

Empower Your Nurses Through Certification.

Experience Improved Outcomes,
Increased Efficiency, and Expert Knowledge
Amongst Your Team.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Us

Empower Your Nurses

Certifications Available

Specialty Designation

Benefits of Certification

Accreditation

ANCC Magnet

Cost

Process

Facility Purchasing

Tools + Resources

Our Partners

Testimonies

Letter of Rationale

CEO Letter

References

Contact Us



ABOUT US

You Want Better Patient Outcomes. So Do We.

Our Mission

As a non-profit organization, our mission is to promote continuous professional development which drives safe, quality patient care. Our vision is to grow a community of certificants and lifelong learners for whom CCI is a catalyst and integral partner.



EMPOWER YOUR NURSES

Certification Makes A Difference

Empower Your Team and Join a Community of **40,000 Certified Nurses!**



Specialty certification demonstrates a nurse's commitment to patient safety by validating a nurse's knowledge, improving technical skills, and increasing patient outcomes.



As the leader in perioperative certification for more than 40 years, we believe the benefits of certification go beyond the individual nurse. Under the expertise of certified perioperative nurses, organizations experience reduced surgical errors and higher patient satisfaction, solidifying their commitment to excellence in care.



Investing in certification for your staff creates leaders who advocate and adhere to best practices, making them invaluable assets in achieving and maintaining the highest standards in patient safety. Organizations who consistently encourage and promote certification drive safe, quality patient care.



CERTIFICATION AVAILABLE



We proudly offer **6** prestigious certifications demonstrating nurses' skill sets at every career level, from post-orientation to advanced practice.



Our dedicated nurses recognize the importance of continuous professional development and seek certification to join a community of lifelong learners.



Organizations that value certification at all levels of a nurse's career demonstrate a commitment to your department's success in upholding the highest standards in patient safety.

Certified Nurses Can Drive
Your Department's Success!

CERTIFICATIONS AVAILABLE

Click On Each Credential To Learn More

Certified Foundational Perioperative Nurse | **CFPN**[®]



CFPN assesses the knowledge and skills of an early career perioperative nurse with under 23 months of experience from the initial hire date in the OR. Provides a fast track to CNOR of CNAMB.

2-year credential | Exam Based Credential | **Accredited**

Certified Perioperative Nurse | **CNOR**[®]



CNOR certification assesses the knowledge and skills of a perioperative nurse with a minimum of two years of clinical practice.

5-year credential | Exam Based Credential | **Accredited**

Certified Surgical Services Manager | **CSSM**[®]



CSSM is for perioperative managers, directors, and nurses who oversee personnel, a budget, business unit, or service line.

3-year credential | Exam Based Credential | **Accredited**

Certified Ambulatory Surgery Nurse | **CNAMB**[®]



CNAMB certification is designed for perioperative nurses working in the ambulatory surgery setting.

3-year credential | Exam Based Credential | **Accredited**

Nursing Professional Development Advanced – Board Certified | **NPDA-BC**



NPDA-NC acknowledges the professional achievement of a nursing professional development specialist who fulfills all NPD roles and responsibilities while demonstrating adherence to professional practice and performance standards.

5-year credential | Portfolio Based Credential | ****Not Perioperative Specific**

Certified Perioperative CNS | **CNS-CP**[®]



CNS-CP is for advanced practice registered nurses who have completed graduate preparation (Master's or Doctorate) in the CNS role. CNS-CP recognizes the important role CNSs have in promoting optimal perioperative patient outcomes.

5-year credential | Portfolio Based Credential

SPECIALTY DESIGNATIONS AVAILABLE

Specialty designations recognize the exceptional expertise and dedication of CNOR-certified nurses in a variety of settings. A CNOR-certified nurse may hold up to two specialty designations.



CNOR-PEDS Designation

This specialty designation recognizes the exceptional expertise and dedication of CNOR-certified nurses in pediatric surgical settings, showcasing specialized knowledge and experience in pediatric surgery.



CNOR-ORTHO Designation

This specialty designation celebrates the outstanding expertise and dedication of CNOR-certified nurses within Orthopedic surgical environments, demonstrating their specialized knowledge and experience in this field.



CNOR-SURG-OB Designation

This special designation demonstrates the remarkable expertise and commitment of CNOR-certified nurses in Obstetrics and Gynecology surgical settings, showcasing their specialized knowledge and experience in this area.



CNOR-ROBO Designation

This special designation demonstrates the remarkable Robotics surgical settings, showcasing their specialized knowledge and experience in this area.



CNOR-CARD Designation

This special designation demonstrates the remarkable Cardiac surgical settings, showcasing their specialized knowledge and experience in this area.



CNOR-BARI Designation

This special designation demonstrates the remarkable Bariatrics surgical settings, showcasing their specialized knowledge and experience in this area.

BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION

Organizational Benefits



Certified perioperative nurses demonstrate higher levels of clinical competence and decision-making skills.



Hospitals with higher percentages of certified nurses show improved patient outcomes.



Certification creates opportunities for growth and recognition.

Nurse Benefits



Certified nurses report higher job satisfaction and career advancement opportunities.



Certification validates specialized knowledge and expertise in perioperative nursing.



Many facilities offer pay differentials or bonuses for certified nurses.

Patient Benefits



Certification is associated with reduced surgical complications and improved patient safety.



Patients treated by certified nurses report higher satisfaction levels.



Certified nurses provide more confident and competent care.

BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION

Get Recognition for Your Facility With CCI's Award Programs



Is Your Facility CNOR Strong?

Research shows nurses who earn the CNOR credential have greater confidence in their clinical practice. Teams of CNOR-certified nurses who have mastered the standards of perioperative practice have been correlated to improved outcomes in surgical patients. We call that CNOR Strong.

Criteria for CNOR Strong Designation

- At least 50% of eligible perioperative nursing staff are CNOR-certified
- Facility consistently recognizes and rewards nurses who are CNOR-certified
- Once approved, your facility will receive a CNOR Strong plaque and official letter from CCI

Applications Open November 1 - December 1



Award for Certification Excellence

The TrueNorth Award was developed to recognize facilities that guide their perioperative nursing staff to be lifelong learners, models of competent practice, and advocates for excellence and patient safety. Facilities who earn the TrueNorth Award exhibit the highest standards in perioperative certification excellence.

Eligibility Requirements

Healthcare organizations that employ perioperative certified nurses, or organizations whose members and representatives are certified, may apply. Examples include hospitals, health systems, surgical services departments, ambulatory surgery centers, and units or divisions of a larger organization.

Annual Recipient Benefits

- Onsite celebratory reception and award presentation by CCI
- Recognition by CCI
- Exam vouchers for certification and/or recertification

Annual Application Window: October 1 - December 1

ACCREDITATION

CCI Credentials Are The Gold Standard In Perioperative Certification.



Accreditation is the process by which an independent body evaluates and recognizes if a certification organization meets established standards of quality, integrity, and competence.



Accreditation is essential to ensure that certification programs remain relevant and rigorous, ultimately benefiting patients by upholding the highest standards of patient care.

CREDENTIAL	ABSNC	NCCA	IN PROGRESS
CNOR®	✓	✓	
CFPN®	✓		
CNAMB®	✓		
CSSM®	✓		
NPDA-BC			✓
CNS-CP®	Sunsetting the Certification in January 1, 2029		

ACCREDITATION



ABSNC - The Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification

The ABSNC serves as the only accrediting body specifically dedicated to evaluating nursing certification programs. Through a peer-review mechanism, nursing certification organizations obtain accreditation by demonstrating compliance with the most rigorous industry standards.



NCCA - The National Commission for Certifying Agencies

The NCCA's Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs were the first standards developed by the credentialing industry for professional certification programs. The NCCA Standards were developed to help ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the public.

ANCC MAGNET

Is Your Facility Interested In Becoming Magnet Recognized?

Magnet Recognition Program

The Magnet Recognition Program designates organizations worldwide where nursing leaders successfully align their nursing strategic goals to improve the organization's patient outcomes.

We proudly offer **4** accredited certifications that are included in the ANCC Magnet Demographic Data. When a healthcare organization attains Magnet status, it not only gains external prestige but also shows a commitment to empowering nurses to reach their full potential and lead meaningful healthcare change.



COST

Empower Your Team To Succeed. Your Support Makes All The Difference!



Financial barriers often prevent dedicated nurses from achieving certification independently.

As an organization, if you value your nurses' professional development, your financial support can develop your nurse leaders into lifelong learners, making them invaluable assets to your team.

Certify More Nurses to Save!

Enhance Your Investments and Empower Your Nurses



At CCI, we understand that supporting certification requires an investment of both time and resources. However, the return on this investment is substantial, both in terms of patient care quality and operational excellence. By encouraging and supporting CCI certification, you are not just investing in individual nurses, you are investing in the future of your entire perioperative department and the patients you serve.



We aim to make certification accessible to as many perioperative nurses as possible. We are thrilled to offer the Facility purchasing option, which enables administrators and supervisors to purchase exam seats in bulk at a discounted cost. This ensures affordability for your staff and elevates departmental success to new heights.

PROCESS

Supporting your nurses in their pursuit of certification goes beyond just financial assistance. They need guidance, direction, and encouragement at every step.

Understanding the CCI Facility purchasing process allows you to effectively support your nurses throughout their certification journey.

- 1** Eligible nurses must create a free CCI Account.
- 2** The administrator will collect the first and last name, phone number, email, and CCI ID from their candidates.
- 3** The administrator will download and complete all required information on the order form.
- 4** The administrator will email the completed Facility Order Form to partners@cc-institute.org and submit payment to CCI.
- 5** Once payment is received, CCI will process your facility contract within five (5) business days.
- 6** Once the contract is processed, the administrator will receive a confirmation email with contract deadlines and additional candidate resources.
- 7** The administrator will forward CCI's confirmation email to all candidates enrolled in the Facility Contract.
- 8** CCI will provide reminder emails associated with your contract deadlines throughout your contract terms.

Let's champion your nurses' success together!



Facility Purchasing

Single Exam Available To Pass the Exam

CREDENTIAL	STANDARD PRICING	FACILITY DISCOUNT	AMOUNT SAVED PER NURSE
CFPN®	\$205	\$184	\$21
CSSM®	\$420	\$368	\$52

Two Exams Available To Pass the Exam

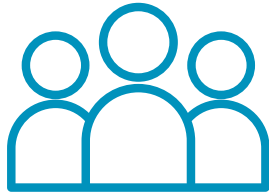
CREDENTIAL	STANDARD PRICING	FACILITY DISCOUNT	AMOUNT SAVED PER NURSE
CNOR®	\$520	\$467	\$53
CNAMB®	\$441	\$394	\$47

Order Forms

- **CFPN®** | Facility Order Form
- **CSSM®** | Facility Order Form
- **CNOR®** | Facility Take 2 Order Form
- **CNAMB®** | Facility Take 2 Order Form

- * Must have a minimum of 5 nurses to be eligible for facility discount.
- * Facility purchasing is not available for professional portfolio certifications.

TOOLS + RESOURCES



Join CCI in our vision to grow a community of certificants and lifelong learners. Support, invest, and promote certification within your staff to drive safe, quality patient care.

Exam Preparation Resources Available for Your Nurses

CREDENTIAL	BOOK	ON-DEMAND PREP COURSE*	ONLINE PRACTICE EXAM*	BUNDLE *INCLUDED IN BUNDLE	LIVE IN-PERSON PREP COURSE
CNOR®	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CFPN®		✓			✓
CNAMB®		✓			✓
CSSM®	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Must have a minimum of 15 nurses to be eligible for a Live In-Person Prep Course.

Download a flyer for more information.



Additional Resources

- Practice Questions
- Credential Handbooks
- Exam Study Outlines
- Certification Webinars

TOOLS + RESOURCES

As the leader in perioperative certification for more than 40 years, CCI is dedicated to our mission and provides all necessary resources to support you and your staff's certification journey.



CCI Blog

CCI's blog is your go-to source for the latest insights and resources in perioperative nursing. We offer a wide range of materials, including exam preparation guides, certification updates, and expert tips on how to best prepare for your exams.



Document Hub

CCI has put together several document banks of materials related to each of CCI's certifications as well as recertification to help each of our candidates succeed.



Exam References Books

Guidelines for Perioperative Practice
Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique
Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery
Drain's Perianesthesia Nursing: A Critical Care Approach



Credential Statistics

In accordance with accreditation standards, CCI publishes certification statistics on an annual basis. Information is published per credential including the number of testing candidates, pass/fail statistics, number of certificants, and data on recertifications.



Certification Coach

CCI's Certification Coaches are volunteers dedicated to helping others achieve certification. Coaches offer guidance with everything from preparing for the exam, succeeding after a failed attempt, and other general questions about preparing and taking the exam.

OUR PARTNERS

Take advantage of these excellent resources from CCI's network of community partners to stay connected and further educate your nurses on the importance of certification and the commitment to excellence in care.



Discover the value of becoming an AORN Member. Be part of a supportive community of perioperative nurses and stay current with evidence-based practice recommendations for the continued safe care of your patients.



Education is and always has been a cornerstone of Beyond Clean. From educating frontline technicians in a sterile processing department, to educating healthcare professionals at conferences and manufacturers at national sales meetings, this is an area where we are proud to say we shine!



An operating room podcast featuring exciting interviews, engaging discussions, and innovative solutions that are changing the way patients receive surgical care.



For over 20 years, OR Today has provided perioperative and SPD professionals with up-to-date news and information about their profession. The magazine aims to educate readers about new guidelines, techniques, and equipment, as well as practical information for career building, problem-solving and overall well-being.



OR Manager is the trusted source for perioperative leaders, providing critical information, analysis, and best practices for management of the surgical suite. Through a monthly publication, daily newsletter, website, conferences and other educational events, we cover topics including advances in technology, data analytics, standards and regulations, and process changes designed to enhance all aspects of surgical patient care.

TESTIMONIES

I became a certified Perioperative nurse to further my knowledge in the operating room to ensure my patients receive the best and safest care. - *Stephanie Kidwell CNOR*

In the beginning, taking my CNOR was to challenge myself, a personal goal. After achieving the honor of certification I felt stronger. Stronger as an OR RN, mentor and overall professional. I wasn't afraid to challenge other staff, or management on the best way to advocate and care for my patients. - *Cathy Spisak CNOR*

Being a certified Perioperative Nurse gives me more confidence on what I do and boost my morale. It helps me provide more quality and safe patient care and participate proactively with our department quality initiatives. - *Gerry Asuncion CSSM, CNOR, CNAMB*

I feel certification validates practice for my patients, and employer while giving me a personal confirmation in practice. - *Beth Hogan CNOR, CNAMB*

Being certified has gave me confidence to be a better nurse. - *Troy Bland D.Min., Ph.D, RN, RNFA, CNOR, CLC*

I am very proud of my CNOR certification and I am very grateful to CCI for all of their support. I love being a CNOR Coach and will advocate for nursing certification as long as possible. It is the crowning achievement of what is now a 34+ year career in surgery. Maybe one day, 30 years from now, a nurse will consider certification, remembering there was this old nurse when I first started! - *Joey Hayden CNOR*

Being certified means that you dedicate yourself to perfecting your craft and adhere to evidence - based and best practices in your field of specialization which fosters safety and quality service to all recipients of your nursing care - *Marilyn Erive CNOR*

Obtaining certification might pave the way to landing your dream job. Personally, I feel more assured in my ability to care for patients and their loved ones. Having this expands my horizons academically and gives me more assurance as I collaborate with the periop team to ensure patient safety. - *Ivan Bumatay CNOR, CNAMB (2022 CNAMB High Scorer)*

My journey in earning my certifications with CCI has been memorable especially with my second Certification (CNAMB). I was a grateful recipient of their certification grant to which I owe my success as an OR Ambulatory Nurse! - *Floris Tu CNOR, CNAMB*

Being certified encourages me to continue learning new and inventive innovations in the OR. - *Robin Merritt CNOR*

LETTER OF RATIONALE TEMPLATE

Customize This Template To Gain Support From Your Leadership Team.

Dear [Leadership Team/Executive's Name],

I propose a strategic initiative to support and encourage CCI certification for our perioperative nursing staff. After careful consideration and research, I believe this investment will significantly enhance our department's performance, patient outcomes, and staff satisfaction.

Rationale for Supporting CCI Certification:

- Improved Patient Outcomes - CCI-certified nurses demonstrate advanced skills in critical thinking and clinical decision-making, crucial in our high-stakes environment.
- Operational Excellence - Certified nurses contribute to increased efficiency in OR operations, potentially reducing costs and improving throughput.
- Staff Retention and Satisfaction - Offering support for certification demonstrates our commitment to staff development, potentially reducing turnover rates.
- Competitive Advantage - A highly certified nursing staff can differentiate our facility in a competitive healthcare market.
- Alignment with Quality Initiatives - CCI certification supports our ongoing quality improvement efforts and can contribute positively to accreditation processes.

Support Program Proposition:

To maximize the benefits of certification, I propose the following support structure:

- Financial Support - Cover the cost of certification exams (currently [amount] per exam).
- Education Support - Purchase study materials and practice exams for departmental use.
- Recognition Program - Implement a recognition system for newly certified nurses.
- Long-term Integration - Set departmental goals for the percentage of certified staff.

Financial Implications:

- Exam Fees: [X nurses] x [exam cost] = [total]
- Study Materials: [estimated cost]
- Paid Study Time: [X hours] x [average hourly rate] x [X nurses] = [total]
- Total Initial Investment: [sum of above]

While this represents a significant investment, the potential return for improved patient outcomes, increased efficiency, and staff retention is substantial. I am confident that supporting CCI certification will benefit our patients, staff, and the organization. I would happily discuss this proposal in more detail and answer any questions.

Thank you for your consideration of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Position]

[Department Name]

LETTER FROM OUR CEO

To Whom It May Concern,

In the fast-paced, high-stakes environment of the operating room, excellence isn't just a goal—it's a necessity. As a leader in perioperative nursing, you understand the critical importance of having a team that's skilled and continuously striving for improvement. That's where the Competency & Credentialing Institute (CCI) comes in.

Why should you support CCI certification for your perioperative nurses? The benefits are clear and measurable:

- **Improved Patient Outcomes:** Research consistently shows that higher ratios of certified nurses correlate with better surgical outcomes, reduced complications, and increased patient safety.
- **Enhanced Departmental Efficiency:** Certified nurses demonstrate higher levels of clinical competence, critical thinking, and leadership skills, leading to more efficient OR operations.
- **Increased Staff Satisfaction and Retention:** Nurses who pursue certification report higher job satisfaction and are more likely to stay with their current employer, reducing turnover costs.
- **Competitive Advantage:** A highly certified nursing staff can be a key differentiator for your facility, attracting both patients and top-tier healthcare professionals.
- **Alignment with Quality Initiatives:** CCI certification supports your hospital's quality improvement goals and can contribute to accreditation requirements.

If you have any questions about implementing a certification support program in your department, please don't hesitate to contact us. We're here to help you build a stronger, more competent, and more confident perioperative nursing team.

Sincerely,



Melissa R. Nosik
Chief Executive Officer
Competency & Credentialing Institute

REFERENCES

Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC). (n.d.). <https://absnc.org/Certification-benefits-patients-employers-and-nurses>. AACN. (n.d.). <https://www.aacn.org/certification/value-of-certification-resource-center/nurse-certification-benefits-patients-employers-and-nurses>

Dunn, D. (2019, August 29). The meaning and value of certification - AORN journal. AORN JOURNAL The Official Voice of Perioperative Nursing. <https://aornjournal.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/aorn.12796>

Halm, M. A. (2021, March 1). Specialty certification: A path to improving outcomes | American Journal of Critical Care | American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. American Journal of Critical Care. <https://aacnjournals.org/ajconline/article-abstract/30/2/156/31375/Specialty-Certification-A-Path-To-Improving?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

Hospital certifications. The Joint Commission. (n.d.). <https://www.jointcommission.org/what-we-offer/certification/certifications-by-setting/hospital-certifications/>

Martin LC, Arenas-Montoya NM, Barnett TO. Impact of nurse certification rates on patient satisfaction and outcomes: a literature review. J Contin Educ Nurs. 2015; 46(12): 549-554.

MBSAQIP. American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. (n.d.). <https://asmbs.org/about/mbsaqip/>

Niss, T. (2019). Impact of nursing certification on patient and nurse outcomes. Impact of Nursing Certification on Patient and Nurse Outcomes. https://blog.cc-institute.org/blog/impact_of_nursing_certification_on_patient_and_nurse_outcomes

Nosik, M., & Rosenfield, L. (2023, December 1). Upholding ethical standards in perioperative nursing: The role of credentialing organizations in fostering accountability. OR Today. <https://ortoday.com/upholding-ethical-standards-in-perioperative-nursing-the-role-of-credentialing-organizations-in-fostering-accountability/>

Person. (2022, November 12). Aorn Career Center: Why should I get my cnor. Aorn.org. <https://www.aorn.org/article/why-should-i-get-my-cnor>

Rosenfield, L. (2023, August 1). Certifications + opportunities = potential career pathways?. OR Today. <https://ortoday.com/certifications-opportunities-potential-career-pathways/>

What is the Magnet Recognition Program: ANCC. ANA. (2019, September 10). <https://www.nursingworld.org/organizational-programs/magnet/about-magnet/>

Whiteside, D. (2024, April 1). Empowering nursing leadership: From informal influencers to change champions. OR Today. <https://ortoday.com/empowering-nursing-leadership-from-informal-influencers-to-change-champions/>

CONTACT US

Partner Relations



303.368.6725



partners@cc-institute.org

Follow Us on Social

