

## **PAA-NCGR Certification**

### **History of PAA-NCGR's Certification Program**

NCGR's Education and Certification Program, recognized internationally for its rigor and excellence since 1979, has been one of NCGR's cherished achievements. With the 2008 formation of the NCGR-Professional Astrologers' Alliance (NCGR-PAA), NCGR's prior certification program has been transferred to PAA in its entirety, thus continuing NCGR's historical educational program begun more than a quarter of a century ago. As of March 31, 2009, all NCGR exams are administered through PAA.

The 4 Levels of certification testing is based on the vision and principles that guided the educational curriculum as before, and as found in the Education Curriculum and Study Guide for Certification Testing. The program has been revised and improved since its origination in 1979 and continues to evolve. What the PAA Curriculum and Certification Program does is provide a set of standards that were originally designed to be the equivalent of a 4-year college major in astrology.

Please also note that all those who have passed any and all previous NCGR exams still retain their standing for the particular Level of exam they have passed. The only thing that has changed is that tests will now be administered through PAA, and certificates will be issued through the new organization.

Membership in NCGR will entitle test-takers to a test fee discount.

### **The Certification Program**

The PAA Curriculum and Certification Program offers many learning options to students of astrology who wish to improve their understanding of the subject and attain certification of their accomplishments. Students may take courses from any number of sources including those provided by teachers for the many NCGR chapters, from teachers associated with other organizations, from various schools, or they may be self-taught. There are equivalency programs (see below) as well. Prospective students are advised to inquire organizations and schools about their offerings. Any educational programs that are sometimes offered by PAA will be found on the announcements page of this website.

The PAA Certification Program is divided into four progressive levels: L-I, L-II, L-III, L-IV. As of 2021 the testing is done online. 'Paper' version is also available for those who cannot use the online service. The 'paper' version testing is still supervised in person by PAA exam monitors, as before. Part of Level-III and all of Level-IV are take-home tests, i.e., not online.

An applicant cannot bypass a test level – one must pass a prior level before taking the next one. The only exception to monitored testing is when a particular school has gained

equivalency to any of the first three exams; Level IV must always be taken through the PAA Examiners.

The Study Guide provides the areas of study necessary to complete each examination; each level becomes increasingly more detailed as the student progresses. Astronomy-for-astrologers is studied on Levels I and II. Ethical concerns in astrological practice are addressed throughout the program. Students are encouraged to engage in additional studies in counseling skills and other fields related to their intended focus in one or more of the following areas, or "majors": consulting, technical research, general studies, and instruction, each with its own specific requirements.

#### **Level-IV is Graduation:**

Students who have passed the requirements of Level-IV, in any one of the four "majors," and have agreed to uphold PAA's ethical standards of practice, are entitled to use the letters C.A., (for Certified Astrologer), PAA (for National Council for Geocosmic Research-Professional Astrologers Alliance), after their name on publications and promotional items. All such Certified Astrologers are also eligible to join the Association of Professional Astrologers International (APAI). For information on APAI, go to [professionalastrologers.co.uk](http://professionalastrologers.co.uk)

#### **PAA Equivalency Program**

PAA offers an Equivalency Program with the following astrological entities:

- American Federation of Astrologers (AFA) [www.astrologers.com](http://www.astrologers.com)
- International Academy of Astrology (IAA) [www.astrocollege.com](http://www.astrocollege.com)
- Kepler College for Astrological Education [www.kepler.edu](http://www.kepler.edu)

**AFA:** Those who have achieved professional certification (PMAFA) from the American Federation of Astrologers may enter our certification testing program at Level III, by taking the Level III exams. The application process includes verification (certificate/transcript) of having met the prior equivalency requirements for PAA Levels I and II exams.

**IAA & Kepler College:** Those who have graduated from the International Academy of Astrology, or from Kepler College for Astrological Education, may enter the PAA certification program at Level IV, by taking the Level IV exams. The application process includes verification (certificate/transcript) of having met the prior equivalency requirements for PAA Levels I, II, and III exams. (Kepler diploma: KPDA, IAA diploma: PSM & DSM)

To apply for a test, and for further information on our Equivalency Program, contact our Education Director: [Education@astrologersalliance.org](mailto:Education@astrologersalliance.org)