

Certification and Recertification 2010

National Board on Certification and
Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists



Today's Topics

1. An overview of the National Board on Certification and Recertification (NBCR/NA) and its role in the credentialing of nurse anesthetists.
2. The current policies and procedures as they apply to initial certification and recertification.
3. How the NBCR/NA and the individual CRNA can work together to foster relationships that increase the value of credentialing.
4. Trends that have an impact on the credentialing process for nurse anesthetists.



NBCRNA Incorporation

- › Not-for-profit corporation
- › Includes both the CCNA and COR
- › Board Members: CRNAs, Physicians, Public
- › Autonomous authority to carry out certification and recertification role
- › Recognized by the AANA in Services and Recognition Agreements.



Vision & Mission

Vision

Recognized leader in nurse anesthesia credentialing.

Mission

Offer certification and recertification programs that are tailored to specific professional standards and promote patient safety.



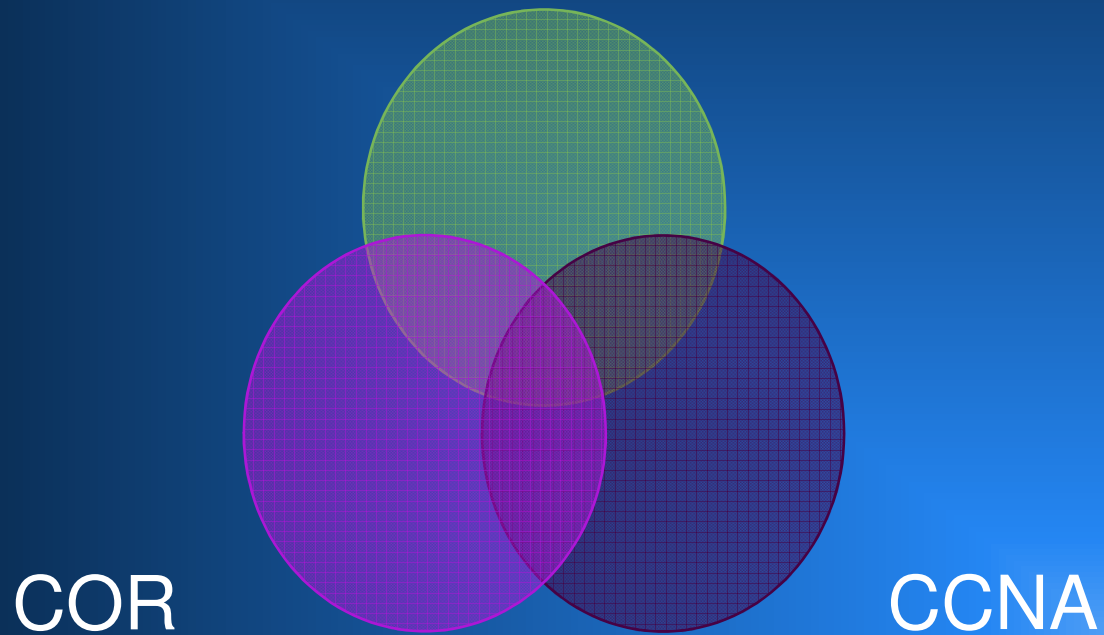
Credentialing Model

- › Council on Certification: 1975
- › Council on Recertification: 1978
- › NBCR/NA: 2007



NBCRNA Structure

NBCRNA BOD



NBCRNA ↔ AANA

- › Services and Recognition Agreements
- › Describe business relationship
- › Key elements:
 - › Autonomy
 - › Credentialing of nurse anesthetists
- › Meetings of Leadership

NBCRNA Leadership

- › President:
 - › Jackie Fortenberry CRNA, BA
- › Vice President & Chair CCNA:
 - › Mary Anne Krogh CRNA, MS
- › Secretary Treasurer:
 - › Michael Rieker CRNA, DNP
- › Chair COR:
 - › Tom Healey CRNA, MA



Credentialing Mechanisms

- › **Function to protect and benefit the public.**
- › **Provide assurance to public that individuals have met predetermined qualifications for providing nurse anesthesia services.**



Evolution of Credentialing

1967

- › AANA began to study the relationships of continuing education, recertification, and professional competence.
- › AANA Board of Trustees directed the Education Committee to study the possibility of setting up a recertification plan for the members.



Evolution of Credentialing

1969 Annual Meeting:

AANA President Marie Bader ...

“Of all the goals before us, that of continuing education is paramount. We plan to have this program for continuing education on a voluntary basis and hope that the members will accept the challenge for their own improvement.”



Evolution of Credentialing

1969

- › The AANA EC implemented a voluntary continuing education program for nurse anesthetists.
- › Provide *certificates of professional excellence* at 5-year intervals to members with documented completion of additional clinical and didactic experiences.



Evolution of Credentialing

1969

- › Require a *refresher course* for inactive members who were away from practice three (3) or more years.

August 1975

- › AANA Restructuring to accommodate the formation of three Councils; Council on Accreditation, Council on Certification, and Council on Practice



Evolution of Credentialing

August 22, 1977

- › Mandatory CE Program, was adopted to be implemented August 1, 1978.
- › Long Range Planning Committee recommended a restructuring of the AANA which included the formation of a fourth council, the Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists.



Evolution of Credentialing

July 20, 1978

- › The first meeting of the AANA Ad hoc Committee on Recertification was held.
- › The initial criteria :
 - › Initial certification by the CCNA or its predecessor;
 - › Current licensure as a professional nurse.
 - › Documentation of clinical practice of anesthesia, or the administrative practice of anesthesia,
 - › Document the requirement for mandatory continuing education.



CCNA Background

- **1945 - Certification Program -
Qualifying Examination originally
administered by AANA Credentials
Committee**
- **1975 - CCNA formed
Responsibility for certification
process**



CCNA Background

- **1982 - Qualifying Examination changed to Certification Examination**
- **1996 - Computerized Adaptive Testing began, end of paper and pencil tests**



Certification Requirements

Basic Requirements

- › Comply with all state requirements for licensure as a registered nurse;
- › Completed a nurse anesthesia educational program accredited by the COA



Certification Requirements

Documentation

- › A complete and accurate examination application form
- › An official notarized transcript of the student record
- › A copy of a current valid RN license
- › A signed, notarized Authentication of Applicant Identity Form
- › A certified check or money order



Certification Requirements

National Certification Examination

- › **Variable length, computerized adaptive, multiple choice test**
- › **Administered year around**
- › **Minimum of 100 questions**
 - 70 questions from content outline
 - 30 pretest questions
- › **Maximum 170 questions & 3 hours**



Content Outline

Basic Sciences	25%
Equipment, instrumentation, and technology	10%
Basic Principles	30%
Advanced Principles	30%
Professional Issues	5%

Alternative Item Types

- Introduce on NCE in 2009
- Multiple Correct Response
- Short answer / calculation question
- Graphics MCR Question
- Drag and Drop
- Hotspot
- Graphics/Video

Alternative Item Types

- › Multiple Correct Response (MCR):
 - › Consist of a stem and 4-8 response options
 - › More than just 1 option is a correct response
 - › The examinee must select all of the correct responses in order to be awarded credit.
 - › The question stem will indicate how many responses are correct.

Certification Requirements

Retesting

- › Retest up to 4 times in a calendar year.
- › 2 calendar years to pass the NCE following graduation.
- › Do not pass after two years will not be eligible to take the NCE without completing an unabridged COA accredited program.



Alternative Item Types

- › **MCR**
- › **Item Stem:** What opioid receptors are responsible for supraspinal analgesic effects? **Select three.**
 - › **ANSA:** μ 1
 - › **ANSB:** μ 2
 - › **ANSC:** κ 1
 - › **ANSD:** κ 2
 - › **ANSE:** κ 3
 - › **ANSF:** δ 1
- › **Item Key:** A,B,E

Alternative Item Types

- › Calculation questions:
 - › Respond by typing in a numerical response
 - › Example: What is $2+2$?
 - › Correct: 4
 - › Incorrect: “four”
- › A calculator will be available for calculation items which may be computationally complex.

Alternative Item Types

› Hotspot Question Format

- *In the lead II electrocardiogram tracing below, click on the area which would indicate that the patient has had a myocardial infarction in the past.*



Alternative Item Types

› Drag and Drop:

- › Involve clicking and dragging objects to corresponding targets
- › May take the form of matching or placing objects in order.

› Hotspot:

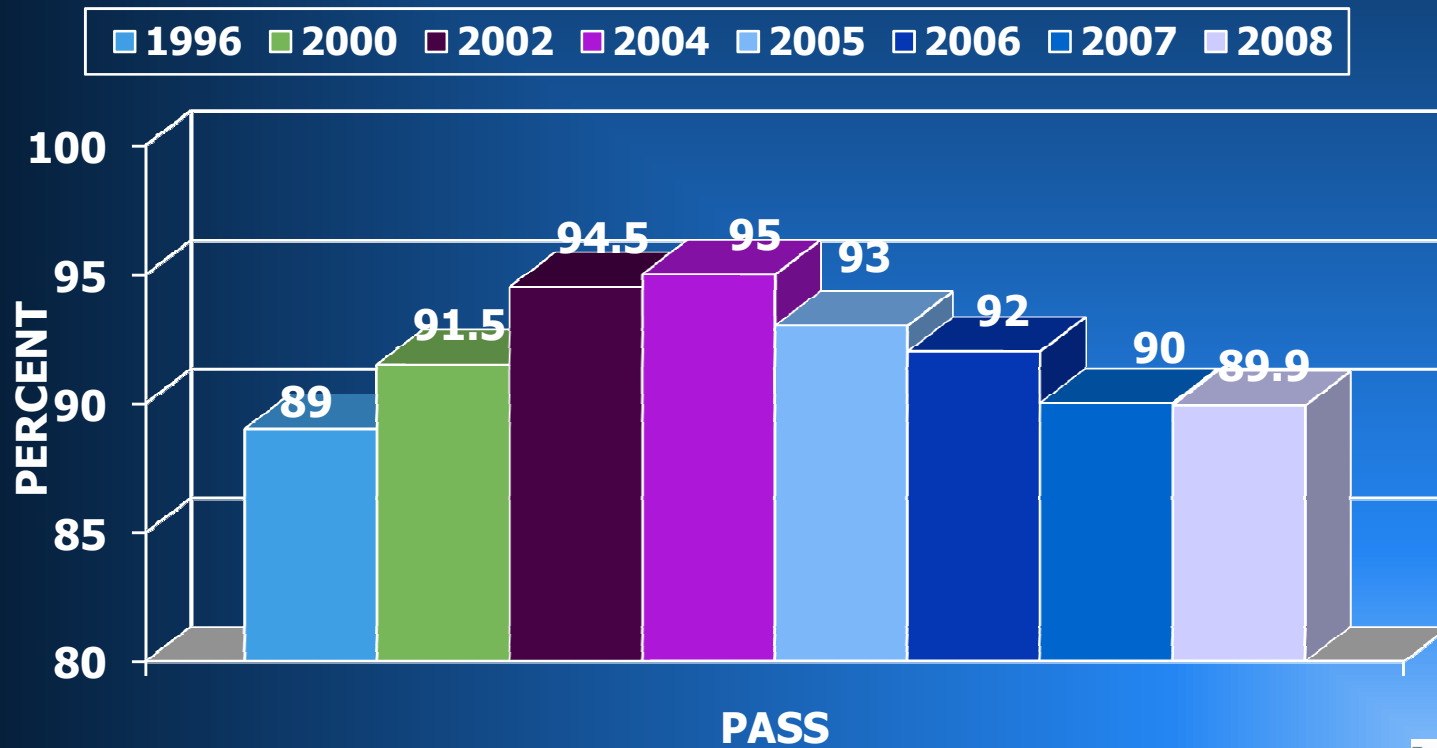
- › Indicates their answer by using their mouse to click on a region of a presented image or figure.
- › When a region is selected, an “X” appears on the selected region.

› Graphics/Video:

- › Any of the question formats described above may be augmented with multimedia as stimuli for the question.




PASS RATE OVER TIME



NCE Results

- › Begin August 1, 2009
- › End of Exam
- › Print out at Test Center



PRELIMINARY SCORE REPORT

Candidate Photo	Candidate ID
	Candidate Name
	Examination Name
	Current Date / Current
	Test Center Name / Test Center Name

This is a **preliminary** report of your examination results. Only your pass/fail status is reported.

Preliminary Examination Result: **PASS**

Based on the computer's unofficial analysis of your answers, you have **passed** the examination. However, your examination result will not be official until your test administration has been verified and finalized. **You are not certified until such time as you are notified by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists.** You will receive an official score report from the NBCR NA within 4 weeks.

Self Evaluation Examination

- › SEE
- › Computer Adaptive
- › 160 questions
- › Content Outline
- › Purpose:
 - › Students and Programs identify strengths & weaknesses
 - › Prepare for NCE



Council on Recertification

- › Recertify qualified CRNAs on a biennial basis.
- › Formulate and adopt criteria for eligibility for recertification.
- › Formulate and adopt criteria for approval of CE programs and offerings.
- › Develop and maintain mechanisms for appellate review.
- › Develop and maintain a mechanism for the investigation of allegations.
- › Make recommendations to interested individuals based on stated purposes.



Criteria for Full Recertification

- › Initial certification by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists.
- › RN and/or APRN Licensure
- › 40 hours of Continuing Education
- › Substantial engagement in the practice of nurse anesthesia.
- › Complete and submit Application, submit fee and attestations



Recertification Comparison

Time Period	Total Eligible	Recertified by July 31st	Percent (%)
2007-2009	13,630	12,023	88
2008-2010	18,837	16,606	88
2009-2011	15,318	14,757	96

Recertification Satisfaction Survey

Statement	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)
The electronic notification and directions were easy to follow.	62	33	4	2
The electronic recertification process was easy to use.	62	32	5	2
The NBCRNA staff were helpful and knowledgeable.	58	37	4	2
Overall I was satisfied with my electronic recertification experience.	60	33	5	2

Recertification

- Recertification 2010 – 2012
 - Communication via email, website
 - Can complete and submit only if all requirements met:
 - CE credit 40 hours
 - Verification of practice
 - RN and APRN license



Recertification

- › Recertification 2010 – 2012
 - › Submit electronically or paper
 - › Deadline July 31st
 - › Fee: \$100.00
 - › No retroactive recertification
 - › Print recertification cards when approved
 - › Reinstatement fee: \$500.00



NBCRNA Website



National Board On Certification &
Recertification Of Nurse Anesthetists

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WELCOME TO THE NBCRNA WEBSITE

The mission of the National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) is to offer certification and recertification programs that are tailored to specific professional standards of nurse anesthesia practice and promote patient safety.



[+ 2009 Recertification](#)

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Communication

- › **NBCRNA Website:** www.nbcrna.com
- › **Toll free number:** 866-894-3908
- › Ivitek@nbcrna.com for additional presentations
- › recertification@nbcrna.com for questions



