

Creighton Model Education Foundation, Inc
working with
Fertility *Care*™ Practitioner Program of Northeast Indiana

EPI

Monday, May 3 - Monday, May 10, 2027

Check-in for EPI is Sunday, May 2, 2027

EPII

Monday, January 3 – Saturday, January 8, 2028

Check-in for EPII is Sunday, January 2, 2028



St. Felix Friary
1280 Hitzfield St.
Huntington, IN 46750

Contact: Theresa Schortgen, MSN, RN, CFCE, CFCP
Cell: 260.494.6444
Email: theresa@tcmeff.org

Applicant Eligibility

Those eligible for the
Creighton Model
Fertility *Care*™ Practitioner
Program (CrMFCS) are

- Registered nurses with current licenses
- Allied Health Professionals with BA or BS degree
- Health or Basic Sciences Behavioral Sciences Education
- Other state recognized licensures or Associate Degree Diploma or such as:
- Licensed Practical Nurse, MA, CNA, etc.
- Human Services Practitioner
- Equivalent of two years college study other non-health fields are also individually recognized.
- Not using/prescribing barriers/contraception
- If married teachers are required to observe and monitor their fertility using the CrFCMS.
- If single, be celibate and using the CrMFCS, thus are a philosophical acceptor of the CrMFCS.
- For those in menopause, eligibility is to uphold being a philosophical acceptor and all the principles of the CrMFCS.

Education Phase I (EPI) Monday, May 3 – Monday, May 10, 2027

An **eight-day** total emersion educational experience prepares the Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner Intern (FCPI) to teach the CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility **Care**™ System. The curriculum consists of history of natural methods of birth regulation, anatomy and physiology, the hormones of the menstrual cycle, breastfeeding, menopause, psychodynamics of contraception and the CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility **Care**™ System, human sexuality, the beginnings of human life and the effectiveness of natural and artificial methods of family planning. The clinical group sessions train the FCPI to teach the Fertility **Care**™ System according to a standardized curriculum and include basic chart reading and correcting, how to conduct the standardized Introductory Session and Follow-Up sessions, documentation, and the Supervised Practicum I (SPI) Responsibilities. An assessment at the end of EPI assures the competency of the student to begin teaching clients during their internship.

Supervised Practicum I (SPI) This Practicum begins with the successful completion of EPI and ends with Education Phase II. During this Practicum the FCPI returns to their home and begins teaching the Fertility **Care**™ System. Every FCPI will be assigned a Faculty Supervisor who they will work closely with during their Practicum. The Supervisor provides the support and direction that a FCPI requires. Each FCPI will order the Intro Session and client materials from Saint Paul VI – Publications Dept. The cost for 18 clients is approximately **\$475**. Each FCPI will teach a minimum of 6 client couples during SPI, then 12 in SPII. There are written and recorded assignments, and monthly telephone calls with the Supervisor.

Education Phase II (EPII) Monday, January 3 – Saturday, January 8, 2028

Following successful completion of SPI, the FCPI is qualified to attend EPII. This 6 day long educational experience covers advanced case management in infertility, continuous mucus discharge, unusual bleeding, and NaProTECHNOLOGY. How to conduct pregnancy evaluations is taught along with management of advanced behavioral issues, communication, marketing, and advanced business aspects of managing a Fertility **Care**™ Center. An Oral Exam at the end of EP II helps to prepare the FCPI for their second supervised practicum.

Supervised Practicum II (SPII)

Supervised Practicum II begins with the successful completion of EPII and ends with the Final Exam. During this time the FCPI will teach an additional 12 client couples, submit assignments, have monthly phone calls with their Supervisor and experience an **OnSite** visit from their Supervisor.

On-Site Visit

The OnSite Visit is a time when the faculty supervisor will go to the FCPI's home location and observe their teaching, review their files, and conduct a comprehensive case review of all the FCPI's clients. Arrangements are decided between the supervisor and the Intern.

National Standardized Final Exam

When all the requirements are complete the FCPI will be given approval to take a national standardized Final exam. This exam is proctored in the student's home location and is offered four times a year.



Cost

Application Fee

\$45.00

- due before scheduled interview.

Practitioner Tuition

\$4150.00

- due before EPI

Extra Costs

- An OnSite that includes the Supervisor's travel and lodging. FCPI coordinates with Supervisor.
- \$475 in client materials (is reimbursed from client).

Room at St. Felix - no cost to FCPIs

Rooms are single – shared shower facilities. Bring a towel.

Kitchen facilities include refrigerator, oven, toaster, microwave, and coffee pot. Visit:

sf catholiccenter.com

FCPIs can bring a crockpot etc. and can share food costs or eat at local restaurants. Multiple grocery stores are within a couple of miles.

Information & Application Materials

Theresa Schortgen, MSN, RN, CFCE, CFCP, Program Director

Email: theresa@tcmeff.org

Mobile & WhatsApp: (260) 494-6444

Payment Policy

Make Checks to:

ATTN: The Creighton Model Education Foundation, Inc

Theresa Schortgen, CFCE

146 N. Rufus St. New Haven, IN 46774

\$45.00 application fee (due at time of interview)

\$550.00 *(\$100 is nonrefundable) due before books/materials sent to FCPI. *\$450.00 refundable if books returned are unopened and undamaged upon cancellation before EPI - minus shipping fees.

The remaining tuition ~ \$3600.00

~ due before or at EPI

***Deadline for interview is April 1, 2027. In this way, you receive your textbooks in time to begin your studies before EPI. After April 1st, you may or may not receive your textbooks before EPI.

The program is a 13-month course of study incorporating two classroom instruction phases and two supervised teaching experiences.

The Creighton Model FertilityCare™ System and NaProTECHNOLOGY have been developed through research and education efforts coordinated and directed by Thomas W. Hilgers, MD, in Omaha, Nebraska USA.

This program has been approved for accreditation by the American Academy of FertilityCare™ Professionals (AAFCP).

The EP adheres to the AAFCP Code of Ethics and provides students the educational background to become eligible for AAFCP certification.

Faculty

Dr. Jillian Stalling

Theresa Schortgen

Fr. Christopher Lebsock (EPI)

Fr. Edward Richard (EPII)



Your year in the Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner Program of NEI as a Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner will be a unique experience. This information will assist you in your learning experience and will also facilitate your completion of this course. **Your preparation begins at the time of your acceptance into the program.**

COURSE CURRICULUM

The one-year CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility **Care**™ PRACTITIONER program was developed according to basic education principles utilized in allied health courses. The program consists of:

- Education Phase I
- Supervised Practicum I
- Education Phase II
- Supervised Practicum II
- On Site Visit (scheduled during Supervised Practicum II)
- National Standardized Final Exam

EDUCATION PHASE I

This eight-day total immersion educational experience prepares the Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner Intern to teach the CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility **Care**™ System. This Education Phase is divided into two parts.

Part I consists of history of natural methods of birth regulation, anatomy and physiology, the hormones of the menstrual cycle, breastfeeding, menopause, psychodynamics of contraception and the CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility **Care**™ System, human sexuality, the beginnings of human life and the effectiveness of natural and artificial methods of family planning. There is an assessment at the end of Part I.

Part II consists of training the Intern to teach the Fertility **Care**™ System according to the standardized curriculum and includes Basic Chart Reading and Correcting, how to conduct the standardized Introductory Session and Follow-Up sessions, documentation, and the Supervised Practicum I Responsibilities. There is an assessment at the end of this Education Phase.

SUPERVISED PRACTICUM I

This Practicum begins with the successful completion of Education Phase I and ends with Education Phase II. During this Practicum the Intern returns to their home area and begins teaching the Fertility **Care**™ System. Every Practitioner Intern will be assigned a Faculty Supervisor who they will work closely with during their Practicum. Your faculty supervisor will be a Certified Fertility **Care**™ Educator who is a Certified Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner who has at least two additional years of teaching experience and has completed a Fertility **Care**™ Educator Program. The Supervisor provides the supervision that a Practitioner Intern requires. All books, charts, slides, and teaching materials needed to teach will be provided. Each Intern will teach a minimum of 6 client couples during this Practicum. There are also other written and recorded assignments, and scheduled telephone calls with their Supervisor.

EDUCATION PHASE II

After successful completion of Supervised Practicum I, the Intern is given approval to attend Education Phase II. This is another total immersion educational experience, 6 days long. During this time Advanced Case Management in infertility, continuous mucus discharge, unusual bleeding, and NaProTECHNOLOGY is taught. How to conduct Pregnancy Evaluations are also taught along with management of Advanced Behavioral Issues, communication, marketing, and advanced business aspects of managing a Fertility **Care**™ Center. There is an Oral Exam at the end of Education Phase II.

SUPERVISED PRACTICUM II

Supervised Practicum II begins with the successful completion of Education Phase II and ends with the Final Exam. During this time the Intern will teach an additional 12 client couples, submit assignments, have monthly phone calls with their Supervisor and prepare for an **OnSite** Visit from their Supervisor.

ON SITE VISIT

The **OnSite** visit is conducted after the Intern has taught a minimum of 12 client couples. At this time their Faculty Supervisor will go to the Intern's home location and observe their teaching during the Introductory Session and a Follow Up with a client), review all the clients' files during a Comprehensive Case Review Session.

NATIONAL STANDARDIZED FINAL EXAM

When all the requirements are complete the Intern will be given approval to take a national Standardized Final Exam. This is proctored in their home location and is offered four times a year.



The Creighton Model Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner Certificate (**NOT** the same as the American Academy of Fertility **Care**™ Professionals (AAFCP) Certification).

When all assignments, responsibilities, and final exam are completed the Practitioner Intern is awarded a **Certificate** from Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner Program of NEI. At this time, you are eligible to apply for affiliation with Fertility **Care** Center of America (FCCA) and establish your own FCC.

Understanding the Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner **Certification** process.

Because the Fertility **Care**™ Practitioner Program is accredited by the AAFCP, graduates can apply for Certification to the AAFCP after completing the program. Information on this process will be covered during the Education Phases.

ADVANCE PREPARATIONS

To complete this program, you will be required to teach **18** new clients/couples the Fertility **Care**™ System, you will need a place to do this. Although the program is standardized there is great flexibility in where the services can be provided. Students have used space in churches, professional offices, physician practices, libraries, schools, and in their own homes. You should be considering which environment would work best for you. The logistics of this will be discussed at EP I.

Your new clients will officially enter the program at the time of the 1st Follow Up (F/Up). Before the 1st F/Up, the Creighton Model Introductory Session (IS) prepares them for the 1st F/Up. The IS is a standardized PowerPoint presentation and is both an informational session as well the first step to learning the System. You will learn how to deliver the IS at EPI. At the end of the Session the client couple has enough information to decide if they want to continue and learn the System. Attending the Introductory Session is not a commitment to learning the System. If they decide to learn the system, they are given a book and chart and everything they need to begin observing and charting their signs of fertility. They are also scheduled for their first Follow-Up Session at this time. You will learn how to conduct these individual teaching sessions at EPI.

You should schedule your first Introductory Sessions for when you return from EPI. You can begin publicity for these sessions prior to entering Education Phase I. Advance preparation will make your Supervised Practicum I run much more smoothly. We recommend that you attempt to enter at least two new clients monthly to reach a total of six prior to EPII. (More clients can be added if you wish but a **minimum** of six (6) new clients is required),

In addition to the Introductory Sessions, you will be conducting Follow-Up teaching sessions with each of your clients. These teaching sessions are conducted at 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12 weeks and also at 6, 9 and 12 months after the initial Introductory Session. The Follow-Up teaching sessions are done on an individual basis with each couple. You can anticipate that each Follow-Up will last one hour, and that the preparation time and concluding time for a Follow-Up will involve an additional one-hour of your time.

COURSE TIME, FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS

You can anticipate a schedule that includes the time required for your studying, Introductory Sessions, Follow-Ups, preparation and concluding time, office work, program development and outreach, and the assignments that will be provided. You can expect that you will be involved for a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 20 hours per week during this supervised Practica. You will be closer to the minimum amount of time if you come from an established program where client development will not be so difficult. You anticipate the use of the maximum amount of time if you need to do your own program development and outreach.

In order to conduct the Introductory Sessions, you will need a slide projector, or a computer and LCD projector, and screen. Private Introductory Sessions can also be scheduled with just one couple. If you plan to do group Introductory Sessions, you will need a room large enough to hold three to six couples and printed materials which will be authorized to order after you have completed requirements to begin your first Supervised Practicum. The Follow-Up Sessions are private, confidential and can be held in a smaller room with privacy, a desk or table, and a few chairs. No AV equipment is necessary for Follow-Up sessions however access to a copy machine or scanner at that time would be helpful. You will be provided all materials that you will need for these sessions. In addition, you will want to consider arrangements for client access to you by phone and give some thought to what phone number you will be giving to your clients.

Your Faculty Supervisor is there to assist you throughout this Internship, not only with the assignments and the theoretical knowledge, but also to provide support and information based on the Intern's experience.

This program is designed to develop your professional skills and ability to deliver the highest quality Fertility **Care**™ services possible. You will find the educational experience an outstanding one, and if you give attention to these preliminary items of preparation, you will find that the year will run very smoothly for you.

