



CERTIFICATION PROGRAM UPDATE

On 3 April 2004, 2,346 nurses wrote one of 14 bilingual certification examinations at 83 writing centres across Canada. More than 1,000 nurses have recertified in their specialty this year, bringing the number of certified nurses in Canada to well over 12,000. Specialty certification is available in the following areas of nursing: cardiovascular, critical care – adult, critical care – pediatrics, emergency, gastroenterology, gerontology, hospice palliative care, nephrology, neuroscience, occupational health, oncology, perinatal, perioperative and psychiatric/mental health. Development for examinations in rehabilitation, community health and orthopedic nursing has started this year.

NEW SERVICES AND BENEFITS AVAILABLE

The Mentor Program

CNA has assembled a distinguished list of certified nurses from each of the specialties who are willing to act as mentors for nurses who wish for support or assistance with certification exams. Listed on our web site are the names and contact information of these mentors. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, let us know.

Financial Assistance

A list of financial supports available to nurses who wish to be certified is available on the web site.

Study Group Information

Listed on our web site are study groups that have been organized by various individuals and organizations. These study groups are offered independently; CNA does not benefit from or endorse these groups. The activities, content, design, organization and results of the groups are entirely the responsibility of those individuals who have organized them.

The groups listed are offered to all nurses who are applying to write certification exams. Even though a group may not be offered near your location, you may be able to access it through other means. If you want information about the group, contact the group organizer for further information.

University Recognition of Certification

Twenty Canadian universities now give credit towards a nursing baccalaureate degree if a nurse has successfully passed a certification exam. See the web site for the universities offering credits.

Inactive Status for Recertifying Nurses

CNA is implementing a new category for the recertification candidate. Nurses who due to personal or professional reasons may request in writing to be declared inactive for up to three years. The inactive status will begin the day following the last day of the present certification term. The certification



status can be reactivated at any time during the three year period as long as the recertification requirements are met. If requirements change during the time of inactivation, these must be met.

The candidate can be inactive for no more than one three-year period during one's nursing career. This is a one time option. There are no extensions or grace periods. The fee for the inactive status is \$150 and non-refundable. The candidate cannot use the CNA Certification credential during the inactive period.

Once the candidate seeks reactivation, the time interval begins to count for the nursing specialty experience and continuous learning activities over the previous five years. The certification credential will be reactivated when the recertification application form and fee is submitted and has been approved.

2005 Certification Exam

The 2005 certification exams will be offered on 2 April 2005. Consult the web site for details. The application deadline is 5 November 2004.

2005 Recertification

If you wrote your certification exam in 2000, CNA will be notifying you shortly that you are eligible for recertification. Your application must be postmarked no later than 3 December 2004.

CNA Certification Staff

We are willing to help you with your questions, concerns and comments about the Certification Program.

Janet Mann, Program Manager
jmann@cna-aiic.ca

Suzanne Blais Gumpert, Program Coordinator
sgumpert@cna-aiic.ca

Nicole Brunet, Program Assistant
nbrunet@cna-aiic.ca

Certification Bulletin is published by the regulatory policy division of CNA.

For more information mail, fax or e-mail:

Canadian Nurses Association, Certification Program
50 Driveway, Ottawa ON K2P 1E2

Tel: (613) 237-2133 or 1-800-361-8404

Fax: (613) 237-3520

E-mail: certification@cna-aiic.ca

Web site: www.cna-aiic.ca



CANADIAN NURSES ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION DES INFIRMIÈRES ET INFIRMIERS DU CANADA

