

# Professional Development Specialist



As a Professional Development Specialist, you'll apply your clinical knowledge and expertise in nursing education and program planning to promote the pediatric nursing professional role competence and growth within various practice settings. According to the National Professional Development (NPD) practice model you will work with both new and experienced nursing professionals as a learning facilitator, change agent, champion for inquiry, leader, mentor, partner for practice transitions, as well as an advocate for the NPD specialty. The ultimate goal of this role is to make sure all pediatric nurses have knowledge of current evidence-based practice and the tools to implement that practice to provide optimal care for the populations they serve.



Clinical knowledge of current evidence-based practice



Expertise in nursing education and program planning



Passionate about ensuring pediatric nursing professional competency and growth

## Keywords

- Evidence-based practice
- Nursing Education
- Change Agent
- Life-long learner
- Catalyst for optimal care

## Career Steps

1

Earn a minimum BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) but MSN (Master of Science in Nursing) preferred. Often a degree in Nursing Education can be favorable.

2

Gain Clinical Experience in clinical education activities or demonstrate progressively responsible duties in clinical nursing practice.

3

Certification in Nursing Professional Development is strongly desired.

4

Engagement in councils, committees, and organizations engaged in professional development for yourself or others is encouraged.



Links for further reading

- <https://www.anpd.org/Resources/For-NPD-Practitioners>
- [Career options for Nurse Educators](#)
- [Harper, M. G., & Maloney, P. \(Eds.\). \(2022\). Nursing professional development: Scope and standards of practice \(4th ed.\). Association for Nursing Professional Development.](#)
- <https://nursejournal.org/articles/what-does-a-nursing-professional-development-specialist-do/>



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