

Summary of proposed CNO by-law changes related to Nurse Practitioners

Public consultation

December 2025

BACKGROUND

CNO has drafted revisions to its by-laws to align with the single Nurse Practitioner (NP) regulation framework led by the [Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators](#). The changes remove references to the NP population-specific certificates (NP-Adult, NP-Paediatrics, NP-Primary Health Care) which will no longer exist in 2026 (pending Government approval of NP regulation).

In December 2025, CNO's Council (board of directors) reviewed the proposed by-law changes and approved that they be circulated for public feedback. The consultation will be open from December 12, 2025 to February 09, 2026.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

By-laws No.1: General

The proposed CNO by-laws will continue to reference specialty certificates (also known as population-specific certificates) in select areas to enable CNO to list foundational (entry-level) NP education at the time of registration and historical NP registration information on the public registry for transparency purposes. This approach ensures system partners, including members of the public, can understand and access registration information to support informed decision-making.

By-laws No.2: Fees

Pending regulation approval by government, specialty certificate fees will be reallocated and merged into the registration and reinstatement fees. The NP fee is paid by the applicant to process the certificate of registration in the Extended Class, validate the registration requirements and reflect the cost of registering the NP certificate. This approach will keep the total fees for NPs as they currently stand and there is no net increase to fees NPs pay.

CNO is also proposing to revoke a higher fee that applies to internationally educated NPs. Similar fees for RPN and RN applicants were revoked by Council in March 2025. Thus, the proposed change would align with current application costs for RPN and RN

applicants in which all applicants, regardless of where they are educated, are charged the same application fee.

Additionally, the new NP national licensure exam will require applicants to pay the exam administrator directly for a rescoring and is therefore not applicable to CNO in the future.