



The APRN Alliance was established in Anchorage, AK on November 3, 2012. The mission of the Alliance is to provide expert advice, make recommendations and support adaptation and implementation of the APRN consensus guidelines into Alaska statutes and regulations while protecting current and evolving scopes of practice that ANPs/CNMs/CRNAs/CNSs currently enjoy.\*

**An APRN is a nurse with a graduate degree who has been licensed in an advanced role** that builds on the competencies of registered nurses (RNs). Licensure as an APRN is contingent upon completion of an accredited graduate-level education program and passage of a national certification examination. **The four APRN roles are Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP), Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM), Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), and Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS).\*\***

**CNPs** are members of the health delivery system, practicing autonomously in areas as diverse as family practice, pediatrics, internal medicine, geriatrics, and women's health care. CNPs are prepared to diagnose and treat patients with undifferentiated symptoms, as well as those with established diagnoses.\*\*

A **CNM** provides a full range of primary health care services to women throughout the lifespan, including gynecologic care, family planning services, preconception care, prenatal and postpartum care, child birth, and care of a newborn. The practice includes treating the male partner of their female clients for sexually transmitted disease and reproductive health.\*\*

A **CRNA** is prepared to provide the full spectrum of patients' anesthesia care and anesthesia-related care to individuals across the lifespan, whose health status may range from healthy through all recognized levels of acuity, including persons with immediate, severe, or life-threatening illnesses or injury.\*\*

A **CNS** is a unique APRN role that integrates care across the continuum and through three spheres of influence: patient, nurse and system. The three spheres are overlapping and interrelated, but each sphere possesses a distinctive focus. The primary goal of a CNS is continuous improvement of patient outcomes and nursing care.\*\*

\*APRN Alliance Agreement - organization and process 1/4/2014

\*\*NCSBN Campaign for APRN consensus: [https://www.ncsbn.org/2010\\_APRN\\_HandbookforLegislators\\_web.pdf](https://www.ncsbn.org/2010_APRN_HandbookforLegislators_web.pdf)