One (1) contact hour equals one (1) HPAR point.

Q: Do all continuing education contact hours count toward HPAR points?

A: Continuing education activities can be provided by a variety of organizations. However, all continuing education activities must have been provided or formally approved for contact hours by an accredited provider or approver of nursing continuing education. More details are available in the HPAR packet and LearningBuilder.

Q: Can I still use CE tracking for renewal of certification?

A: CE tracking in the Nurses Learning Network can still be a repository for your activities, however in order for you to submit for renewal you must enter your activities into your learning plan through LearningBuilder. Some information may have been imported into individual learning plans from CE tracking when applicable. CE tracking data that was incomplete or could not be matched with certainty to a specific certificant was not imported. It is your responsibility to confirm that all information is complete and accurate. Users continue to have access to CE tracking as a reference for completion of learning plans. You may print the information from CE tracking and enter it into your learning plan. (There is not an automated import function because LearningBuilder and CE tracking are on different systems).

Q: What should I do if I have a question about HPAR?

A: You may either call the HPCC national office at 412-787-1057 or email your question to hpcc@goHPCC.org.