



To: PA Program Directors

From: Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PA-C, NCCPA President/CEO

Date: March 17, 2020

Re: Pearson VUE Test Center Closings

Dear PA Program Directors:

I'm sure that the current health care situation has been a source of much concern and planning as you've been working with your faculty, rotation sites, preceptors, and students to try to minimize the disruption to everyone's academic, work, and personal lives. NCCPA has also been monitoring the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation and making adjustments, as appropriate, to continue to do our best in serving our stakeholders. We would like to provide you with an update that is outside of NCCPA's control that may potentially impact your students.

Our test delivery partner, Pearson VUE, places highest priority on the safety and well-being of all candidates who test at their centers and has been implementing measures to help protect the health and safety of everyone who passes through their test centers. The COVID-19 impact has presented extraordinary challenges in providing a safe environment, and they have started to run into difficulty supplying test centers with the necessary hygienic items, such as hand sanitizer, disinfectant, and tissues.

In light of the recent announcements by the federal government, continued government guidance, and with careful consideration, Pearson has decided to temporarily close all of its company-owned U.S. and Canada-based Pearson Professional Centers (PPCs) starting March 17, 2020 until April 16, or whenever conditions are deemed safe to re-open. Pearson has started notifying candidates of the cancellations and providing instructions for scheduling new appointments on or after April 16, 2020. NCCPA is also contacting all candidates who have applied for an NCCPA exam.

As you know, this situation is incredibly fast-paced and fluid, with new information emerging daily. The threat of the virus may not be contained by the April 16, 2020 date. NCCPA will continue to work with Pearson in monitoring government guidance and notifications from public health officials to begin administering exams as safety conditions allow. We will keep you updated as we learn more about the potential reopening of test centers.

We know this is difficult news to any students who may be impacted by the test center closings. This difficult decision by Pearson was grounded in the belief that they have a



responsibility to keep their candidates, employees, and communities healthy and safe amidst this unprecedented uncertainty.

At NCCPA, we ask for your understanding and patience as everyone is working together to do what we can to help fight the spread of COVID-19. Please don't hesitate to contact the Exam Administration staff at [examadmin@nccpa.net](mailto:examadmin@nccpa.net) or 678.417.8100 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PA-C, NCCPA President/CEO