

ALABAMA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE CODECHAPTER 540-X-18
QUALIFIED ALABAMA CONTROLLED
SUBSTANCES REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE (QACSC)
FOR CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS (CRNP)
AND CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIVES (CNM)

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540-X-18-.01 **Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply to the rules in this chapter:

(1) Administer - The direct application of a controlled substance, whether by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means, to the body of a patient by any of the following:

(a) A collaborating physician, or, in his or her presence, his or her authorized agent;

(b) A certified registered nurse practitioner (CRNP) or certified nurse midwife (CNM); or

(c) The patient at the direction and in the presence of the collaborating physician, certified registered nurse practitioner (CRNP) or certified nurse midwife (CNM).

(2) Board - The Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners.

(3) Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) - An advanced practice nurse who is subject to a collaborative practice agreement with a collaborating physician pursuant to §34-21-5, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, and who has advanced knowledge and skills relative to the management of women's health care focusing on pregnancy, childbirth, the postpartum period, care of the newborn, family planning, and gynecological needs of women, within a health care system that provides for consultation, collaborative management, or referral as indicated by the health status of the patient.

(4) Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) - An advanced practice nurse who is subject to a collaborative practice agreement with a collaborating physician pursuant to §34-21-5, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, and who has demonstrated by certification that he or she has advanced knowledge and skills in the delivery of nursing services within a health care system that provides for consultation, collaborative management, or referral as indicated by the health status of the patient.

(5) Collaborating Physician - A doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice medicine in Alabama who agrees in writing to practice in collaboration with one or more certified registered nurse practitioners or certified nurse midwives in accordance with §34-21-5, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations adopted by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners and the Alabama Board of Nursing.

(6) Dispense - To deliver a controlled substance to an ultimate user by or pursuant to the lawful order of a physician or CRNP or CNM, including the prescribing, administering, packaging, labeling or compounding necessary to prepare the substance for that delivery.

(7) Excessive Dispensing - A registrant may be considered to have excessively dispensed a controlled substance if the Board finds that either the controlled substance was dispensed for no legitimate medical purpose, or that the amount of the controlled substance dispensed is not reasonably related to the proper medical management of the patient's illness or condition. Drug addiction shall not be considered an illness or condition which would justify the continued dispensing of a

controlled substance, except in gradually decreasing dosages administered to the patient for the purpose of curing the addiction.

(8) Prescribe or Prescribing - The act of issuing a prescription for a controlled substance.

(9) Prescription - Any order for a controlled substance written or signed or transmitted by word of mouth, telephone, telegraph, closed circuit television or other means of communication by a legally competent collaborating physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or certified nurse midwife authorized by law to prescribe and administer the drug which is intended to be filled, compounded, or dispensed by a pharmacist.

(10) QACSC - Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.;
Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.02 General Requirements.

(1) The Board is the certifying board which may issue, renew, deny, restrict, limit, suspend, or revoke a QACSC for a CRNP or CNM.

(2) Beginning October 1, 2013, QACSCs may be issued by the Board to CRNPs and CNMs.

(3) A CRNP or CNM who prescribes, administers, authorizes for administration or dispenses any controlled substance within Alabama or who proposes to engage in the prescribing, administering, authorizing for administration or dispensing of any controlled substance within Alabama shall obtain, annually, a QACSC for each collaborative practice agreement approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing and the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners.

(4) A CRNP or CNM who prescribes, administers, authorizes for administration or dispenses, or who proposes to engage in the prescribing, administering, authorizing for

administration or dispensing of any controlled substance within Alabama shall obtain the appropriate registration or registrations issued by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.;
Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective
October 1, 2013.

**540-X-18-.03 Requirements For The Issuance Of A Qualified
Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC).**

To qualify for a QACSC, an individual must meet the following requirements:

(1) Be a CRNP or CNM who is practicing in accordance with §34-21-5, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, and all Alabama Board of Nursing and Alabama Board of Medical Examiners rules governing collaboration between a qualified physician and a qualified CRNP or CNM and who is in a collaborative practice with a physician who holds and maintains a valid, current and unrestricted ACSC;

(2) Submit proof of successful completion of twelve (12) hours of AMA PRA Category 1 credits™ or the equivalent continuing medical education (CME), which shall include the following:

(a) "Prescribing Controlled Drugs; Critical Issues and Common Pitfalls," a continuing medical education course jointly sponsored by the Board and the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (8 AMA PRA Category 1™ credits).

(b) Four (4) AMA PRA Category 1™ credits or equivalent through a Board approved course or courses that include advanced pharmacology and prescribing trends relating to controlled substances;

(3) Complete the required twelve (12) credits within one (1) year preceding the filing of an application for a QACSC;

(4) Provide accurate and complete documentation of a minimum of twelve (12) months of active clinical practice pursuant to one or more collaborative practice agreements approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing and the Alabama Board

of Medical Examiners. Temporary approval practice and provisional approval practice shall not be considered or used to meet this requirement;

(5) Submit an application on forms provided by the Board; and

(6) Pay the required application fee required by the Board.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.;
Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013. **Amended:** Published February 28, 2020; effective April 13, 2020.

540-X-18-.04 Issuance Of A Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC).

(1) The Board may issue a QACSC to a CRNP or CNM when all of the requirements for issuance have been met.

(2) Every QACSC issued shall have a unique QACSC number which identifies the particular applicant as a CRNP or CNM with a valid QACSC.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.;
Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.04.01 Issuance Of An Additional Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC).

(1) After the first QACSC for an approved collaborative practice agreement has been obtained by a CRNP or CNM pursuant to Board Rules 540-X-18-.02, .03 and .04, any subsequent QACSC obtained for an additional collaborative practice shall be designated an additional QACSC.

(2) The Board may issue an additional QACSC to a CRNP or CNM when all of the requirements for issuance have been met.

(3) Every additional QACSC issued shall have a unique QACSC number which identifies the particular applicant as a CRNP or CNM with a valid QACSC.

(4) The fee for an additional QACSC is Sixty Dollars (\$60.00)

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §20-2-259.

History: New Rule: February 27, 2018; effective April 14, 2018.

540-X-18-.05 Renewal Of A Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC).

(1) Renewal of a QACSC shall be annually on or before January 1 of each year. An application for annual renewal of a QACSC shall be received by the Board on or before December 31 and shall be accompanied by the required QACSC renewal fee.

(2) As a requirement for renewing a QACSC, a CRNP or CNM shall obtain, every two years, four (4) AMA PRA Category 1 credits™ or equivalent through a Board approved course or courses regarding the prescribing of controlled substances.

(3) Before renewing a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate, the applicant shall have a current registration to access the Controlled Substances Prescription Database established and maintained by the Alabama Department of Public Health.

(4) Before renewing a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate, an applicant shall have a current and appropriate registration issued by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013. **Amended:** Filed December 12, 2013; effective January 16, 2014. **Amended:** Filed March 19, 2015; effective April 23, 2015.

**540-X-18-.06 Fees - Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances
Registration Certificate (QACSC).**

(1) An applicant for a QACSC shall submit to the Board an application fee in the amount of One Hundred and Ten Dollars (\$110.00), which includes the fee payable to the Alabama Department of Public Health Prescription Drug Monitoring Data Bank required by §20-2-217, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended.

(2) An applicant for annual renewal of a QACSC shall submit to the Board a QACSC renewal fee in the amount of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00), which includes the fee payable to the Alabama Department of Public Health Prescription Drug Monitoring Data Bank required by §20-2-217, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

**540-X-18-.07 Utilization Of Qualified Alabama Controlled
Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC) - Limitations.**

(1) The authority of a CRNP or CNM to prescribe, administer, authorize for administration or dispense pursuant to a QACSC is limited to those controlled substances enumerated in Schedules III, IV and V.

(2) A CRNP or CNM shall not use the authority of his or her QACSC to prescribe, administer, authorize for administration, or dispense any controlled substance enumerated in Schedule I or Schedule II; however, a CRNP or CNM may administer a Schedule II controlled substance which has been ordered, prescribed or dispensed by a collaborating or covering physician.

(3) A CRNP or CNM shall prescribe, administer, authorize for administration or dispense controlled substances in accordance with the requirements of §§20-2-250 through 20-2-259, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended; any other applicable sections of the Alabama Uniform Controlled Substances Act (§20-2-1, et. seq., Code of Ala. 1975, as amended); Board rules; protocols, formularies, and medical regimens established by the Board for regulation of a QACSC; and any requirements or

limitations established in an approved formulary by the collaborating physician.

(4) A CRNP or CNM shall not utilize his or her QACSC for the purchasing, obtaining, maintaining or ordering of any stock supply or inventory of any controlled substance in any form.

(5) A CRNP or CNM who has been issued a valid and current QACSC may accept from pharmaceutical representatives prepackaged samples or starter packs in their original packages or containers for controlled substances enumerated in Schedules III, IV or V, subject to any restriction or limitations on the CRNP's or CNM's approved formulary and subject to any protocols or medical regimens established by the Board.

(6) A CRNP or CNM shall not prescribe, administer, authorize for administration or dispense any controlled substance to his or her own self, spouse, child or parent.

(7) If the Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate of the collaborating physician under whose supervision the CRNP or CNM utilizes a QACSC becomes inactive, revoked, suspended, restricted, or placed on probation, then the QACSC of the CRNP or CNM shall be administratively terminated by operation of law.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.;
Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013. **Amended:** Published February 28, 2020; effective April 13, 2020.

540-X-18-.08 Grounds For Denial, Restriction, Limitation, Suspension Or Revocation - Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC). The Board may deny a CRNP's or CNM's application for a QACSC, deny a CRNP's or CNM's application for renewal of a QACSC, or initiate action against the QACSC of a CRNP or CNM based on the following grounds:

(1) Fraud or deceit in applying for, procuring, or attempting to procure a QACSC in the state of Alabama.

(2) Conviction of a crime under any state or federal law relating to any controlled substance.

(3) Conviction of a crime or offense which affects the ability of the CRNP or CNM to practice with due regard for the health or safety of his or her patients.

(4) Prescribing a drug or utilizing a QACSC in such a manner as to endanger the health of any person or patient of the CRNP, CNM or collaborating physician.

(5) Suspension or revocation of a registration number issued to the CRNP or CNM by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

(6) Excessive dispensing or prescribing of a controlled substance to any person or patient of the CRNP, CNM or collaborating physician.

(7) Unfitness or incompetence due to the use of or dependence on alcohol, chemicals, or any mood altering drug to such an extent as to render the CRNP or CNM unsafe or unreliable to prescribe drugs or to hold a QACSC.

(8) Any violation of a requirement set forth in §§20-2-250 through 20-2-259, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended; a rule of the Board; a protocol or medical regimen adopted by the Board; or a limitation established by the collaborating physician in an approved formulary.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.09 Due Process Proceedings - Denial Of And Actions Against Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC).

(1) Before denying an application for a QACSC, denying an application for renewal of a QACSC, or taking action against a QACSC of a CRNP or CNM, the Board shall serve upon the CRNP or CNM an order to show cause why registration should not be denied or why the QACSC should not be restricted, limited, suspended or revoked.

(2) Any hearing concerning the order to show cause shall be before the Board.

(3) The order to show cause shall contain a statement of the basis therefor and shall call upon the applicant or registrant to appear before the Board at a time and place not less than thirty (30) days after the date of service of the order, but in the case of denial of renewal of registration, the show cause order shall be served not later than thirty (30) days before the expiration of the registration.

(4) Proceedings to deny renewal of registration shall not abate the existing registration which shall remain in effect pending the outcome of the administrative hearing.

(5) The Board may restrict, suspend or revoke a QACSC whenever a CRNP or CNM shall be found guilty on the basis of substantial evidence of any of the acts or offenses enumerated in Rule 540-X-18-.08.

(6) The Board may limit revocation or suspension of a QACSC to the particular controlled substance with respect to which grounds for revocation or suspension exist.

(7) The Board shall promptly notify the Drug Enforcement Administration of the United States Department of Justice of all orders restricting, limiting, suspending or revoking a QACSC.

(8) Any hearing before the Board shall be considered a contested case under the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act, §41-22-1, et. seq., Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, and shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of that Act.

(9) In a hearing on the request for reinstatement of a QACSC, the Board has the authority to reinstate or deny reinstatement of a QACSC. In a hearing on a request for reinstatement of a QACSC, the applicant shall have the burden of establishing to the reasonable satisfaction of the Board that the applicant is entitled to the specific relief requested.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.10 **Conduct Of Hearings - Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC)**. Except when §§20-2-250 through 20-2-259, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, and Board Rule 540-X-18-.09 are in conflict and shall take precedence, hearings related to a QACSC are to be governed and conducted in accordance with Board Rules 540-X-6-.03 (Hearing Officer); 540-X-6-.04 (Conduct of Hearings in Contested Cases; and 540-X-6-.05 (Miscellaneous Provisions).

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.11 **Appeals - Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC)**.

(1) A CRNP or CNM may obtain judicial review when adversely affected by any of the following:

(a) An order of the Board denying an application for a QACSC;

(b) An order of the Board denying an application for renewal of a QACSC;

(c) An order of the Board suspending, revoking or restricting a QACSC; or

(d) An order of the Board denying reinstatement of a QACSC.

(2) Judicial review of an order of the Board may be obtained by filing a written petition for review with the Circuit Court of Montgomery County in accordance with §41-22-20, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended.

(3) The following procedures shall take precedence over §41-22-20(c), Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, relating to the issuance of a stay of any order of the Board suspending, revoking or restricting a QACSC. The suspension, revocation or restriction of a QACSC shall be given immediate effect and no stay or supersedeas shall be granted pending judicial review of a decision by the Board to suspend, revoke or restrict a QACSC

unless a reviewing court, upon proof by the party seeking judicial review, finds in writing that the action of the Board was taken without statutory authority, was arbitrary or capricious or constituted a gross abuse of discretion.

(4) From the judgment of the Circuit Court, either the Board or the affected party who invoked judicial review may obtain a review of any final judgment of the Circuit Court pursuant to §41-22-21, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended. No security shall be required of the Board.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.12 Access To Records - Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC). The Board, its agents, attorneys, investigators, or inspectors shall be permitted access to inspect and copy any records of a CRNP or CNM, including patient records, which relate to a request for a QACSC; a renewal of a QACSC; possible violations of any of the provisions of the Alabama Uniform Controlled Substances Act; possible violations of §§20-2-250 through 20-2-259, Code of Ala 1975, as amended; or possible violations of any Board rule governing a QACSC.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.13 Covering Physician - Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (QACSC).

(1) A covering physician who applies to collaborate with or does collaborate with a CRNP or CNM possessing a QACSC, shall hold a valid, current and unrestricted Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate (ACSC).

(2) The covering physician shall state in writing to the Board the following:

- (a) That he or she is familiar with the Board rules concerning the QACSC;
- (b) That he or she is familiar with any protocols or medical regimens adopted by the Board concerning the QACSC;
- (c) That he or she is familiar with any limitation on the prescribing of controlled substances agreed to in the approved formulary by the CRNP or CNM and the collaborating physician; and
- (d) That, having full knowledge of the authority of the CRNP or CNM to prescribe controlled substances, the covering physician agrees to provide medical oversight for the CRNP or CNM accordingly.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.14 **Controlled Substances Prescription Database**

Access. All CRNPs or CNMs possessing a QACSC who are permitted access to the information in the controlled substances database shall abide by the requirements and limitations stated in §§20-2-210 through 20-2-220, Code of Ala. 1975, as amended, where applicable.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.; Act 2013-223.

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013.

540-X-18-.15 **Risk And Abuse Mitigation Strategies.**

(1) The Board recognizes that all controlled substances, including but not limited to, opiates, benzodiazepines, stimulants, anticonvulsants, and sedative hypnotics, have a risk of addiction, misuse, and diversion. It is the opinion of the Board that the best practice when prescribing controlled substances shall include medically appropriate risk and abuse mitigation strategies, which will vary from patient to patient. Additional care should be used by

practitioners when prescribing medication to a patient from multiple controlled substance drug classes.

(2) Every practitioner shall provide his or her patient with risk education prior to initiating controlled substances therapy and prior to continuing the controlled substances therapy initiated by another practitioner.

(3) Every practitioner shall utilize medically appropriate risk and abuse mitigation strategies when prescribing controlled substances. Examples of risk and abuse mitigation strategies include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Pill counts;
- (b) Urine drug screening;
- (c) PDMP checks;
- (d) Consideration of abuse-deterrent medications;
- (e) Monitoring the patient for aberrant behavior;
- (f) Using validated risk-assessment tools, examples of which shall be maintained by the Board; and
- (g) Co-prescribing naloxone to patients receiving opioid prescriptions when determined to be appropriate in the clinical judgment of the treating practitioner.

(4) The Board recognizes that the best available research demonstrates that the risk of adverse events occurring in patients who use controlled substances to treat pain increases as dosage increases. The Board adopts the "Morphine Milligram Equivalency" ("MME") daily standard as set out by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") for calculating the morphine equivalence of opioid dosages. The Board further adopts the "Lorazepam Milligram Equivalency" ("LME") daily standard for calculating sedative dosing when using the Alabama Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

(5) For the purpose of preventing controlled substance diversion, abuse, misuse, addiction, and doctor-shopping, the Board sets forth the following requirements for the use of Alabama's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP):

(a) For controlled substance prescriptions totaling less than 30 MME or 3 LME per day, practitioners are expected to use the PDMP in a manner consistent with good clinical practice.

(b) When prescribing to a patient controlled substances of more than 30 MME or 3 LME per day, practitioners shall review that patient's prescribing history through the PDMP at least two (2) times per year, and each practitioner is responsible for documenting the use of risk and abuse mitigation strategies in the patient's medical record.

(c) Practitioners shall query the PDMP to review a patient's prescribing history every time a prescription for more than 90 MME or 5 LME per day is written, on the same day the prescription is written.

(6) Exemptions: The Board's PDMP requirements do not apply to practitioners writing controlled substance prescriptions for:

(a) Nursing home patients;

(b) Hospice patients, where the prescription indicates hospice on the physical prescription;

(c) When treating a patient for active, malignant pain; or

(d) Intra-operative patient care.

(7) Due to the heightened risk of adverse events associated with the concurrent use of opioids and benzodiazepines, practitioners should reconsider a patient's existing benzodiazepine prescriptions or decline to add one when prescribing an opioid and consider alternative forms of treatment.

(8) A violation of this rule is grounds for the assessment of a fine and for the suspension, restriction, or revocation of a practitioner's Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate or license to practice medicine.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-250, et. seq.

History: New Rule: Filed June 24, 2019; Effective August 8, 2019. **Amended:** Published September 30, 2020; effective November 14, 2020. **Amended:** Published February 26, 2021; effective April 12, 2021.

ALABAMA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

APPENDIX A

ALABAMA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
P. O. Box 946 – Montgomery, Alabama 36101 • 848 Washington Avenue – 36104

Application for Qualified Controlled Substances Registration Certificate for Certified
Registered Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse Midwives

Under Alabama law, this document is a public record and will be provided upon request.

The cost for the initial QACSC received is \$110.00; each additional QACSC is \$60.00
The annual renewal fee for each QACSC is \$60.00_

Collaborating Physician Name
Collaborating Physician Specialty
Collaborating Physician License number
CP Number

CRNP/ CNM name
CRNP/CNM License number
Primary practice address

All applicants must answer the following questions. (If the answer to question A, B, C, D, E or F_ is yes, please provide a detailed explanation.)

- A. Has your privilege for dispensing, accessing, or prescribing controlled substances ever been suspended, restricted, revoked, voluntarily surrendered while under investigation, or disciplined in any manner in any state?
- B. Have you ever been convicted of any state or federal crime relating to any controlled substance?
- C. Has your Federal DEA registration ever been suspended, restricted, revoked or voluntarily surrendered while under investigation?
- D. Has your employment as a CRNP/CNM ever been suspended, restricted, revoked or disciplined in any manner for any reason related to the prescribing or dispensing of controlled substances?
- E. Are you currently* engaged in the excessive use of alcohol, controlled substances, or the use of illegal drugs, or received any therapy or treatment for alcohol or drug use, sexual boundary issues or mental health issues? (If you are an anonymous participant in a voluntary health monitoring program and are in compliance with your contract, you may answer "No" to this question, such answer for this purpose will not be deemed upon certification as providing false information to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners)
*The term “currently” does not mean on the day of, or even in the weeks or months preceding the completion of this application. Rather, it means recently enough so that the

condition referred to may have an ongoing impact on one's functioning as a CRNP/CNM within the last two years.

IMPORTANT: The Board recognizes that registrants encounter health conditions, including those involving mental health and substance use disorders, just as their patients and other health care providers do. The Board expects its registrants to address their health concerns and ensure patient safety. Options include anonymously self-referring to the Alabama Board of Nursing's Voluntary Disciplinary Alternative Program (334-293-5200) an advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and wellness of nursing professionals in a confidential manner. The failure to adequately address a health condition, where the registrant is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients, can result in the Board taking action against the Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate.

_____ Please initial certifying that you understand and acknowledge your duty as a licensee to address any such condition as stated above.

- F. To your knowledge, has disciplinary action been taken or is pending against you with the Board of Nursing or any other licensing authority of any state, territory, or country including but not limited to the Alabama Board of Nursing?
- G. Have you completed a board-approved pharmacology of controlled substances course or courses? (This must include documentation of successful completion of twelve (12) hours of Category I credits including "Prescribing Controlled Drugs: Critical Issues and Common Pitfalls", a Board-approved course that includes advanced pharmacology and prescribing trends relating to controlled substances. The (12) hour course must have been completed in the preceding 12 months for initial QACSC applicants. Starting with this 12-hour initial course, the CRNP/CNM must obtain (every two (2) years) four (4) AMA PRA Category 1 credits or equivalent through a board-approved course or courses that include advanced pharmacology and prescribing trends related to controlled substances.)

You answered no, you do not qualify for a QACSC and should not complete this application.

You answered yes, upload documentation of completion.

Name of board approved course

Date course taken

Number of Hours obtained

Upload documentation

I have not received documentation from the board approved course or courses.

NOTICE: To lawfully administer, dispense or prescribe controlled substances in the State of Alabama, federal and state statutes require a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate and a DEA certificate of registration with the State of Alabama. For further information concerning federal requirements, go to www.deadiversion.doj.gov. You will apply for your DEA once the QACSC is issued.

I understand and agree that by typing my name, I am providing an electronic signature that has the same legal effect as a written signature pursuant to Ala. Code §§ 8-1A-2 and 8-1A-7. I attest that the foregoing information has been provided by me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I understand that knowingly providing false information to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners could result in disciplinary actions. Section 20-2-54, **Code of Alabama** 1975 (as amended) states that a registration may be suspended or revoked by the board upon finding that the registrant has furnished false or fraudulent material or information in any application.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-50, 20-2-259.

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed February 27, 2018; effective April 14, 2018. **Amended:** Filed August 23, 2018; effective October 7, 2018.

**ALABAMA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

APPENDIX B

Renewal - 20XX

Qualified Controlled Substances Registration Certificate for Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse Midwives Renewal

Deadline: December 31, 20XX

WARNING: SECTION 20-2-254, CODE OF ALABAMA 1975 (AS AMENDED) STATES THAT A REGISTRATION MAY BE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED BY THE BOARD UPON A FINDING THAT THE REGISTRANT HAS FURNISHED FALSE OR FRAUDULENT MATERIAL INFORMATION IN ANY APPLICATION.

Under Alabama law, this document is a public record and will be provided upon request.

Answer yes or no to the following questions. If any answers to questions 1 through 6 are "yes," please provide a detailed explanation.

1. Has your privilege for dispensing or prescribing controlled substances ever been suspended, restricted, revoked, voluntarily surrendered while under investigation or disciplined in any manner in any state?
2. Have you ever been convicted of any state or federal crime relating to any controlled substance?
3. Has your Federal DEA registration ever been suspended, restricted, voluntarily surrendered while under investigation or revoked?
4. Have your staff privileges at any hospitals ever been suspended, restricted, revoked or disciplined in any manner for any reason related to the prescribing or dispensing of controlled substances?
5. To your knowledge, has disciplinary action been taken or is pending against you with the Board of Nursing or other licensing authority of any state, territory, or country including but not limited to the Alabama Board of Nursing?
6. Since your last renewal, have you engaged in the excessive use of alcohol, controlled substances, or the use of illegal drugs, or received any therapy or treatment for alcohol or drug use, sexual boundary issues or mental health issues? (If you are an anonymous participant in a voluntary health monitoring program and are in compliance with your contract, you may answer "No" to this question, such answer for this purpose will not be deemed upon certification as providing false information to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners)

If you answer "Yes", then a description is required.

IMPORTANT: The Board recognizes that registrants encounter health conditions, including those involving mental health and substance use disorders, just as their patients and other health care providers do. The Board expects its registrants to address their health concerns and ensure patient safety. Options include anonymously self-referring to the Alabama Board of Nursing's Voluntary Disciplinary Alternative Program (334-293-5200) an advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and wellness of nursing professionals in a confidential manner. The failure to adequately address a health condition, where the registrant is unable to practice with reasonable skill and

safety to patients, can result in the Board taking action against the Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate.

_____ Please initial certifying that you understand and acknowledge your duty as a registrant to address any such condition as stated above.

7. Do you have a current registration to access the Alabama Prescription Drug monitoring database Program (PDMP) ?
8. Do you have a current registration issued by the U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration? Please provide your Primary DEA number and expiration date.
DEA Number
DEA Expiration Date

NOTICE: A current registration to access the Prescription Drug Monitoring Database and a current registration issued by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration are required before renewing a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate. For further information concerning DEA registration, contact DEA, (800) 882-9539. For further information concerning the prescription database, contact the Alabama Dept. of Public Health, (855) 925-4767.

9. I certify that I have met the requirement to obtain, within the past two years, four (4) AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ or equivalent through a Board approved course or courses regarding the prescribing of controlled substances.
Name of course taken
Date course was taken
Upload documentation

I understand and agree that by typing my name, I am providing an electronic signature that has the same legal effect as a written signature pursuant to Ala. Code §§ 8-1A-2 and 8-1A-7. I attest that the foregoing information has been provided by me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Knowingly providing false information to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners or Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama could result in disciplinary action.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§20-2-50, 20-2-259.

History: New Rule: Filed August 27, 2013; effective October 1, 2013. **Amended:** Filed December 12, 2013; effective January 21, 2014. **Amended:** Filed September 17, 2015; effective October 22, 2015. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed July 20, 2017; effective September 3, 2017. **Repealed and New Rule:** Filed February 27, 2018; effective April 14, 2018.

ALABAMA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

APPENDIX C

ALABAMA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
P. O. Box 946 – Montgomery, Alabama 36101 • 848 Washington Avenue – 36104

**Application for Additional Qualified Controlled Substances Registration Certificate For
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse Midwives**

Under Alabama law, this document is a public record and will be provided upon request.

The cost for the initial QACSC received is \$110.00; each additional QACSC is \$60.00
The annual renewal fee for each QACSC is \$60.00

Collaborating Physician Name
Collaborating Physician Specialty
Collaborating Physician License number
CP Number

CRNP/ CNM name
CRNP/CNM License number
Primary practice address

All applicants must answer the following questions. (If the answer to question A, B, C, D, E or F_ is yes, please provide a detailed explanation.)

- A. Has your privilege for dispensing, accessing, or prescribing controlled substances ever been suspended, restricted, revoked, voluntarily surrendered while under investigation, or disciplined in any manner in any state?
- B. Have you ever been convicted of any state or federal crime relating to any controlled substance?
- C. Has your Federal DEA registration ever been suspended, restricted, revoked or voluntarily surrendered while under investigation?
- D. Has your employment as a CRNP/CNM ever been suspended, restricted, revoked or disciplined in any manner for any reason related to the prescribing or dispensing of controlled substances?
- E. Are you currently* engaged in the excessive use of alcohol, controlled substances, or the use of illegal drugs, or received any therapy or treatment for alcohol or drug use, sexual boundary issues or mental health issues? (If you are an anonymous participant in a voluntary health monitoring program and are in compliance with your contract, you may answer "No" to this question, such answer for this purpose will not be deemed upon certification as providing false information to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners)

*The term “currently” does not mean on the day of, or even in the weeks or months preceding the completion of this application. Rather, it means recently enough so that the condition referred to may have an ongoing impact on one’s functioning as a CRNP/CNM within the last two years.

IMPORTANT: The Board recognizes that registrants encounter health conditions, including those involving mental health and substance use disorders, just as their patients and other health care providers do. The Board expects its registrants to address their health concerns and ensure patient safety. Options include anonymously self-referring to the Alabama Board of Nursing’s Voluntary Disciplinary Alternative Program (334-293-5200) an advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and wellness of nursing professionals in a confidential manner. The failure to adequately address a health condition, where the registrant is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients, can result in the Board taking action against the Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Certificate.

_____ Please initial certifying that you understand and acknowledge your duty as a licensee to address any such condition as stated above.

- F. To your knowledge, has disciplinary action been taken or is pending against you with the Board of Nursing or any other licensing authority of any state, territory, or country including but not limited to the Alabama Board of Nursing?
- G. Have you completed a board-approved pharmacology of controlled substances course or courses? (This must include documentation of successful completion of twelve (12) hours of Category I credits including “Prescribing Controlled Drugs: Critical Issues and Common Pitfalls”, a Board-approved course that includes advanced pharmacology and prescribing trends relating to controlled substances. The (12) hour course must have been completed in the preceding 12 months for initial QACSC applicants. Starting with this 12-hour initial course, the CRNP/CNM must obtain (every two (2) years) four (4) AMA PRA Category 1 credits or equivalent through a board-approved course or courses that include advanced pharmacology and prescribing trends related to controlled substances.)

You answered no, you do not qualify for a QACSC and should not complete this application.

You answered yes, upload documentation of completion.

Name of board approved course

Date course taken

Number of Hours obtained

Upload documentation

I have not received documentation from the board approved course or courses.

NOTICE: To lawfully administer, dispense or prescribe controlled substances in the State of Alabama, federal and state statutes require a Qualified Alabama Controlled Substances Registration Certificate and a DEA certificate of registration with the State of Alabama. For

further information concerning federal requirements, go to www.dea diversion.doj.gov. You will apply for your DEA once the QACSC is issued.

I understand and agree that by typing my name, I am providing an electronic signature that has the same legal effect as a written signature pursuant to Ala. Code §§ 8-1A-2 and 8-1A-7. I attest that the foregoing information has been provided by me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I understand that knowingly providing false information to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners could result in disciplinary actions. Section 20-2-54, **Code of Alabama** 1975 (as amended) states that a registration may be suspended or revoked by the board upon finding that the registrant has furnished false or fraudulent material or information in any application.

Author: Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §20-2-259.

History: New Rule: Filed February 27, 2018; effective April 14, 2018. **New Rule:** Filed August 23, 2018; effective October 7, 2018.