



National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses, Inc.

111 West Main Street #100, Garner, NC 27529
919-779-0049 Fax: 919-779-5642 nflpn@mgmt4u.com
www.nflpn.org

Become a Certified Foot Care Specialist (CFCS) with NFLPN's LP/VN CFCS Certification Program

The Objective:

Certification for Licensed Practical and Vocational Nurses interested in obtaining skills and practical knowledge to provide routine foot care to support quality nursing care for patients who are healthy but cannot perform normal foot care and to those who are chronically ill and may suffer pain and disorders on their feet as a result of their illnesses.

Foot Care is a growing need in health care as the population gets older and chronic illness increases. The training course is designed to provide increased knowledge and skill in that specialty care, and to support an advanced Certification for LPNs. Professional Education, LLC has partnered with NFLPN in making this specialty certification available to LPNs.

Rationale – Statement of Need:

LP/VNs are the first line of defense to patients in medical offices and resident facilities against serious foot disorders, lesions, potential amputation due to ulceration, and death. This information is needed to perform the evaluations and care these patients need to prevent these conditions and to treat them when they occur.

With the increase in diabetes in our country, 11% of adults have diabetes mellitus, a disease that causes neuropathy of the feet and high tendency to ulceration of the feet. The CDC expects this disease to be at 20% in our population by 2020 unless Americans change their eating habits. Foot care is essential for diabetics and the need is rising every year. Pulmonary Artery Disease, Pulmonary Venous Disease, lymph edema and many other chronic diseases also leave patients at risk for foot infections and lesions. These lesions cause pain and suffering and can potentially cause amputations, even deaths.

It is imperative for LP/VNs to be trained in Routine Foot Care in order for them to provide quality care for their patients.

Certification:

CFCS Certification is a multi-step process to include separate fees for training, certification application and testing. Please take all requirements and expense into consideration before beginning the certification process. No refunds are authorized. If you only need the training, you are not required to apply for certification.



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NFLPN has partnered with Professional Education, LLC and Comira Testing To provide LP/VNs the opportunity to train and become a Certified Foot Care Specialist (CFCS) in our four step certification program.

Training Information:

Professional Education, LLC offers an online training program; “Best Practices in Foot Care”, which earns attendees 12 continuing education hours of training. The training program fee is separate from the certification application fee and is paid directly to PE, LLC via the online program.

- Training fee is \$399.00 for LPN/LVNs.
- To begin your training go to this website to register: <http://www.prof-educ.com/courses/foot-care-nurse/lpn-foot-care-nurse/>
- Upon completion of training, attendees will complete an evaluation in order to receive the “Certificate of Completion” to document completion of the CEs as well as proof of course completion for the certification process.

Certification Requirements:

Certification for CFCS is a 4-Step process detailed below. Please make sure you have completed all requirements for each step listed below prior to applying for certification.

- a. Complete the “Best Practices in Foot Care” training course and receive the “Certificate of Completion” for your record.
 - b. Obtain a Podiatrist or Certified Foot Care RN (CFCN) to coordinate and complete an eight hour internship. (see instructions for details)
 - c. Apply for CFCS Certification (see instructions for details)
 - d. Complete the CFCS exam at a local testing center (see instructions for details). A passing score will earn you CFCS certification valid for two years. (see Recertification Requirements for maintaining your certification thereafter.)
1. The “Best Practices in Foot Care” Training is a web based training module to be completed online in a timely manner. Once complete, you will receive your certificate. (See Training Information to register and pay for the training.)
 2. An eight hour Internship is required if applying for the CFCS Certification.
 - Must complete an eight hour Internship with a Podiatrist or Certified Foot Care Nurse (CFCN) upon completion of the training program.
 - Applicants are responsible for locating a Podiatrist or CFNC willing to oversee the internship. A manual for the internship provider is available for download.



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- The Podiatrist or CFCN must complete the Log Sheet and provide the original to the intern upon completion. Applicant will be required to submit the original log sheet and copy of certificate of completion with application. A Skill Log is available for download.
3. Submit a completed CFCS Certification Application with copies of current LP/VN licensure verification, Certificate of Completion, and completed/signed Internship Skill Log Sheet along with application fee to NFLPN for processing of certification application.
- Application fee is \$250.00 payable directly to NFLPN. A discount of \$25.00 is offered to current members of NFLPN (Membership expiration must exceed 3 months from date of the application to be considered “current”).
 - Applicants **MUST BE** licensed practical or vocational nurses in good standings with their SBON. (Note: Practical nursing students are not eligible for certification.)
 - NFLPN will notify Comira Testing of approved application for certification exam.
 - Approved applicants will be directed to Comira Testing for test scheduling.
 - NFLPN will receive notification directly from Comira Testing of exam completion and results.
4. Complete the CFCS Exam through Comira Testing. (Do not schedule testing prior to receipt of application approval from NFLPN.) CT requires the exam testing fee be paid via credit card to Comira at the time you call Comira to schedule your test.
- Testing and retesting fee is \$110.00.
 - **Comira requires a 72 hour notice of cancellation or rescheduling. If this timeframe is not met, you will forfeit the testing fee in its entirety.**
 - View available testing locations on the Comira Testing website:
<http://www.comiratesting.com/html/candidates/locations.html>
 - At the testing center you will be required to show a valid form of identification AND proof of your LP/VN licensure #.
 - Upon completion of exam, NFLPN will receive notification directly from Comira Testing of exam completion and results.
 - Testing failure: If you should fail your exam, you are required to wait 14 days before retake, maximum 60 days. During that time, please review your training modules. After two failures, you have to begin the process over again, to include certification application and testing.



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Certification Processing:

Upon notification of exam scores from Comira Testing:

- NFLPN will award the CFCS Certification to applicants with a passing score of 70 or better.
- The initial certification is awarded for a period of two years from the date of exam completion.
- NFLPN will provide a certificate and congratulatory letter documenting the CFCS specialty and mail to the recipient or a failure notification letter accordingly.

Recertification Requirements:

Maintaining certification/recertification is necessary for those who wish to maintain skills and knowledge as a CFCS LP/VN.

- Recertification is every two years without any break in certification time. Submit an application for recertification, recertification fee, copy of current licensure and proof of completion of at least 4 CE's directly related to Foot Care completed within the 24 month period prior. A new certificate will be awarded for another two years.
- If applying for recertification with a break in certification longer than 6 months an additional 2 CE's is required.
- If applying for recertification with a break longer than 2 years, you must complete the full training course and submit application with the "Certificate of Completion" along with other required documents for recertification. (You will not have to intern or take the exam again and the training course supersedes the CE requirement for recertification.)
- NFLPN Recertification fee \$100.00. No discount is available for recertification.

NFLPN appreciates the opportunity to provide LPNs and LVNs specialty skills certifications to enhance professional marketability in the workforce. The CFCS training and certification is a new program and will take some time to become widely known. Practices are subject to change if need arises so please check back often for up to date information regarding this new program.

Contact us at CFCS@nflpn.org if you have additional questions.

Best Regards,

Anjeanette Sausedo
CFCS Certification Program Coordinator