

CTR CERTIFICATION UPDATE

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Council on Certification Administrator,
NCRA

NCRA's Council on Certification is proud to report the following on the 2004 CTR Exams:

CTR Exam Dates and Deadlines

Dates have been set to offer the 2004 CTR Exams. 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 periods on a daily basis, Monday through Saturday, excluding holidays, at computer-based testing facilities managed by LaserGrade Computer Testing. The application deadlines for these Exams are January 31, 2004 for the spring testing window and July 31, 2004 for the fall testing window.

CTR Exam Application Fees

The fees to apply to sit for the 2004 CTR Exams are \$200 for NCRA Members and \$275 for all other candidates. The 2004 CTR Exam Candidates Handbook and Application are currently available on the NCRA website.

Exam Testing Centers

In addition, the 2004 CTR Exams will be offered via computer at over 700 computerized testing centers. Tentative testing locations can be found at LaserGrade's website www.lasergrade.com/ncr.html or by calling them at (800) 211-2754. You will not be able to schedule your examination appointment until you have received an Admission Notice from the Professional Testing Corporation.

CTR 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 (1995), 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 Exams contain questions related to the Commission on Cancer's program and data standards found in Standards of the CoC's Volume I: Cancer Program Standards and Volume II: Registry Operations and Data Standards (ROADS). Although these publications will no longer be sold by the CoC as of December 31, 2003, individuals taking the CTR Exam may contact the CoC to receive complimentary copies in order to prepare for the Exam. Contact Lynda Watt at lwatt@facs.org or (312) 202-5377 to request these materials.

A note of gratitude goes to the Council on Certification's Item Review Committee of Joyce Allan, CTR, Katie Golub, CTR, Helen Lewis,

CTR, Jamie Suarez, RHIT, CTR, Walter Sanford, CTR, Carol Mastrull, CTR, and Stuart Herna, CTR for a very thorough November meeting in Tampa, Florida. Thank you also to the Council on Certification's Exam Review Committee of Dan Curran, MS, CTR (Chair) with Katie Golub, CTR, Joyce Allan, CTR, Monique Doane, RHIT, CTR, Elizabeth Tucker, CTR and Noelle Vargas, CTR, who held a successful meeting in Washington, DC mid-December.

Call for Volunteers

The Council on Certification is looking for assistance in accomplishing the work of the Council by asking volunteers to serve on their committees. Specifically for the following committees: Item Review, Examination Construction, CTR Examination Work History Verification, and CTR Examination Experience Requirements.

To learn more about committees of the Council on Certification, go to www.ncra-usa.org

We are interested in obtaining a broad variety of volunteers both geographically and in experience. If you are not selected to serve on a committee at this time due to a heavy response, your name will be retained and considered in the future as other opportunities become available.

NCRA Council on Certification

Current representatives of the NCRA Council on Certification are: Gayle Clutter, RT, CTR (GA)-Administrator; Joyce Allan, MPH, CTR (FL); Dan Curran, MS, CTR (CA); Kathryn Golub, CTR (WA); Donna Getreuer, RN, MSN, CTR (CT); Suzanna Hoyler, CTR (DC); Joan L. Phillips, CTR (PA). Ryan Intlekofer, RN, CTR (GA) is the NCRA Board of Directors' Liaison.

Questions or comments can be sent directly to the Council on Certification via ctrexam@ncra-usa.org.



Council on Certification