



Featuring **NaProTECHNOLOGY**

**Board of Directors**

Paul Hilgers, JD  
President/Treasurer  
Omaha, NE

K. Diane Daly, RN, CFCE  
Vice President  
St. Louis, MO

Kathy Rivet, BS, CFCE  
Vice President  
Manchester, NH

Susan K. Hilgers, BA, CFCE  
Secretary  
Omaha, NE

The Rev. David Daly, LC, ThL, PhL  
Rome, Italy

Stephen J. Hilgers, MD, JD, CFCMC  
Houston, TX

Kathy Hirkala, RN, BSN, CFCE  
Weirton, WV

Margaret P. Howard, MAM, CFCE  
New Boston, TX

Elizabeth Kauffeld, RN, BSN, CFCE  
St. Louis, MO

Paul W. Kortz, RN, MSN, CFCE  
Peoria, IL

Blaise Milburn, MD, CFCMC  
Steubenville, OH

Michelle Parrish, RN, BSN, CFCE  
Ligonier, PA

The Rev. Edward J. Richard, JD, DThM  
Sulphur, LA

Elizabeth Spruell, BA, CFCE  
Bellaire, TX

**Assistant Administrator**

Gerianne Jensen, BS, CFCE  
Omaha, NE

Dear Practitioner:

Thank you very much for your interest in applying for affiliation with **FertilityCare™ Centers of America**. We are including the following documents to help you complete your application:

- FCCA Overview;
- Official FCCA Affiliate Benefits;
- Role of Responsible Practitioner;
- Frequently Asked Affiliation Questions;
- Instructions for Completing the Application;
- Application for Affiliation;
- Affiliation Agreement;
- Education Program Director's Recommendation;
- **NaProTECHNOLOGY** Collaborative Agreement;
- Checklist.

If you have any questions, please contact Gerianne Jensen, Assistant Administrator, at [gerianne.jensen@fertilitycare.org](mailto:gerianne.jensen@fertilitycare.org) or (402) 505-8917. Her office hours are generally from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Central Time.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely yours,

Paul A. Hilgers, J.D.  
President

PAH/gmj

Attachments

**What Every Couple Needs to Know... What Every Woman Has a Right to Know**

6901 Mercy Rd. ♦ Omaha, NE 68106-2621 ♦ P: (402) 505-8917 ♦ F: (402) 390-9851 ♦ [www.fertilitycare.org](http://www.fertilitycare.org)

# FCCA OVERVIEW



What is **FertilityCare™ Centers of America?**




---

Featuring **NaProTECHNOLOGY**

## FCCA OVERVIEW

### What is **FertilityCare Centers of America**?

**FertilityCare Centers of America** (“FCCA”) is a non-profit corporation whose primary purpose is to promote and unite the **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare System** (“CrMS”) and the new reproductive science of **NaProTECHNOLOGY** (“NaPro”) under one identifiable name. Similar to franchises such as McDonald’s, FCCA ensures that the quality of the services delivered by an FCCA affiliate meets the standards of excellence established by FCCA. It also ensures that the services received are **CREIGHTON MODEL** and no other model. Wherever the location of the **FertilityCare** Center is, the public will know that they are receiving the same quality **FertilityCare** services.

### Why is FCCA necessary?

It is necessary to distinguish the differences and the uniqueness of the CrMS so it is not confused with other natural methods of fertility regulation. No other system can achieve the family planning and reproductive health benefits of the CrMS.

- The CrMS can be used to monitor and maintain procreative and gynecologic health.
- The reproductive science of NaPro was developed as a result of research in the CrMS.
- The standardization of the CrMS allows for the observation, tracking and interpretation of biological markers that may be medically significant.
- NaPro cannot be practiced without the CrMS.
- CrMS is a system, not simply a natural method of family planning; and because of that, it is highly versatile.
- By bringing the CrMS under one common identity, we are able to market this service to a larger and more diverse population.

### Why must my center become an affiliate of FCCA?

- Formal affiliation allows each center to use a name that contains the term “**FertilityCare**” as a part of its formal name recognition in each local area and identifies each center as a member of a large and distinguished professional organization.

- Each **FertilityCare** center will be allowed to “feature **NaProTECHNOLOGY**” with a Certified **FertilityCare** Medical Consultant associated with your center. The term “features **NaProTECHNOLOGY**” is for solely for advertising/marketing purposes.
- Formal affiliation allows each center to purchase **CREIGHTON MODEL** client and practitioner educational and training materials. These materials are only available to affiliates of FCCA.
- Formal affiliation allows each center to utilize and benefit from any marketing or promotional initiatives created by FCCA and to be listed on the fertilitycare.org website.

### What are the prerequisites for a **FertilityCare** Center?

- A **FertilityCare** Center affiliate is required to have a **FertilityCare** Practitioner as the Responsible Practitioner in the administration of the Center. This is to ensure quality control of **CREIGHTON MODEL** services.
- The Responsible Practitioner must be certified, or in the process of obtaining certification, through the American Academy of **FertilityCare** Professionals within three years of passing the Final Certificate Examination.
- A Certified **FertilityCare** Medical Consultant who is not a **FertilityCare** Practitioner cannot, on his/her own, set up a **FertilityCare** Center. Such a Medical Consultant could be the driving force behind a **FertilityCare** Center but must have at least one Certified **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare** Practitioner who will assume the responsibility of maintaining the quality and the standards of the **FertilityCare** Center. The individual physician will be responsible for the medical portion of the center under the concepts of NaPro.

### “When can I establish an affiliated center?”

A FertilityCare Practitioner Intern (FCPI) who is currently in a **CREIGHTON MODEL** Education Program is not eligible for affiliation until the Practitioner Intern has satisfactorily completed the Practitioner Education Program and passed the Final Certificate Examination. The Practitioner must then begin the process of Certification through AAFCP. During the course of training, preparations can be made in anticipation of the completion of the Education Program. The FCPI’s Education Program Supervisor can assist in this preparation.

### What are the different types of affiliations?

1. **Institutional Affiliation:** This is a **FertilityCare** Center that is associated with a formal institution such as a health care facility, hospital, university, etc.
2. **Organizational (Group) Affiliation:** This is a **FertilityCare** Center that is a free-standing, not-for-profit institution on its own merits.
3. **Diocesan Affiliation:** This is a **FertilityCare** Center that is associated with a Catholic diocese. In such a circumstance, where it is common to offer several methods of natural

family planning instruction, the designation **FertilityCare** can apply only to the **CREIGHTON MODEL** portion of the diocesan program.

4. **Independent Affiliation:** This is a **FertilityCare** Center that is located in a physician's office, for example, or perhaps in some other facility not mentioned above. It could also represent a **FertilityCare** Center that is operated by an individual in a non-incorporated manner.

### How do I become an affiliate?

You will receive information to contact FCCA for an affiliation application as soon as you have completed all the requirements for the **FertilityCare** Practitioner Program. You can submit your application when you receive these materials.

### What is the difference between **FertilityCare Centers of America** and the **American Academy of FertilityCare Professionals**?

- FCCA is an organization of service programs incorporated to ensure quality **CREIGHTON MODEL** Services nationwide and worldwide provided under one general identifiable name, "**FertilityCare™**."
- The American Academy of **FertilityCare Professionals**, ("AAFCP"), is an organization whose purpose is to foster, advance, and promote quality **FertilityCare** through service, education, and research. The Academy offers Accreditation of **FertilityCare** Practitioner Education programs, Certification of **FertilityCare** Professionals, Service Program Approval for service programs, and continuing education through their webinars and Annual Meetings. For more information, go to <https://aafcp.net>.

### How do I contact FCCA?

#### **FertilityCare Centers of America**

6901 Mercy Road  
Omaha, NE 68106  
(402) 505-8917

[gerianne.jensen@fertilitycare.org](mailto:gerianne.jensen@fertilitycare.org)

[www.fertilitycare.org](http://www.fertilitycare.org)

# OFFICIAL FCCA BENEFITS





Featuring **NaProTECHNOLOGY**

## OFFICIAL FCCA AFFILIATE BENEFITS

### Affiliation

The Affiliate:

- joins the nationwide and worldwide **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ System (CrMS)** Network.
- is part of a team which delivers both morally and professionally acceptable procreative health services.
- receives a certificate of affiliation suitable for framing.
- receives the **FertilityCare™ Centers of America** Affiliate Manual to help in understanding the purpose of the organization and in marketing their center.
- has access to any future developments with **CrMS, NaProTECHNOLOGY**, and the provision of **FertilityCare™ Services**.
- has access to current important contact information.
- receives a sample letterhead to use with their **FertilityCare™ Center**.

### Standardization

The Affiliate:

- has access to all **CrMS** teaching materials, supplies and updates provided solely under the designation of a protected name.
- may establish formal collaboration with **CREIGHTON MODEL** Medical Consultants, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, or Nurse Midwives.

### Promotion

The Affiliate:

- is listed on the **FCCA** website, [www.fertilitycare.org](http://www.fertilitycare.org).
- has access to marketing and promotional materials for **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ Services**. This would include brochures, booklets, rack cards, and other promotional materials as they are developed. A discount will often apply.
- has access to **FertilityCare™** logos and trademarks.
- receives a sample Press Release to use in promoting their new **FertilityCare™ Center**.
- receives information and materials to celebrate Worldwide **FertilityCare™** Week in March each year.

## Communication

The Affiliate:

- is invited to an **FCCA** annual reception sponsored by the **FCCA** Board of Directors held during the AAFCP annual meeting.
- receives updates from **FertilityCare™ Centers of America** on current issues of interest.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS





Featuring **NaProTECHNOLOGY**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED AFFILIATION QUESTIONS

**Q. Is the FCCA application process similar to initial certification through the American Academy of FertilityCare Professionals (AAFCP)?**

**A.** The application process is different from the certification process. This application process is to establish formal affiliation with a national organization which is established for the provision and promotion of **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ Services**.

**It is required that all Responsible Practitioners and Collaborative Medical Consultants be certified by the American Academy of FertilityCare Professionals within three years of completion of their education program.**

*In addition, you must be certified by AAFCP in order to become a Voting Member.*

**Q. Will a directory of all FCCA affiliates be published and made available?**

**A.** The FCCA center directory is published online at [www.fertilitycare.org](http://www.fertilitycare.org).

**Q. Will my center have to obtain approval for any promotional pieces developed as an affiliate of FCCA?**

**A.** FCCA will make available standardized promotional pieces to its affiliates which includes the **FCCA** logo. At the same time, if a local affiliate would like to develop individual materials which would be unique in their own area, and they would like that material to include the **FCCA** logo, it would need to be submitted to **FCCA** for final approval. If they develop promotional materials that do not include the **FCCA** logo, then no approval is needed.

**Q. Why is the affiliation fee based on the number of clients taught?**

**A.** Emphasis has been placed upon not trying to penalize small centers who may not have the resources for the affiliation fee. It seemed most fair to gauge the affiliation fee based on the number of clients taught. With the Affiliation Agreement, this is not enacted until completion of the first anniversary year of the center. This gives each affiliate one year to implement strategies in order to raise their own fees if needed to generate the annual **FCCA** affiliation renewal fees.

**Q. In subsequent years, will our renewal of affiliation fee be based on the previous year's number of clients taught or a projected number?**

**A.** The affiliation fee for a subsequent year will be based upon the actual number of clients taught in the previous 12 months.

**Q. Do I need a minimum number of clients to qualify for affiliation?**

**A.** There is no minimum number of clients needed to qualify for affiliation with FCCA. However, we do expect only active programs to submit for affiliation.

**Q. If I work for a diocese, can I still be recognized under the Natural Family Planning umbrella of the Diocese?**

**A.** Ultimately, that is a decision that will need to be made locally at the level of every diocese. However, there is no good reason that a diocese cannot have a **FertilityCare™ Center** as a part of their overall approach in the field of natural family planning. In fact, in the development of the **CREIGHTON MODEL SYSTEM**, care has been taken to make certain that it is completely compatible with Catholic teaching in all areas related to human sexuality and procreative ethics. It would seem to us that having a **FertilityCare™ Center** as a part of a Diocesan program would be a very positive action since the **CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ System** has such great versatility and provides so much opportunity to Catholic married couples to address their family planning and other gynecologic or reproductive health needs in ways that are completely consistent with the Church's teaching.

**Q. What defines artificial reproductive technologies (ART) in the NaProTECHNOLOGY® Collaborative Agreement?**

**A.** ART involves the various treatment strategies of infertility. These would include in vitro fertilization, gamete intrafallopian transfer, zygote intrafallopian transfer, artificial insemination, surrogate motherhood, etc. In reality, it also includes such things as artificial contraceptive technologies, sterilization, and abortion.

**Q. Will a Creighton Model Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Midwife qualify for the collaborative agreement for offering NaProTECHNOLOGY?**

**A.** Yes, an individual who has completed the formal training as a Creighton Model Nurse Practitioner, a Physician Assistant, or a Nurse Midwife will qualify to collaborate with a **FertilityCare™ Center** in the provision of at least basic **NaProTECHNOLOGY** services. Those individuals will need to complete the **NaProTECHNOLOGY** Collaborative Agreement form in order for the center to be able to advertise itself as "Features **NaProTECHNOLOGY.**"

**Q. Why is it important to have malpractice insurance and coverage limits listed on the **NaProTECHNOLOGY** Collaborative Agreement?**

**A. NaProTECHNOLOGY** involves the **medical aspects** of evaluation and treatment for a whole variety of gynecologic and reproductive issues. When a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or nurse midwife works in their profession, they are almost always universally covered by malpractice insurance. This is standard, and all Collaborating **NaProTECHNOLOGY** medical providers should have their own malpractice insurance.

**Q. Do I need to hire an attorney to review the Affiliation Agreement?**

**A.** With regard to whether the affiliates need to retain attorneys for the review of the Affiliation Agreement, it is not a requirement. **FCCA** has determined that most affiliates will not need to hire an attorney unless they are establishing an LLC. However, **FCCA** would never hinder an affiliate from seeking legal assistance. It may make them feel more comfortable having their own attorney review it, which is their preference.

**Q. Could you explain, in layman terms, what some of the provisions in the Affiliation Agreement mean?**

**A.** There are a number of provisions in the Affiliation Agreement that are expressed in “legalese.” This is because **FCCA** has worked with attorneys in the development of this agreement so that everyone is protected. The most common questions that have come up with regard to the Affiliation Agreement include the following sections (identified by letter/number of the section of the Affiliation Agreement entitled “Basic Legal Association.” As part of our service to affiliates, the following layperson’s interpretation of these clauses is provided for your benefit:

**E. INDEMNITY:** The Indemnity Provision is there to protect **FCCA** from liability for the day-to-day operations of the affiliate. At the same time, it does not protect **FCCA** from any wrongdoing originating from **FCCA**.

**F. LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY:** The Limitation on Authority is there to protect the autonomy of **FCCA** and the autonomy of the affiliate.

**L. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:** The four miscellaneous provisions are perhaps the most “legalese” of all of the provisions, and a more in-depth layperson’s analysis of those is presented:

- 1. Injunctive Relief:** Occasionally, if a court finds there is a breach of contract, the only available remedy is money damages, unless otherwise provided. In many disputes, such as a trademark infringement, the most important goal is to stop the violation from continuing. Money damages after the fact are generally not as valuable as stopping a violation right at the start. Injunctive Relief allows the court to issue a temporary or permanent injunction to stop a party’s actions that violate the contract before any serious damage can be done. By having this provision in the contract, we ensure that both parties have the ability to seek not only money damages to correct a violation of the contract, but also an injunction to stop the violation from continuing.

2. **Law Governing:** All states have fairly similar rules of construction when interpreting contracts, but there are some differences. To promote uniformity between all parties when several states can be involved, most contracts choose one state as the basis for contract interpretation. A provision in this contract will mean the same thing in Florida as it does in California. By indicating that the agreement will be construed and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska, it creates uniformity for both the affiliates and for **FCCA**.
3. **No Waiver:** This provision protects both parties and promotes consistency over the life of the affiliation by ensuring that a temporary deviation from the contract does not amount to a waiver of any specific provision. This provision is frequently used in rental contracts so that if the landlord lets the rent be late once, the landlord has not waived the right to collect the rent on time in the future. In this agreement, the provision might apply if, due to unforeseen circumstances, an affiliate was behind on paying dues or **FCCA** was late on providing services; that the other party would “forgive” the delay, but not waive the right to hold the party to the terms of the agreement at a later date.
4. **Severability:** From time to time, a court interpreting a contract might hold that a specific provision of the contract violates some particular statute or rule of law. In many cases, this dooms the contract, and the whole agreement is rendered void. A severability clause would allow the remainder of the agreement to be considered valid despite the invalid provision.

**Q. Why is it important to have this “legalese” in an Affiliation Agreement such as this?**

- A. An Affiliation Agreement spells out the duties and responsibilities of both the affiliate as well as **FCCA**. It puts in writing those responsibilities and makes it clear what everyone is agreeing to. It is not meant to in anyway intimidate the affiliates but rather to protect them. **FCCA** was established to help enhance the promotion of the unique services provided under the **CREIGHTON MODEL SYSTEM**.

**Q. If I have any other questions not addressed above, who do I contact?**

- A. Please contact Gerianne Jensen at [gerianne.jensen@fertilitycare.org](mailto:gerianne.jensen@fertilitycare.org) or call (402) 505-8917. You may also email Paul A. Hilgers, J.D., President at [paul.hilgers@saintpaulvi.com](mailto:paul.hilgers@saintpaulvi.com). You will receive a reply by email for written questions.