



January 13, 2020

Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo, PhD, RN, FAAN, Co-chair
Susan D. Ruppert, PhD, FNP-C, FCCM, FNAP, FAANP, FAAN, Co-chair
CCNE Nurse Practitioner Residency/Fellowship Program Standards Committee

Re: Call for Comments on CCNE's *Proposed Standards for Accreditation of Nurse Practitioner Residency/Fellowship Programs*

Dear Dr. Clabo and Dr. Ruppert,

The American Psychiatric Nurses Association would like to thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on these proposed accreditation standards and applauds CCNE for this initiative. Please find our comments below:

- The expectation for a formal relationship between nursing program(s) and a medical center/agency, as outlined in the standards, is a significant barrier to successful implementation of NP fellowship programs.
- The standards should specify that Psychiatric-Mental Health (PMH) NP fellowship program faculty and coordinators are PMH APRNs (NPs or CNSs) with appropriate education/experience in the applicable population. (The current document does not clarify the need for faculty to be advanced practice nurses at all).
- CCNE should support federal funding for APRN post-grad fellowship programs (especially those in psychiatry, given the national demands).

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Nguyen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lisa Deffenbaugh Nguyen, MS, CAE
Executive Director