

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please visit www.certifiedradiologynurse.org to download the comprehensive Guidelines for Certification and Recertification booklet and CRN® Exam application. The following information is provided for quick reference.

CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Initial certification is achieved by qualifying for eligibility to sit for the certification exam and achieving a passing score on the exam. At the time you apply to sit for the exam you must:

1. Currently hold an active RN license or international licensure equivalent. A photocopy of your current license must be submitted with your application.
2. Have practiced as a licensed registered nurse a minimum of 2,000 hours in radiology nursing within the past 3 years.*
3. Have obtained 30 contact hours of continuing education applicable to nursing care of radiology patients within 24 months of the dates the candidate sits for the exam. A minimum of 15 of the 30 contact hours must be specifically related to imaging nursing.

*Eligibility requirement #2 may be met if you are engaged in direct patient care or direct clinical management, supervision, education, or direction of other persons to achieve or help achieve patient/client goals for the stated number of hours. Certification is valid for 4 years. Certified nurses may maintain their certified status either by examination or by meeting the continuing education requirements outlined in this booklet.

Certification and recertification is administered by the Radiologic Nursing Certification Board (RNCB). The fee for certification/recertification is \$300 for ARIN members and \$425 for nonmembers of ARIN.

Visit www.certifiedradiologynurse.org to download the Guidelines for Certification and Recertification booklet and application.

WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THE CRN® EXAM?

The CRN® Exam is administered in May and October annually; the exam may also be administered in conjunction with the Association for Radiologic & Imaging Nursing (ARIN) annual convention. Please visit www.certifiedradiologynurse.org for the current CRN® Exam schedule.

WHEN ARE THE DEADLINES TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION & REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION?

Please visit www.certifiedradiologynurse.org for the deadline to submit an application to sit for the CRN® Exam.

WHAT ARE THE LOCATIONS FOR THE CRN EXAM?

The CRN® Exam is administered by the Center for Nursing Education and Testing (CNET). For information on the May and October CRN® Exam testing sites visit <http://www.cnetnurse.com/test-site-locations/>. The CRN® Exam may be administered at the conclusion of the Association for Radiologic & imaging Nursing (ARIN) annual convention; this will be administered in the convention city only.

WHERE CAN I DOWNLOAD THE CRN® EXAM HANDBOOK GUIDELINES & APPLICATION?

Visit www.certifiedradiologynurse.org or call 855-871-6681 to request a copy.

WHAT WILL THE CERTIFICATION EXAM COVER SPECIFICALLY?

The examination will cover topics specific to the nursing care of radiology patients.

- Assess Patient and Plan Care
- Administer, Monitor, and Evaluate Therapeutic Interventions
- Teach Patient and Family/provide a Supportive Environment
- Provide a Safe Environment/Manage Emergency Situations
- Participate in QA/CQI, Interdisciplinary Activities, and Professional Practice Activities
- Diagnostic Imaging, Fluoroscopy & Breast Health
- CT and MRI
- Interventional Radiology
- Ultrasound/Vascular Ultrasound
- Nuclear Medicine, PET and Radiation Therapy

HOW CAN I PREPARE FOR THE EXAM?

The first step in preparing for the examination should be a review of the test blueprint contained in the Guidelines for Certification/Recertification handbook. While each test question is drawn from facts that could be substantiated by books or journals, bear in mind that the examination is intended to be practice-based. If you are not familiar with some of the content components, you may decide that an in-depth review is necessary. Some suggested steps to begin your review are

1. Plan a course of self-study to strengthen your areas of relative weakness.
2. Contact colleagues whom you know will be taking the examination and plan to study together.
3. Seek input from various sources, such as faculty members, certified nurses, mentors, and others.

HOW MANY QUESTIONS ON THE CRN® EXAM?

There are 175 questions on the CRN® Exam.

WHAT IS THE PASSING SCORE FOR THE CRN® EXAM?

The score on the Radiology Nursing Certification Examination (CRN examination) is reported as a standard score which summarizes your performance on the entire test. The number of items that you answered correctly, which is your “raw score,” has been converted, or transformed, to a scaled score, which is referred to as a “standard score” in your report. The conversion is similar to converting a weight from pounds to kilograms. The points on the scales differ, although the weight is the same. The scale used for the CRN examination has a mean (average) score of 100, and a standard score of 95 is required to pass the exam. ***To reach the passing standard score of 95, you must answer about 70% of the questions in the total test correctly.***

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY CRN® EXAM SCORE REPORTS?

You will receive your score report from the Centers for Nursing Education and Testing (CNET) approximately 4-6 weeks after the examination. Score reports will not be released until all outstanding fees are paid. Once you have received your notification from CNET you will receive a follow up letter from the RNCB® with your CRN® wallet card, a certificate suitable for framing and CRN® pin.

WHAT WILL MY CREDENTIAL BE IF I PASS THE RADIOLOGY CERTIFICATION EXAM?

You will receive the Certified Radiology Nurse (CRN®) credential if you pass the certification exam. The **CRN™ certification program is accredited** by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification, Inc. A certificate and wallet card indicating certification status will be sent to those candidates who pass the exam and have paid all appropriate fees.

I FAILED THE EXAM, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?

The RNCB will send a retest application for the next test administration to those who have failed for the first time only. A copy of the retest policy will be sent along with the application. Instructions about retaking the examination are included in the retest policy. You must retake the entire examination, not just portions of the exam. This information is found in the CRN® Guidelines/Handbook available for download at www.certifiedradiologynurse.org

HOW CAN I OBTAIN A COPY OF MY RECEIPT FOR THE CRN® APPLICATION PAYMENT?

Contact the RNCB at RNCB@internationalamc.com or call 855-871-6681

WHEN YOU NEED TO RECERTIFY?

You must submit an application for recertification before the expiration date on the initial certificate you were issued. The filing deadline for those selecting the continuing education option is at least 60 days in advance of the expiration date listed on the certificate. The filing deadline for those selecting the examination option is the same as for individuals taking the examination for the first time. RNCB will notify you 6 months in advance of the expiration date of the certification; however, it is your responsibility to maintain your certification by monitoring the dates it is valid and by submitting your application for recertification by the stipulated deadline.

HOW DO I RECERTIFY?

At the time you apply for recertification, you must:

- Currently hold an active RN license or international licensure equivalent. A photocopy of your current license must be submitted with your application for recertification.
- Have practiced as a licensed registered nurse a minimum of 2,000 hours in radiology nursing within the past 4 years.*
- Currently practice radiology nursing an average of 8 hours per week.*

* Eligibility requirements 2 and 3 may be met if you are engaged in direct patient care or direct clinical management, supervision, education, or direction of other persons to achieve or help achieve patient/client goals for the stated number of hours. NOTE: Two responsible practitioners in the specialty area must verify that you meet the practice requirements.

You may choose to recertify by examination meeting the requirements of initial certification or by obtaining continuing education contact hours. 60 contact hours within a 4-year period are required to meet the contact hour requirement for recertification. A minimum of 30 of the 60 contact hours must be specifically related to radiology nursing. Contact hours in radiology nursing may be accumulated through any of the categories of continuing education activities provided the content is applicable to radiology nursing.

HOW CAN I GET MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION TO MY QUESTIONS?

Please contact:

Radiologic Nursing Certification Board (RNCB)
7794 Grow Drive
Pensacola, FL 32514
850-473-1174 or 855- 871-6681 (toll free)
850-484-8762 (fax)
RNCB@internationalamc.com
www.certifiedradiologynurse.org

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