



NATIONAL  
ASTHMA EDUCATOR  
CERTIFICATION BOARD

AE-C

## AE-C Achieves New Accreditation



® The AE-C credential achieved a HUGE milestone this spring. **We became accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).**

AE-Cs now join the ranks of other NCCA accredited organizations including: Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT), Critical Care Paramedics (CCP-C), and the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PA-C)!

**Many employers support certifications that have attained NCCA accreditation with bonus pay and may pay for certification or recertification. Consider discussing this with your employer to see if it applies to you.**

[Check out their website to see the full list of NCCA accredited certifications](#)

From the NCCA:

*"The NCCA Standards were developed to help ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the public. They highlight the essential elements of a high-quality program."*

*"To date, NCCA has accredited approximately 330 programs from more than 130 organizations."*

## Member Spotlight

Want to suggest a member to feature? Email [info@naecb.org](mailto:info@naecb.org)



**Meet Linnea Champ, MPH, AE-C..** Health Scientist for [9 Foundations Inc.](#), a company started by her former graduate school professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She says that the company *“is fundamentally trying to change how buildings affect people’s health and the role they play in people’s health.”*

*“I evaluate sick buildings, and how sick buildings affect occupants, which is basically what I did as an asthma educator, but on a larger scale.”*

Like many in our AE-C community, Linnea’s work has also taken on new importance in the wake of COVID-19 as businesses consider future safe in-person practices.

**Linnea’s experiences as an asthma educator have guided her career.** She became an AE-C while working at [Improving Pediatric Asthma Care in The District of Columbia](#) (IMPACT DC), an award-winning asthma program started at the Children’s National Hospital in Washington, D.C. shown to reduce asthma emergency department visits. *“The disproportionate rates of asthma in the District are jarring,”* with inequalities concentrated in distinct geographic wards of the city, disproportionately affecting communities of color. Linnea’s work with IMPACT DC on environmental asthma triggers like mold and moisture, included learning about building codes and the fragmentation of responsible parties, and directly influenced her decision to pursue an MPH in Environmental Health.

About her Asthma Educator Certification (AE-C), Linnea says, *“It’s a very unique skillset.”* As a 1000-hour candidate (a person who qualifies to take the exam based on providing direct patient asthma education, counseling, or coordination services with a minimum of 1,000 hours experience in these activities), Linnea said it was *“hard to articulate the value of everything I learned, and I wanted the certification to show that experience.”* Her former employer encouraged her to become an AE-C and paid for the exam.

Linnea enjoyed studying for the exam to focus on areas less common in her role, like adult asthma, since she worked in pediatrics. She praised the asthma educator approach for its communications emphasis, *“It doesn’t matter who you’re talking to, you want to say things in clear, digestible ways... you want people to understand.”*

*“I’m glad I’m an asthma educator. I definitely identify as someone who works as an asthma educator.”*

Thanks Linnea, we’re thrilled you’re an AE–C too!

If you’re interested in learning more about environmental health, check out some of Linnea’s recommendations: [The Devil We Know](#), [Dr. Megan Sandel’s work on housing and health](#), and [this documentary on flame retardants](#).

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## Opportunities

Have something to share? Email it to [info@naecb.org](mailto:info@naecb.org)

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## Upcoming Events\*

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*\*These events are not affiliated with or endorsed by the NAECEB*

**2020 Arizona Asthma & Allergy Clinical (AAAC) Conference** will take place on Saturday, September 12, 2020. The hope is to host an in–person event at the Phoenix Children’s Hospital’s beautiful conference center. The AAAC will monitor the COVID–19 situation closely and transition to a virtual event if necessary.

The conference will include sessions with respected asthma and allergy experts on clinical care, pharmacology, asthma and allergy management at schools. There will also be sessions covering New Guidelines for Asthma and COVID–19 and Future Viruses and much more!

**AAE Virtual Seminar, Annual Conference *Cancelled*** In the coming months, the AAE is creating a Virtual/LIVE educational program that will feature topics originally planned for the 2020 annual conference. AAE promises to deliver the much needed Asthma–Specific education and credits that many need and rely on the AAE to provide. **The AAE will announce a date in a few weeks.**

**Asthma Virtual Camp Opportunity** COVID–19 is creating an environment of isolation and fear, especially for families of high risk individuals. Pediatricians across the country are reporting a surge in anxiety and depression in their patients. Let Roundup River Ranch’s virtual camp programming be part of the solution for your patients and their families! Roundup River Ranch is a member of the Paul Newman SeriousFun Network, the largest family of medical camps worldwide. We offer FREE camp opportunities to children and their families affected by serious illnesses to discover, joy, confidence and friendships!

At Roundup River Ranch, campers are always #1! That is why we have created an online camp experience called “Here We Go Online!” that is educational, interactive, and engaging and provides the opportunity for campers to virtually connect with one another during this time of isolation. “Here We Go Online” offers many of the camp programs that we know and love.

**Registration for asthma virtual camp only takes 10 minutes and does not require any medical forms, clinic notes or work done by your clinic!** We still have 40 spots in our session for kids ages 7–17, affected by moderate to severe asthma or lung disease: 6/10–6/15/20. Visit our website at [www.RoundupRiverRanch.org](http://www.RoundupRiverRanch.org) to start the registration process. For questions or assistance please contact our camper recruitment office at [CamperRecruiter@RoundupRiverRanch.org](mailto:CamperRecruiter@RoundupRiverRanch.org)

*Enjoy this 50 second camp video and share it with patients, parents, and staff in your clinic and hospital : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8Ni3VwG9cQ&feature=youtu.be>*

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## National AE–C Board Corner

### AE–C Test Center Reopenings

PSI, the company we partner with to administer the AE–C exam, began an official re–opening of domestic owned and operated test centers May 1st, with most sites open by May 18th. To check if your nearest testing site is closed, visit PSI's official page: <https://www.psonline.com/closures>

Information regarding the safety and sanitation procedures at PSI test site can be found at: <https://www.psonline.com/wp-content/uploads/psi-services-covid-19-faqs.pdf>

The health and safety of current and future asthma educators is very important to our team. We would like to remind you that when you purchase an exam registration, you can take the exam any time within 12 months of that purchase. Our National AE–C Board is available at [info@naecb.org](mailto:info@naecb.org) for questions or concerns.

### Exam Scholarships

If you want to become a certified asthma educator, check to see if your employer pays for the exam. Many employers budget for trainings, certifications, or professional development and will cover the cost.

If you or your employer are unable to pay for the exam, apply for [our scholarship](#).

### Quick Links

Want to [sign up for the exam](#)?

Read [recommendations on exam review courses](#)

Brush up on the AE-C [Candidate Handbook](#)

Find recertification information in the [Recertification Handbook](#)

Not sure of your question? [See our FAQs](#)

Review the [Code of Conduct](#) to stay sharp

Visit the [NAECB Certificant Corner](#) to access newsletters, obtain forms for replacement pins and certificates, and to update your contact information

Thanks for reading and for being part of the Certified Asthma Educator Community. We are grateful for your work and wish you a safe summer.



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## **Promoting Excellence in Asthma Education**

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