

AMERICAN MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATION BOARD
 (Formerly the ACNM Certification Council)
 2005 Annual Report

The mission of the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) is to protect and serve the public by providing the certification standard for individuals educated in the profession of midwifery. AMCB fulfills its mission through three primary activities: a national examination for initial certification as a nurse-midwife (CNM) or midwife (CM), a re-certification program for CNMs or CMs to assist certificants to fulfill their professional responsibilities to maintain competence, and professional discipline.

A major change in the administration of the national certification examination (NCE) occurred with the implementation of computer-based testing in February 2005. Prior to this time the NCE was administered in several educational sites throughout the country on three specific dates each year. In collaboration with AMCB's testing partner, Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP), the NCE is now available 52 weeks of the year, 5 days each week (except for federal holidays), at more than 140 sites serving all 50 states of the U.S. Candidates for certification are able to take the examination according to their own personal schedules at any of AMP's testing sites as soon as their application is approved. At the conclusion of the examination the candidate knows preliminary NCE results with final results mailed in a few weeks following psychometric verification. For first-time candidates, the overall pass rate on the NCE in 2005 was 90.2%, up from 87.5% in 2004.

Since the year 2000 in which 454 CNM/CMs were initially certified, the number of new CNM/CMs certified annually has declined 34.1% as indicated in Table 1 below. In 2005, 293 CNMs and 6 CMs were initially certified.

Table 1. Annual Number of New CNM and CM Certificants since 2000.

Year	Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNM)	Certified Midwives (CM)	Total New CNM/CM	Annual % Increase or (Decrease)
2000	447	7	454	N/A
2001	423	7	430	(5.3%)
2002	402	2	404	(6.0%)
2003	331	5	336	(16.8%)
2004	340	15	355	5.6%
2005	293	6	299	(15.8%)
2006				

The second 8-year cycle of the Certificate Maintenance Program (CMP) was completed in December 2005. The new release CMP module for 2005 was Antepartum and Primary Care of the Pregnant Woman. By December 31, 2006, individuals initially certified in 1998 must complete all requirements for re-certification.

Two other initiatives accomplished during 2005 were the renaming of ACC to AMCB, and the relocation of the corporate office from Landover to Linthicum, MD. The primary reason for renaming ACC was to further differentiate the organization in the minds of its constituents from the ACNM. Many certificants were often confused about the relationship between the ACNM and ACC and did not understand that

ACC was a totally separate organization in a different physical location than the ACNM. The new corporate headquarters at 849 International Dr. in Linthicum, MD is just 5 minutes from Baltimore-Washington airport, a location that enhances the travel of the many volunteers who comprise AMCB's various committees and board.

Finally, in March 2005, the Board of Directors welcomed AMCB's new Executive Director, Carrie Bright, IOM, CAE. Ms. Bright has led a significant reorganization of the corporate office, a public awareness initiative to enhance AMCB's exposure to the certificant population, and a renewed emphasis on customer service.

The 2005 ACC/AMCB Board of Directors was composed of the following individuals:

Nancy K. Lowe, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN, President
Barbara W. Graves, CNM, MN, MPH, FACNM, Treasurer
Kathleen Bailey, CNM, MA, MS, Secretary until August 2005
Trisha Farrell, CNM, MS, Secretary beginning August 2005
Kerrie Kuhl, CNM, MS, Chairperson, Certificate Maintenance Program Committee
Nancy Kulb, CNM, MS, Chairperson, Credentials, Administration & Reporting Committee
Peggy Mancuso, CNM, PhD, Chairperson, Examination Committee
Anne M. Mitchell, CNM, PhD, Chairperson, Research Committee
Kate Carpenter, Consumer Member
Judith B. Collins, RNC, MS, WHNP, Professional Liaison Member
Kathleen A. Fagerlund, RN, CRNA, PhD, Professional Liaison Member
Robert H. Heise, MD, Professional Liaison Member
Carrie Bright, IOM, CAE, Executive Director, Ex-officio Member
Ginger Breedlove, CNM, PhD, ACNM Liaison Ex-officio Member