

AMERICAN MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATION BOARD  
(Formerly the ACNM Certification Council)  
2006 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. In 2006, AMCB was reaccredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies for another 5 years.

The national certification exam (NCE) has now been administered via computer-based testing (CBT) for two years. In collaboration with AMCB's testing partner, Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP), the NCE continues to be 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 at their convenience 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 within a few weeks following psychometric verification. In response to requests for more information about the administration of the CBT a link was developed from the AMCB examination application page directly to a sample examination at AMP. AMCB recently began issuing wallet-sized certification cards in addition to certificates for ease in documenting current certification.

For first-time candidates, the overall pass rate on the NCE in 2006 was 82.7%, which is consistent with previous years. While the number of new CNM/CMs certified annually has declined 34.1% since 2000, as indicated in Table 1 below, the change from 2005 to 2006 is minimal. In 2006, 291 CNMs and 4 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	291	4	295	(1.3%)

The third 8-year cycle of the Certificate Maintenance Program (CMP) was completed in December 2006. Of the 551 individuals initially certified in 1998, 513 (93%) were recertified. The vast majority of certificants complete the CMP modules for their recertification. Of the 1462 certified midwives/nurse-midwives who were recertified by the end of 2006, only 5 opted to retake the national certification examination. Each CMP module remains available for 3 years. The newly released CMP module for 2006 was Intrapartum.

The 2006 AMCB Board of Directors was composed of the following individuals:

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