One in four CNSs is authorized to prescribe medications. State laws address whether or not advanced practice nurses (such as CNSs) can prescribe drugs. Are you currently authorized to prescribe drugs?

Most CNSs who are authorized to prescribe live in a state that requires a pharmacology course. What are the educational requirements to obtain prescriptive authority in the state where you practice?

In addition to a master’s degree, more than one in ten CNSs also holds a doctorate. What is the highest nursing degree you currently hold?

**EDUCATION**

- MSN: 60.66%
- MS: 14.71%
- DNP: 12.55%
- PhD: 6.85%
- Other: 4.69%
- MA: 0.30%
- DNS/DNSc: 0.13%
- ND: 0.10%

**PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY**

- Yes: 27%
- No: 73%

- Yes 8%
- No 92%

Private insurance is most often billed for CNS services, followed closely by Medicare. Whom do you bill?

- Private insurance companies: 91.40%
- Medicare: 83.71%
- Medicaid: 78.73%
- Individual patient: 57.47%
- Other: 5.43%

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

- Female: 94.01%
- Male: 5.36%
- I choose not to respond: 0.63%

- White: 84.39%
- Black/African American: 4.79%
- Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 3.10%
- Hispanic/Latino: 3.07%
- I choose not to respond: 2.36%
- Two or more races: 1.59%
- American Indian / Alaska Native: 0.42%
- Other not listed: 0.28%

Key Findings from the 2018 Clinical Nurse Specialists Census

(Based on responses from 3,057 CNSs)

www.nacns.org
CNSs provide care in a range of specialties. Based on the APRN Consensus Model’s certification for licensure based on patient population, what is the population group that you primarily care for?

- Adult Health/Gerontology: 41.48%
- Family/Individual Across the Lifespan: 33.17%
- Pediatrics: 7.37%
- Neonatal/Perinatal: 5.05%
- Psychiatric/Mental Health: 3.68%
- Women’s Health/Gender Specific: 1.99%

CNSs have a range of duties, from providing direct patient care, to managing care, to leading research, to nurse, patient and family education. What is the percentage of time you estimate that you spent on the following activities last year?

- Other: 29.81%
- Provide direct patient care: 22.28%
- Consult to nurses/staff/others: 20.09%
- Teach nurses/staff: 19.50%
- Lead evidence-based practice (EBP) projects: 15.22%
- Assist other nurses/staff with direct patient care: 11.08%
- Assist with EBP projects: 10.64%
- Teach patients/families: 8.54%
- Precept students: 6.21%
- Assist with research: 5.29%
- Conduct research as the primary investigator (PI): 4.68%
- Teach in the community: 3.65%
- Provide transitional care: 2.78%

CNSs work in a variety of settings, but most are based in hospitals. What is your primary work setting?

- Hospital, acute care (Non-federal): 31.96%
- Academic health center, acute: 29.17%
- Nursing Education/Academia: 10.22%
- Other: 7.93%
- Hospital, acute care (Federal): 5.54%
- Ambulatory Care: 4.02%
- None apply: 2.02%

Most CNSs work in hospitals that are either accredited by the ANCC’s Magnet™ Recognition Program or are seeking accreditation. Does your employer have ANCC Magnet™ Recognition or plan to seek it?

- Has magnet status: 59.59%
- Not seeking magnet status: 19.83%
- Seeking magnet status: 17.73%
- Do not know: 2.85%

Most CNSs who work in hospitals have responsibility for more than one department. How many units do you have responsibility for?

- System-wide plus 2 or more units: 22.05%
- 2 or more units but NOT system wide: 19.71%
- System-wide ONLY: 17.47%
- Other: 15.00%
- 2 or more units but NOT system wide: 13.62%
- System-wide plus 2 or more units: 12.15%

More than 8 in 10 CNSs work full-time. What is your employment status?

- Full time: 86.9%
- Part time: 9.2%
- Retired: 2.44%
- Not employed: 1.45%