



Interview Prep & Building Community

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Partnership between

- University of Illinois - Community Data Clinic
- Parkland College - SWFT + Healthcare Program

Interview Prep & Building Community

Module Motivations

Networking and having connections are both crucial in navigating today's job market and finding better opportunities for ourselves. This module seeks to help CNAs learn how to access Communities and Organizations that will not only allow for networking opportunities, but also:

- provide helpful information related to preparing for and finding healthcare jobs;
- provide professional advice for on-the-job;
- be a space to share experiences and provide emotional support;
- offer continuing education resources;
- and so much more!

Module Agenda

- **Preparing for Job Interviews**
- **Value of Professional Communities**
- **Professional Nursing Organizations**
- **Online Nursing Communities**
- **Forming Your Own Communities**



Preparing for the Job



Using Social Media: Tiktok and Youtube

❖ Youtube Videos

- [How to Ace Your CNA Interview | Indeed Career Tips - YouTube](#)
- [Mastering CNA Interviews: Essential Tips and Strategies for Success CNA Live Q&A Session 7.5.23 - YouTube](#)
- [Tips For New CNAs| What I Wish I Knew Earlier About Working As a CNA! - YouTube](#)

❖ Youtube Pages

- [4yourCNA - YouTube](#)
- [Auhneja - YouTube](#)
- [Nurse Liz - YouTube](#)

❖ Tiktok Videos

- [Top 3 Questions to Ask in an Interview](#)
- [CNA Advice: Job Interview](#)

❖ Tiktok Pages

- [Xiara 🇸🇵 | Nurse Tutor \(@xpertrn\) | TikTok](#)
- [jadalorenxo' on TikTok | TikTok Search](#)

Interview Tips for Nursing Field

1. Research the Facility and Position
2. Dress Professionally
3. Bring Your Nursing Credentials
4. Arrive Early
5. Have a Good Attitude
6. Prepare Ahead of Time



Sample Nursing Interview Questions

- ❖ Can you describe a time when you provided exceptional patient care?
- ❖ What are your career goals?
- ❖ Why are you the best candidate for the nursing job?
- ❖ How well do you work under pressure?

- ❖ Why do you want to be a nurse?
- ❖ Can you describe how you've worked with challenging patients in the past?
- ❖ How would you react if your nurse supervisor asked you to violate a policy?
- ❖ Why do you want to work at this hospital or health care facility?



Online Nursing Communities



CNA Reddit Community

What is Reddit?

Reddit is a social media platform that is home to a variety of communities, or '**subreddits**,' that provide a place to have discussions about shared interests.

You can view discussions without having an account, but need to create a free account to make your own posts.





CNA Reddit Community

CNA Subreddit - r/cna



The **CNA Subreddit, r/cna**, has 37,000 members and is very active! There tends to be 100-300 people online at a time, with an average of 10-20 posts a day.

Users in this community will post about career advice, working experiences and conditions, job preparation, mental health, and more.

Today, we'll go through the process of navigating to the CNA subreddit together and finding the answers to questions we might have.

A Community for Nursing Assistants and Technicians

At r/CNA we share stories of caring for patients/residents and advice on how to best accomplish our mission of providing the best possible care for those in our charge. Come join us!

37K

Members

110

● Online

Top 3%

Rank by size ↗

RULES

- 1 Abide by HIPAA and the sidewise rules of reddit. ✓
- 2 No personal health situations. ✓
- 3 ZERO talk about passing drug tests in regards to illegal substances. ✓
- 4 Keep your memes appropriate. ✓
- 5 No advertising of any kind. ✓
- 6 No Throwing Accounts ✓

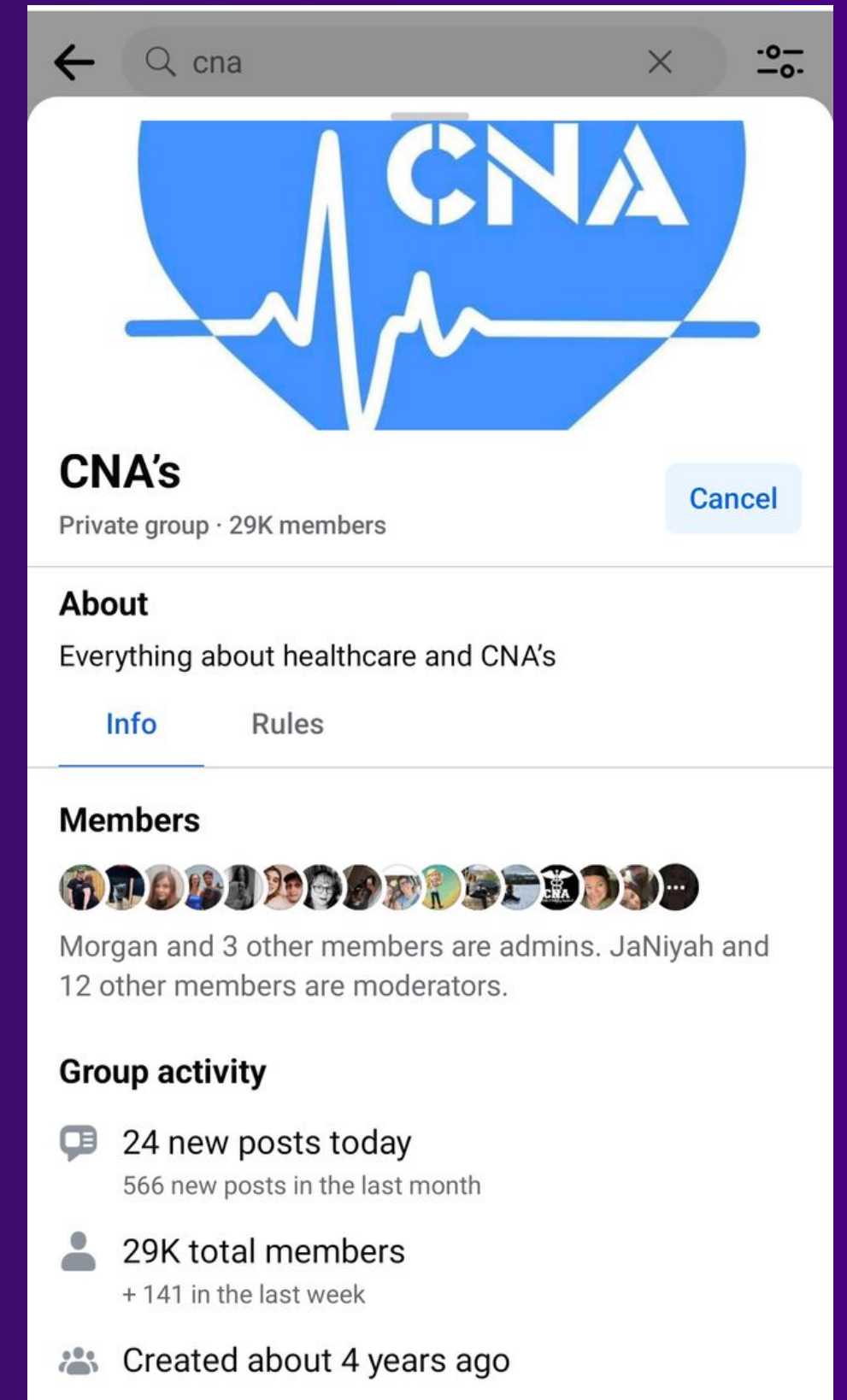


CNA Facebook Group

CNA Facebook Group

Another large and active online CNA community is **CNA's, a Facebook Group**. This group has 30,000 members and receives 10-30 posts a day.

You must have a Facebook account to access this group. Since it is also a **Private Group**, you go through a **'screening quiz'** before they accept your request to join. This quiz asks simple questions like **'are you a CNA'** to verify that the community only consists of CNA-affiliated individuals to receive the best advice. This also reduces spam/scams being posted to the group!





Value of Professional Communities

The Value of Professional Communities

Professional Communities

Professional Communities are **groups of people with shared interests, goals, and experiences, that collaborate and connect together for collective learning and growth.**

They are also referred to as ‘Communities of Practice,’ as seen here.

‘Word of Mouth’ is a common ‘technique’ used by Healthcare Facilities to hire workers, and networking within Healthcare Communities can allow you to hear about these opportunities!

Why focus on communities of practice?		
	for members	for organizations
short-term value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help with challenges • access to expertise • confidence • fun with colleagues • meaningful work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • problem solving • time saving • knowledge sharing • synergies across sectors/districts • reuse of resources
long-term value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal development • enhanced reputation • professional identity • networking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strategic capabilities • keeping up-to-date • innovation • retention of talents • new strategies

From: Wenger's *Cultivating Communities of Practice: a quick start-up guide*



Professional Nursing Organizations



Student Nurses Association of Illinois (SNAI)

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SNAI is the Illinois Chapter of the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA). SNAI/NSNA is dedicated to fostering the professional development of nursing students.

One Year Membership - \$42.00

Two Year Membership - \$80.00



Benefits include, but are not limited to:

- **Access to Malpractice Insurance for Student Nurses (\$35/yr)**
- **Discounts on continuing education resources, scrubs, travel, etc.**
- **Access to scholarships**
- **National and state conferences**



National Association of Health Care Assistants (NAHCA)

National Association of Health Care Assistants (NAHCA)

The NAHCA mission is to contribute to the professional growth of CNAs and other caregivers through recognition, education, advocacy and motivation.

NAHCA has a \$30/yr membership fee

Your Benefits as a NAHCA CNA Member

- ♥ Access to NAHCA CNA Members Online Group
- ♥ NAHCA ProShop 10% Discounts on Swag
- ♥ CNA Fest Ticket Members \$100 Discount
- ♥ NAHCA News E-newsletter
- ♥ Special Recognition in NAHCA News
- ♥ Members Only Exclusive Webinars and Events
- ♥ The NAHCA Virtual Care Campus (NVCC)
- ♥ Be Part of a Nationwide Voice For CNA's
- ♥ Unlocking Members-Only Website Features
- ♥ All Episodes of CNA-TV (over 750 video topics)
- ♥ Your Own Exclusive NAHCA Membership card
- ♥ Personal & Professional Development Coaching
- ♥ Plus, Continuing Education Opportunities
- ♥ Let's Convert Your Spirit Into Action as a Member



National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP)

<https://nadsp.org>

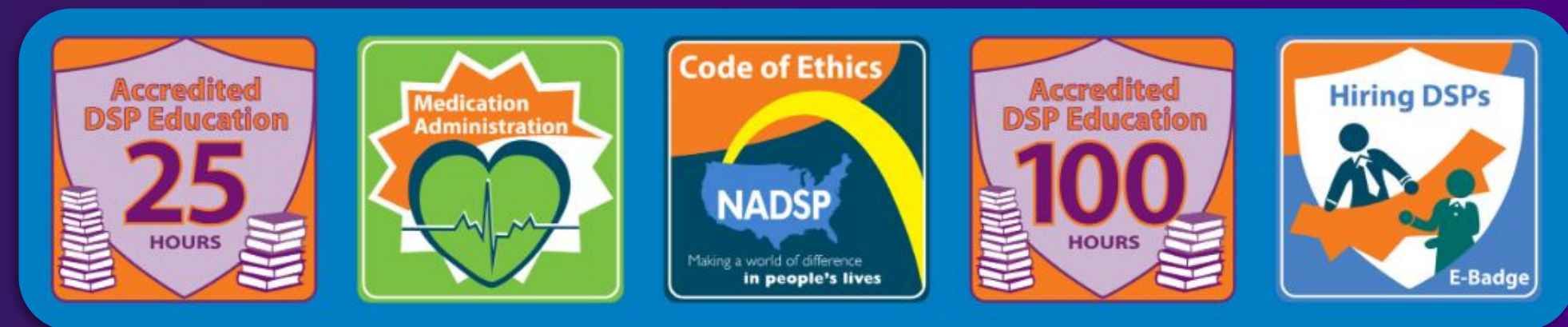
NADSP elevates the status of CNAs who partners with, supports and empowers people with disabilities.

Advance on CNAs knowledge, skills and values, through certification, credentialing, training, professional development, and accreditation services.

One Year Individual Membership - \$10.00

NADSP Selected Membership Benefits

- National certification **E-Badge Academy**



- Training (in-person / virtual) on Ethics, Decision Making, Career Ladders, and Front-Line Supervision
- NADSP Certification program
- Unlimited access the members-only website, Live and archived “Let’s Talk” webinars



American Nurses Association (ANA) Illinois

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ANA is the largest national organization that strives to represent the interests of the millions of RNs in the U.S. ANA respects the insights and contributions of students as future nursing leaders, and offers support for their education and career aspirations.

Nursing Students can subscribe **for free** to receive information and resources from ANA! Once a registered nurse, you can become a paid member of ANA to receive many additional benefits.

As an ANA Student Subscriber, you'll have access to:

Welcome to the Profession Kit	+
Exclusive Online Student Community	+
Member-Only Content	+
Advocacy Alerts and ANA's Legislative Blog	+
Code of Ethics	+
ANA Career Center	+
National Student Nurses Association (NSNA)	+
Get Involved with Healthy Nurse, Healthy Nation™	+



Chicago Chapter National Black Nurses Association (NBNA)

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NBNA's mission is to provide a forum for collective action by nurses to advocate for the health care needs of African Americans. Additionally, NBNA educates and mentors nurses and nursing students, contributing to their career, professional, and economic development.

The Chicago Chapter of NBNA accepts Nursing Students with a \$45/yr membership fee

THERE ARE MANY EXCEPTIONAL BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN NBNA. THEY INCLUDE:

- Subscription to the NBNA News, the association's quarterly newsletter
- Subscription to the Journal of the National Black Nurses Association, a bi-annual published professional refereed journal
- NBNA website: www.NBNA.org
- Direct electronic mailing on nursing and health care issues
- Quarterly subscription to Minority Nurse magazine
- On-line Career Center
- On-line Conference Center
- NBNA Home Buyer's Assistance Program
- Position papers on important issues impacting the health care of African American consumers
- Association partnerships with federal and national organizations
- Continuing education contact hours for licensure
- A unified voice for the profession of nursing in Washington to address public policy issues
- Networking with African American nurses from around the country, the Caribbean and West Africa
- The NBNA Scholarship and Awards Program — NBNA offers scholarships to all levels of nursing students to continue and complete their nursing education
- Leadership opportunities through committees and taskforces
- Speaking engagements at national and local conferences, Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust, National Medical Association Health Policy Colloquium, Association of Women's health Obstetrical and Neonatal Nurses, National Consumers League, The Chest Foundation and the American College of Chest Physicians.
- A toll free telephone number to contact the National Office







National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) Illinois

National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) Illinois

NAHN Illinois aims to bridge healthcare disparities among nurses & communities. NAHN Illinois also provides members with professional networking, continuing education, and leadership development opportunities.

Nursing Students can get a \$50/yr membership

 <p>Local & regional networking opportunities</p>	 <p>Regular meetings to discuss local community issues</p>
 <p>Local awards and scholarships</p>	 <p>Chapter newsletter to keep up-to-date on local activities, events, & job opportunities</p>
 <p>Student nurse mentorship programs</p>	 <p>Work in partnership with other chapters to promote leadership, networking & support</p>

 <p>Community outreach programs</p>
 <p>Chapter events including local conferences, leadership training & networking receptions</p>
 <p>Mentor new members to take leadership positions</p>



Indian Nurses Association of Illinois (INAI)

Indian Nurses Association of Illinois (INAI)

INAI's goal is to establish a professional body to identify and meet the professional, cultural and social needs unique to nurses of Indian origin and heritage in Illinois. INAI offers mentoring and support to Nursing Students as well as contributing to professional development.

Nursing Students can get a \$50/yr membership

What are the benefits of being an INAI member?

- Free /discounted rate CEs **Continuing Education Resources**
- Professional development opportunities
- Leadership enhancement opportunities
- Mentoring programs
- Professional recognition
- Participation in legislation activities to make changes in healthcare
- A resume booster
- Social Activities
- Opportunities to network with other nurses
- Voting privileges



Forming Your Own Communities



Forming Your Own Communities

If you have any difficulties joining these communities and organizations, or want a more local and accessible community, don't be afraid to form your own!

- Define The Shared Area(s) of Interest
- Define Your Goals
- Invite People to Join
- Schedule Meetings and/or Have a Set Platform for Communication

You can have more formal conversations about this via flyers, social media posts, etc., or this can even be a casual invitation to study and chat with classmates!





That's All!

**Please let us know if you
have any questions.**