



Institute for
Credentialing Excellence



NCCA Standards Revision Updates

Main Committee Co-Chairs

Denise Fandel, MBA, CAE

Lawrence J. Fabrey, PhD

NCCA Representatives

Joy Matthews-Lopez, PhD

Nancy Ahluwalia



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With gratitude to Linda Anguish and Tara Mohammed for invaluable staff support

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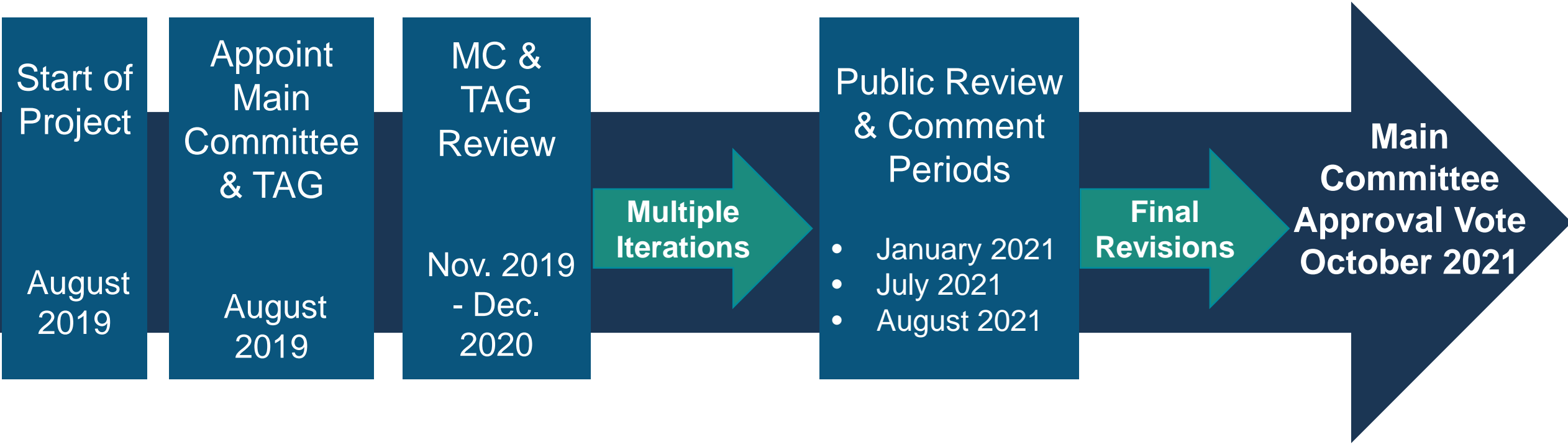
In this Session:

- Review of the revision process
- Overview of specific revisions and clarifications
- Pause to allow for questions for clarifications on the revisions
- Implementation plan and resources from NCCA representatives
- General questions

Reminder of the Intent:

- Clarify
- Reorganize/increase efficiency
- Address challenges that have arisen in applying the Standards over the past four years
- No intent to change meaning and stature of NCCA Accreditation

NCCA Standards Revision Timeline



Thanks to the Main Committee! 15 members



Nancy Ahluwalia

Cynthia A. Allen, MA

Christopher Anderson, PhD

Gregory M. Applegate, PhD, MBA



Avis D. Bullard, MS, CSSBB

Michael Clark, CAE

Andrew C. Dwyer, PhD

Todd Galati, MA

Main Committee (continued)



Johnna Gueorguieva, PhD, CAE

Jeffrey A. Kelley, Ph.D.

Pat Muenzen, PhD

Sarah D. Schnabel, BS, MEd, PhD



Robert C. Shaw, Jr., PhD

Kristen A. Thomas

Anjali Weber, MS, CAE

and

Denise Fandel, MBA, CAE

Larry Fabrey, PhD

Thanks to the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) - also 15 members:

- Donald A. Balasa, JD, MBA
- Brian Biagioli, Ed.D.
- Daniel H. Breidenbach, PhD
- David O. Bump, MBA,
REMT-P, FP-C, CCP-C
- Sarah Carroll, PhD
- John H. Ganoë, CAE
- Isabelle Gonthier, PhD
- Liz Grater, MA
- Leon Gross, PhD
- Ronald Kruzel, MA, CAE, CST
- Wendy Miller, BOCO, LO,
CDME
- Liberty Munson, PhD
- Larry E. Simmons, PhD, RN,
CNE, NEA-BC
- Sue Steinkamp, PhD
- John Wickett, PhD

General Overview of Revisions and Clarifications

- Systematic review to remove redundancies
 - Standards 9 and 12 not redundant, each have their own focus.
- Clarification of “publicly available” – in the introduction and standard 6 – Information for Candidates
 - “...as a rule it should be interpreted as “available without request,” or if a request is necessary, the certification program should explain why a request is necessary.”
- Standardized suggested evidence in all commentaries.

Standard 1 on Purpose:

- Essential Element B - if a designation is awarded, it must accurately reflect credential

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 7 on Policies:

- Essential Element D on Retesting –
 - “The rationale for the retesting policy must be provided. The rationale must address the number of retakes allowed, time period between retakes, and extent of the exposure of examination content.”
- Commentary 6
 - Retesting policies may apply to candidates who have failed the examination or unforeseen interruptions in examination administrations.

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 8 on Awarding Certification:

- Clarification in Essential Element B on Reciprocity –
 - “...demonstrate comparability of content coverage and examination results,...”
 - “...evidence of comparability of certification and recertification requirements and policies.”
- Commentary 2
 - “Accreditation of the reciprocal program provides evidence of comparability, but accreditation alone is not sufficient.”

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 12 on Security:

- Test security plan
 - Referenced in the commentary list of suggested evidence to demonstrate compliance with the Standard.

Questions for clarification on Standards 1-12?

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 13 on Panels:

- Clarified that panels refer to committees, teams, etc. working as individuals or groups on any certification activities.
- Clarified desire for diversity of professional and demographic characteristics.

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 14 on Job Analysis:

- Clarifications on suggested analyses in the Commentary.
- New Commentary: Changes to the specifications after JA should be documented, with a rationale.

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 15 on Specifications:

- Suggested evidence added, reflecting aspects of the Essential Elements and Commentary.

Reorganization of Psychometric Standards

No reorganization of 13, 14, or 15 -- Final result is 23 Standards (not 24)

Current Standards		New Standards		Crosswalk to 2014				
16	Examination Development	16	Examination Development	16A	16C	16B	21A	
17	Standard Setting	17	Setting & Maintaining Passing Standards	17A	17B	17C	21B	
18	Examination Administration	18	Examination Administration	18A	18B	18C	18D	
19	Scoring and Score Reporting	19	Scoring and Score Reporting	19D	19E	19A	19C	19B
20	Reliability	20	Evaluation of Items and Examinations	20A	20B	21C	21D	23C
21	Examination Score Equating							

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 18 on Examination Administration:

- Essential elements are more succinct.
- Clarified that “each administration modality (e.g., test center, remote proctoring) should be conducive to testing.”
- Commentary 2: “If the modality does not allow for real-time termination of the administration, the organization should demonstrate how examination security is maintained.”
 - to clarify options, include live remote proctoring and other proctoring methods as technology advances

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 20 on Evaluation of Items and Examinations

- EE A. The program must ***evaluate item performance as well as*** calculate and report estimates of score reliability...appropriate for the examination characteristics.
- Commentary 5: Examination evaluation information should include such things as item analysis, reliability, decision consistency...
- See also, Standard 18, Commentary 4. ...regularly monitor examination administration information for each delivery modality (e.g., ...or item performance)

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 21 on Maintenance of Certification:

- Removed first 2 Essential Elements requiring definitions matching the Commission's definitions of Recertification and Continuing Competence
- New EE 1: "...provide a rationale for its recertification requirements, and the rationale must address the purpose of recertification."
- Commentary 6 clarifies that if any certificants had been exempted from current recertification requirements,...they must be identified and their certification information made publicly available.

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 22 on Quality Assurance:

- Essential Elements clarified to bring QA more up-to-date.
- Removed redundancy about regular review of examinations.
- Commentary clarifies error handling and provides additional suggested evidence

Specific Revisions and Clarifications

Standard 23 on Maintaining Accreditation:

- Wait to receive approval before making material changes
- NCCA to provide future resources regarding clarifications around what constitutes material changes

Questions for clarification on Standards 13-23?

NCCA Representatives



Joy Matthews-Lopez, PhD

- NCCA Chair



Nancy Ahluwalia

- NCCA Public Member
- NCCA Standards Revision Main Committee Member

Final Steps:

- Revised Standards approved October 2021
- Published December 2021
- Resources, including online application will be available in early 2022
- Implementation will begin with the January 2023 application deadline

Revised
NCCA
Standards
Published

December
2021

Online
application
transition

February
2022

Trainings
and
Resources

Throughout
2022

**Revised Standards will be
implemented beginning with the
January 31, 2023 Application
Deadline**

What does this mean for currently accredited programs?

For reaccreditation applications **due in 2022**: nothing - yet!

- You will submit your 2022 renewal application that is currently available to you, in compliance with the 2014 NCCA Standards.
- **After 2022**, your future reaccreditation applications must comply with the 2021 Standards.

For reaccreditation applications **due in 2023** (and beyond):

- You will receive access to a new online application by early February 2022, in accordance with the 2021 NCCA Standards.
- Your program(s) will be accredited against the 2021 Standards.

What does this mean for new programs interested in applying for NCCA accreditation?

You will have the option to:

- start an application under the 2014 Standards for submission in 2022, or
- start a new application with the 2021 Standards, **if you are planning to submit in 2023.**

If you intend to submit an application after the August 31, 2022 deadline, you must use the updated application in accordance with the 2021 Standards.

Resources

- Tools to assist in implementation will be released throughout 2022 – resources updated (including Accreditation Workshop), webinar(s) planned, etc.
- The 2021 NCCA Standards are available on the I.C.E. website. They are free for members and \$75 for non-members.
- The 2021 NCCA Standards application is available in the online accreditation portal. You can start and review an application.
- This town hall will be recorded and available on-demand for future reference.
- The NCCA Workshop hosted by I.C.E. staff in the Spring and Fall will provide more information regarding the 2021 Standards.
- Contact I.C.E. accreditation services staff at info@credentialingexcellence.org with any questions and/or special considerations regarding your application submissions and timelines.

General Questions?