

## WHAT'S NEW FOR THE 2004 CTR EXAMS?

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NCRA's Council on Certification is proud to offer the 2004 CTR Exams with some exciting enhancements. First, the 2004 CTR Exams will be computer-administered, which expands the offering of the CTR Exam from 32 testing centers to 700 testing sites worldwide! Plus, test-taking via computer results in highly secure exam questions and exam scores. Second, the biannual opportunity to sit for the 2004 CTR Exams will continue as a testing window, instead of just 2 days. We hope these enhancements will ease the exam logistics for all CTR Exam candidates, so they can focus on studying for the exam.

### Exam Dates and Fees

Mark your calendars! The 2004 CTR Exams will be offered between **March 13-27, 2004** and **September 11-25, 2004**. The Certification Examination will be administered during these two established 2-week testing period on a daily basis, Monday through Saturday, excluding holidays, at computer-based testing facilities managed by LaserGrade Computer Testing Inc. The exam application fees are \$200.00 for NCRA members and \$275.00 for all other candidates.

### Exam Testing Centers

A list of testing sites and additional information on LaserGrade can be obtained from their website at <http://www.lasergrade.com> or by calling LaserGrade at (800) 211-2754.

### Exam Content

The content of the 2004 CTR Examinations will include information from the *Facility Oncology Registry Data Standards (FORDS)* manual, *Standards of the CoC Volume I: Cancer Program Standards* (1997), and *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, 6th Edition*. **Regarding the closed book portion of the 2004 exams, please do not be confused: the Cancer Program Standards refer to Standards of the CoC Volume I: Cancer Program Standards (1997).** Cancer Program Standards 2004 will not be covered until the 2005 exams.

The 2004 CTR Exam Candidates Handbook and Application will be available on the NCRA website by November 2003.

A Council on Certification's Item Review Meeting was successfully held at the California Cancer Registry in late June. Dan Curran, MS, CTR (Chair) with Katie Golub, CTR, Cynthia Creech, CTR, Cherylene Jaramillo, CTR, and Cheryl Tatum, CTR reviewed and updated nearly 400 CTR Exam questions in one day. Thank you to this Committee for their dedication.

### Computer-based Testing

Our contract with Professional Testing Corporation (PTC), the company responsible for administering the Certification examination, will offer the 2004 examinations via computer. PTC already has experience in this area and uses the LaserGrade

Company to conduct our computer-based testing.

LaserGrade is the largest American owned and operated computer-based testing network and currently delivers nearly 500,000 exams per year through their testing network. They have been in operation as LaserGrade since 1995, and under a different name for about 15 years prior, conducting training seminars and traditional proctored exams. LaserGrade provides proctored, secured testing at 700 testing locations in the US, Canada, and overseas, along with central candidate registration services. LaserGrade is one of only two computer-based testing companies in the world authorized to administer all Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airman Knowledge Tests. In addition to the FAA, LaserGrade provides computer-based exam administration services for information technology leaders Microsoft and CompTIA, credentialing for the National Boards of Pharmacy, licensing exams for the State of Washington, and the District of Columbia.

LaserGrade will offer proctored test administration at LaserGrade sites using the secured LaserGrade private network and software. The LaserGrade system is easy-to-use, and no computer skills are needed!

If you have any questions or comments, please contact [ctrexam@ncra-usa.org](mailto:ctrexam@ncra-usa.org) or (703) 299-6640

