

E-LEARNING - CERTIFICATE COURSE IN PALLIATIVE NURSING for Professional and Enrolled Nurses

WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE?

The WHO defines palliative care as “an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families’ facing problems associated with life – threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering, the early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual”.

The goal of palliative care is the achievement of the best quality of life for patients and their families. Palliative care is not limited to end of life care; many aspects of palliative care are also applicable earlier in the course of the patient's illness in conjunction with other treatments.

Palliative care is an integral part of every nurse's role. This course equips the nurse with a set of competencies required to provide quality palliative care services and education at all levels and settings of care.

This certificate course aims to improve patient care through improved palliative nursing knowledge, skills and performance.

WHO SHOULD ENROLL?

This course is open to all professional and enrolled nurses currently registered with the South African Nursing Council. It is recommended that the blended e-learning student have access to computers and is computer literate.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE ENTAIL?

Course work is divided into 4 modules.

Module 1: Principles and practice of palliative care.

Module 2: Theory and practice of symptom control.

Module 3: Communication skills in palliative care.

Module 4: Theory and practice of psychosocial, spiritual and supportive care.

In order to receive a certificate of competence, learners need to meet the following requirements:

Contact sessions and on-line learning

- Attend 2 compulsory contact sessions at a hospice training centre.
 - Optional one full day of orientation. If unable to attend orientation day, alternative arrangements will be made to communicate via Zoom
 - One **compulsory** oral assessment, OSCE, at the nearest accredited hospice examination centre by arrangement with the student's Educator.
 - One **compulsory** day of final summative exam.
- Must engage in a minimum of 80% of all discussions online according to each of the four modules.

(The course content will be available online and the learners will receive hard copy manuals (1-4), an assessment guide and a workplace task booklet.)

Clinical work

- 60 hours of clinical work must be completed at approved sites. These hours are in addition to the contact and on-line learning time. (Learners are advised to discuss this with their employers.)

Learner assessments

- Assessment of learning is integrated into the course.
- Assignments are submitted to Nurse Educators electronically.

Workplace tasks

- Learners are required to complete prescribed palliative nursing tasks within their own work environment.

Communication assessment

- A role play interview is used to assess communication skills and attitudes.

Final written examination

- This is an examination conducted nationally.

- Learners must complete formative assessments during the year, in order to write the examination.

CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION: 27 November 2026

CONTACT TEACHING DATES

E-learning student Orientation Date: 4 or 11 February 2027 by the arranged date at an appointed hospice training centre.

Module 1: Content available on-line from 4 February 2027	Clinical Practical's: By student's arrangements, with tutor to assist
Module 2: Content available on-line from 18 March 2027	Module 4: Content available online from 5 August 2027
Module 3: Content available on-line from 10 June 2027	Revision: 23 September – 7 October 2027

MODULE ASSESSMENT TASKS COMPLETED

Module 1: 18 March 2027	Module 3: 19 August 2027
Module 2: 17 June 2027	Module 4: 23 September 2027

COMPLETED COMMUNICATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT

11 October 2027 (Previous assessment opportunity will also be made available) at an appointed hospice training centre

COMPLETED CLINICAL AND WORKPLACE TASKS

16 September 2027

FINAL WRITTEN EXAMINATION

12 October 2027 at an appointed hospice training centre.

16 November 2027 - Rewrite by invitation only

COURSE FEE

R 33 000.00 (Inclusive of VAT)

- A non-refundable deposit of R1000 payable on registration
- A minimum payment of R3 000.00 for hard copy manuals to be received
- The balance of R30,000.00 is payable by 31 March 2027
- This is the course fee and excludes any travel or accommodation costs.

Banking details for deposit and course fee payment

Please request information from Mercia Renney
Email: training@apcc.org.za

Email proof of payment to

Mercia Renney
Email: training@apcc.org.za

Educational Grant

The Association of Palliative Care Centres is offering a limited number of partial educational grants subject to approval for 2027. All applicants are eligible to apply, but preference will be given to APCC Member organisations (in good standing) NGO staff. This grant will cover tuition fees in part but does not extend to travel, accommodation and other costs.

Applications for grants must be made by 18 January 2027

Grant application forms can be obtained from:

Mercia Renney
Tel: 064 380 0457
Email: training@apcc.org.za

Registration Form 2027 – CCPN E-Learning

Certain student information is required to enable APCC to report on student achievements to the authorities as required. We appreciate your assistance in ensuring that our records are complete.

Title	Initials	First Name	
Preferred Name		Surname	
Male / Female		SANC number	
Qualification(s)		Professional Nurse ☐	Enrolled Nurse ☐
ID Number			
Current Occupation			
Name of facility you work in			
Contact Numbers	Work	Code	Number
	Home	Code	Number
	Cell	Code	Number
			How did you hear about the course ☐ APCC Website ☐ Facebook ☐ Twitter ☐ E-mail ☐ Word of mouth
Postal Address			
Area		Town	Code
Province		Country	
Physical Address			
Area		Town	Code
Province		Country	
Professional Qualification (Select one)	☐ Professional Nurse		☐ Enrolled Nurse
In which ONE functional area do you spend most of your working day?	☐ Clinical		☐ Research
	☐ Education		☐ Management
Workplace Demographics	Select the ONE sector that best describes your main workplace		
	☐ NGO		☐ FBO (Faith based)
	☐ Clinic		☐ Private sector
Select your main area of work		☐ Hospital	☐ DCS
		☐ Urban area	☐ Rural area
		District:	Province:
Level of care	☐ PHC	☐ CHC	☐ Hospital
Race	☐ Black	☐ Asian	☐ Coloured
Facebook Username:		Twitter Username:	
WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO ATTEND THIS COURSE?			
☐ PTA	☐ JHB	☐ KZN	☐ Port Shepstone
☐ Port Elizabeth		☐ Cape Town	
☐ Robertson			
PAYMENT DETAIL			
Payment Method:		☐ Electronic Transfer	
		☐ Bank Deposit	
BANKING DETAILS:		EMAIL YOUR REGISTRATION FORM TOGETHER WITH YOUR PROOF OF PAYMENT TO: Mercia Renney	
Please request information from Mercia Renney		Email: training@apcc.org.za	
Email: training@apcc.org.za		Email: training@apcc.org.za	
CANCELLATIONS: APCC reserves the right to cancel or postpone a course. Applicants will be informed, and all fees will be refunded. Cancellations are accepted in writing and without penalty until 29 March 2027, however, students will be responsible to pay for all training material received as well as a pro rata fee for classes attended. Substitutions are accepted.		Registration closing date: 27 NOVEMBER 2026	
		ALL COURSE FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY 31 MARCH 2027.	
PAYMENT REFERENCE			
NAME & SURNAME – CCPN2027			
SUBSCRIPTION			
Signature		Date:	