

Classifying CNS As APRN Department of Labor Survey



- The **U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) & Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS)** categorizes CNSs as Registered Nurses; **NOT** Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).
- Having a unique DOL/OEWS profession code and a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number will help classify the CNS's advanced patient practice and will facilitate a larger impact on patient care and health outcomes.

What can we do?

1. If selected, participate in an interview with a representative from the DOL to discuss **changing** the current classification code of **CNSs** from **RN** to **APRN**.
2. From a list provided by NACNS, CNSs will be randomly selected, receive a letter in the mail verifying participation, and then a phone interview will be scheduled.
3. A \$40 stipend is offered for participation.

Talking Points

During this interview, the CNS must bring to the attention of the interviewer that the survey is **INACCURATE, INCOMPLETE and DO NOT CAPTURE** the CNS **advanced patient PRACTICE as an ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE.**

A helpful script during the interview:

*"CNSs are **ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES** who can autonomously **diagnose, treat, prescribe and bill** independently for services just like nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetologists, and nurse midwives. The survey statements are **INACCURATE and DO NOT CAPTURE** our **advanced patient practice** as an **APRN**. The questionnaire is **incomplete** as it does not capture the **advanced patient practice** of the CNS as an **APRN**."*

Below is a sample of an NP and CNS questionnaire that is found on the O*NET- Data Collection Program (rti.org) website: The CNS questionnaire is **inaccurate** and **incomplete** in many areas of our Consensus Model for **APRN**: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification & Education.

<https://onet.rti.org/pdf/index.cfm>

Statement of Nurse Practitioner Functions	Statement of Clinical Nurse Specialist functions
Analyze and interpret patients' histories, symptoms, physical findings, or diagnostic information to develop appropriate diagnoses.	*Missing* from CNS questionnaire Needs to be added
Diagnose or treat chronic health care problems, such as high blood pressure and diabetes.	*Missing* from CNS questionnaire Needs to be added
Prescribe medications based on efficacy, safety, and cost as legally authorized	*Missing/Inaccurate* Provide direct care by performing comprehensive health assessments, developing differential diagnoses, conducting specialized tests, or prescribing medications or treatments. Needs to be added