

## **Fast Facts about NJ Advanced Practice Nurses (APNs)**

**Number of APNs** with active licensure in NJ: 12,000. In NJ the APN title includes nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists and nurse anesthetists.

**Where they work:** Primary care and specialty practices; hospitals-inpatient services, emergency rooms and ambulatory care clinics; nursing homes; visiting nurse services; schools; college health centers; prisons; state psychiatric hospitals and developmental centers; behavioral health centers; nurse managed clinics (inner city neighborhood vans); independent practices caring for the rural underserved and the fragile elderly; nursing school faculties; pharmaceutical and other health care services-related companies; health care foundations; professional associations; the NJ Legislature and NJ Departments of Government.

**Licensure and Education Required:** RN Licensure; state and national certification as an Advanced Practice Nurse; graduation from a masters or doctoral level program in an Advanced Practice Nurse specialty. Licensed and regulated by the NJ Board of Nursing.

**Statutory mandates for practice:** Currently must have a Joint Protocol with a collaborating physician to order or prescribe medications and devices related to drug delivery. APNs are authorized to prescribe all medications including controlled substances. If APNs do not prescribe drugs, they are not required to have a Joint Protocol. All other aspects of their practice are fully independent, consistent with APN scope of practice.

**Reimbursement by Insurance Companies/Carriers:** APNs are recognized as primary and specialty care providers by all major health insurance carriers, including Medicare; Medicaid (and Medicaid Managed Care Companies); Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield, United Health Care; Amerihealth, Qualcare and so on. Once credentialed and empanelled by these companies, they can bill under their own NPI numbers.

**Malpractice Insurance:** All APNs are covered by malpractice insurance purchased either personally or through the employer or both. The rate of Malpractice claims reports against NJ APNs between 1990-2022 is very low-about 2%, compared to 8.7% for their physician colleagues.

**Salary:** Annual average salary of an APN in NJ in 2022 is \$127, 806 (<https://www.salary.com>)

Updated: 6/8/22