WHO WE ARE

The California Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists started in the late 1980’s. CACNS membership continues to increase with participating clinical nurse specialists throughout California. Our active membership body and board member volunteers have worked together to maintain a strong network of skilled advanced practice nurses.

CACNS activities include:
- Annual CACNS conference
- Quarterly educational meetings
- Advocacy
- National representation at NACNS
- Legislative representation
- Research

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P.O. Box 1834
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

www.cacns.org
Getting to know CACNS ...

- Founded in 1987 (one of the first CNS organizations in the country)
- Represents CNSs throughout California
- Represents all CNS specialties
- Represents CNSs in all settings
- Information resource for up to date legislation and regulation impacting our practice and the public
- Serves as the Voice of CNSs in California
- Provides opportunities for networking, education, scholarship, research and advocacy
- Affiliate of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (NACNS) with CACNS members holding positions in NACNS.

What is the role of the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in California?

The CNS is a licensed registered nurse who has completed a master’s or doctoral degree in nursing within a clinical specialty area and then is certified by the Board of Registered Nursing to practice as a CNS. The CNS as an advanced practice RN, is an expert clinician who focuses on a specific population or setting. The CNS works to improve the quality of patient care, outcomes and cost effectiveness in three spheres of influence:

1. patient/client,
2. nurses and nursing practice
3. organization/systems.

Why join CACNS?

With your membership fee, you will receive:

- Monthly email blasts from the CACNS President on organizational activities that may affect growth and changes in practice
- Access to CACNS legislative/research/educational resources in our Members Only section (password provided with paid membership)
- Reduced registration rates for the annual CACNS conference and quarterly educational meetings
- Opportunities to be involved at a regional level on committees that directly impact the CACNS role
- Networking with other members who value and promote the role of the CNS and advanced practice nurses

We offer three levels of membership:

**Regular Membership** – Open to CA licensed RN’s who are Master’s or doctorally prepared in the role of the CNS as defined by Calif BRN title criteria.

**Associate Membership** – Open to all CA licensed RN’s who are not CNS’s but who have an interest in the CNS role.

**Student Membership** – Open to all CA licensed RN’s who can provide proof of participation in a CNS program of study at the Master’s level.