average Purdue Global military student awarded 54 credits needed associate 's 45 credits needed bachelor 's Commonly Searched Commonly Searched Nursing certification demonstrates level expertise specific discipline health care According American Board Nursing Specialties 1 million nurses hold one nursing specialty credentials addition according American Association Nurse Practitioners approximately 355,000 board certified nurse practitioners U.S. practicing various primary care acute care specialties enjoy specific nursing discipline getting certified specialty may help reach goals Learn earning nursing certification entails could benefit Certification programs created sponsored professional associations trade organizations Certifications earned assessment process depending credentialing organization may need renewed every years Certification differs state licensure defines scope role individual practice professional nursing However state boards nursing Minnesota California also offer certifications separate requirements could necessary keep certification date addition lieu nursing license Certification credentials provided professional trade organizations nationally recognized portable meaning valid hospital organization state Earning nursing certification shows commitment excellence demonstrates dedicated certain subject area took time educate field Many hospitals physicians offices encourage nursing employees become certified chosen fields may reduce nurse 's exposure risk addition nursing certifications becoming mandatory required nurse practitioners Certification also provide opportunities educational career advancement opportunities shows meet national standards attractive employers Certified nurses work various settings many different patient groups Dozens certifications available nurse earn maintain including family nurse practitioner FNP certified pediatric nurse CPN advanced oncology certified nurse AOCN certified registered nurse anesthetist CRNA adult-gerontology nurse practitioner AGNP number new certifications case management nursing education professional development also recently opened nurses Getting certified confirmation knowledge ’ indication competence performance administrators colleagues managers patients certification also boost nurses ’ confidence decision making help better job performance spending hours providing high-quality care certified validation expertise Certification closely tied improved patient care according several reputable organizations dozens nursing certifications available give list almost 30 certification boards addition read