

AMERICAN MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATION BOARD
2008 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 4 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 150 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. Effective July, 2007 the candidates receive official pass/fail results at the conclusion of their examination. AMCB issues wallet-sized certification cards in addition to certificates for ease in documenting current certification.

For the first time since 2004, over 300 candidates were newly certified as CNMs or CMs! There was also an increase in first time candidates (which is the best reflection of midwifery graduates) from 281 in 2007 to 342 in 2008., The overall pass rate on the NCE for first-time candidates in 2008 was 87.1%, which is consistent with previous years.

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%)
2007	285	2	287	(2.7%)
2008	318	2	320	11.5

The fifth 8-year cycle of the Certificate Maintenance Program (CMP) was completed in December 2008 for midwives initially certified in 2000. There were a total of 422 certificants to re-certify (92.1% of 458 original certificants), none of whom took the exam as a means of re-certification. The percentage for recertification was 93.7% in 2007. The vast majority of certificants complete the CMP modules for their recertification. Of the 2348 certified midwives/nurse-midwives who were recertified in these first five CMP cycles, only 5 have opted to retake the national certification examination. An additional 4 certificants had allowed their certification to lapse and were recertified upon passing the Certification Exam.

The 2008 AMCB Board of Directors was composed of the following individuals:

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