

To: Advanced Genetics Nursing stakeholders

From: Kathy Chappell, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN  
SVP, Accreditation, Certification, Measurement, and the Institute for Credentialing Research

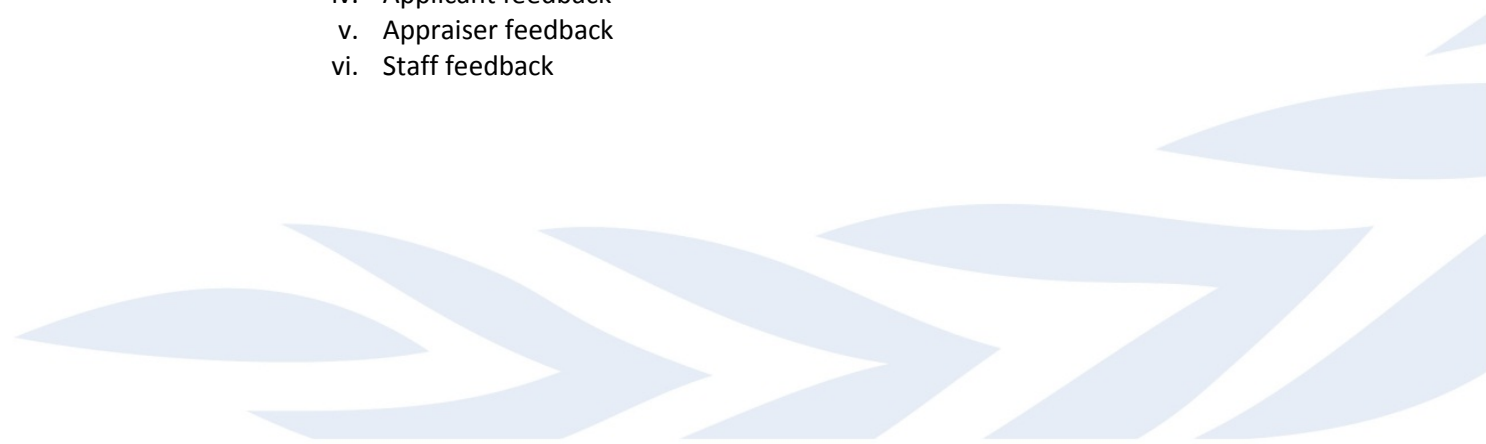
Date: October 20, 2017

RE: Portfolio Program Retirement – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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The following summary of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) is intended as guidance for current portfolio program stakeholders. Individual questions or concerns may be emailed to [certification@ana.org](mailto:certification@ana.org) or to Kathy Chappell at [Kathy.chappell@ana.org](mailto:Kathy.chappell@ana.org)

FAQ:

1. Why did ANCC retire the portfolio program?
    - a. The ANCC Commission on Certification, in collaboration with the ANCC leadership team, has decided to retire the portfolio program due to extremely low applicant volumes. Persistent low applicant volumes have precluded ANCC from applying for external accreditation, and none of the portfolio programs have reached an applicant volume to achieve financial stability
  
  2. What steps did ANCC take before deciding to retire the portfolio program?
    - a. ANCC hired an independent consultant to perform a comprehensive review of the program.
    - b. ANCC heavily invested in marketing and advertising to promote the portfolio programs and improve applicant volume.
    - c. ANCC conducted extensive internal analyses before making the decision to retire the portfolio programs. These included:
      - i. Financial outcome metrics
      - ii. Evaluation of workflow processes for operational efficiency
      - iii. Evaluation of historic applicant volume
      - iv. Applicant feedback
      - v. Appraiser feedback
      - vi. Staff feedback
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3. When will ANCC stop accepting applications for the portfolio programs?
  - a. ANCC will stop accepting applications as of November 17, 2017. Executive leaders of each portfolio program were notified personally and in writing.
  
4. What if my application has already been submitted? Will it be processed?
  - a. All applications that have been submitted will be reviewed and a certification decision will be determined in early December.
  
5. What if I am already certified through the portfolio program? Will I be able to maintain my certification?
  - a. Yes, all currently certified nurses will be able to maintain the certification by meeting ANCC's certification renewal requirements.
  - b. In addition, applicants will still have access to their career portfolio information.
  
6. Are all portfolio programs being retired?
  - a. Yes, all of the portfolio programs are being retired.
  
7. Does ANCC intend to pursue other methods of certifying registered nurses (RNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) in addition to examinations?
  - a. ANCC continues to explore methods for certifying RNs and APRNs.

