

The Certified Registered Nurse Infusion (CRNI®) credential is the ONLY nationally recognized certification for infusion nursing. Earning the CRNI® credential offers you, your employer, and most importantly, your patients, many benefits. But those benefits will not be realized unless YOU successfully market the fact that you have earned the right to practice under the designation CRNI®.

This brochure offers ideas on how you can gain recognition for obtaining certification in your specialty practice and how you can use your certification as a way to enhance your personal and professional development.

## Certification Benefits

The Infusion Nurses Certification Corporation (INCC) is among many organizations, including the American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS), that believe in the benefits of specialty certification for nurses. As a CRNI®, you should be able to articulate the benefits of certification and get the recognition you deserve.

Achieving certification in infusion nursing validates your experience and provides assurance that you are able to practice infusion therapy in any clinical setting. There are many other benefits available to you as a CRNI® such as:

- Professional development: preparing for the examination increases your knowledge of infusion nursing;
- Recertification requirements that help you stay abreast of developments within the field;
- Increased compensation;\*
- Greater credibility from recognized validation of your experience;
- A sense of achievement and personal satisfaction.

\* Steltzer TM, Woods A, Gasda KA, Salary Survey 2003. *Journal of Nursing Management*, July 2003.

## Get Recognized

CRNI®s deserve recognition for the benefits that they bring to the workplace. Getting recognition for your achievements is the first step toward your professional development and increased job satisfaction. There are a number of ways that you can promote your CRNI® credential within your professional sphere.

### Promote Your Achievement

- Inform your supervisor that you are certified.
- Provide your employer with a copy of your certificate for your personnel file.
- Give your employer's public relations department the press release announcing your certification. Ask them to publish it in your organization's newsletter and in local newspapers.
- Get involved in your local INS chapter (visit our Web site at [www.ins1.org](http://www.ins1.org) for a listing). Chapters will often recognize members' accomplishments in their newsletters and Web sites.

### Display Your CRNI® Credential

- Wear a CRNI® pin.
- Display your framed certificate in your office or unit.
- If permitted, include your credentials on your name badge.
- Request that your credentials be included wherever your name is used professionally.
- Ask your employer to display INCC's promotional CRNI® poster to encourage your colleagues to pursue certification. Call (800) 434-INCC for a copy.

### Use Your Credential

- Print your credentials on all your professional materials, including your business card, resume, etc.
- Include the acronym CRNI® when signing your name in a professional capacity.

## Professional Development

Passing the CRNI® examination, which evaluates your knowledge in nine core areas of infusion nursing, and subsequently meeting INCC's recertification requirements demonstrates your commitment to the specialty of infusion nursing.

### Share Your Knowledge and Skills

- Use the information in this brochure to develop a brief explanation of certification. Share it with your colleagues and encourage them to use it when introducing themselves to patients and families.
- Share the information you learned while preparing for the examination and any new developments that recertification requirements expose you to.
- Volunteer to use the information to assist in the development or revision of your organization's patient education information or policies and procedures manual.
- Offer to develop and teach in-service programs: Your experience in and knowledge of the infusion specialty has been validated by your certification.
- Promote certification to your colleagues. Use your experience to establish a study group.
- Serve on committees in your institution. If none exists, establish one.
- Pursue a more active role in membership organizations. Keep your employer informed of any developments or achievements, and let him or her know how the organization can benefit from your part in them.
- Seek opportunities to network with other CRNI®s. Participate in or establish a local INS chapter. Attend INCC's celebration of certification at the INCC and Gardner Foundation Reception held at the INS Annual Meeting.

## Career Development

Organizations can benefit in many ways by employing certified nurses. Because investing in nurses' education helps develop a stable and highly skilled workforce, retention rates can be improved. Practice errors can be reduced because a certified nurse is more likely to recognize a problem and take the most appropriate action. Also, in-house training time can be reduced by establishing a quality mentor program led by infusion nurses whose knowledge is certified. Certification can also have an influence on applications for distinction from organizations such as the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet Recognition Program,<sup>™</sup> the Joint Commission, and the American College of Surgeons.

Because of the many valuable benefits that certified nurses bring to the workplace, many organizations offer incentives to CRNI<sup>®</sup>s. Some offer financial rewards in the form of bonuses, salary increases, or educational reimbursement. Others reward certified nurses by offering promotions or preferred work schedules. Although INCC does all it can to promote the value of the CRNI<sup>®</sup> credential, you too should promote your achievements and the subsequent benefits for your patients and employer to earn the recognition that you deserve.

- Periodically review your personnel file to ensure that your achievements are correctly recorded.
- Document the benefits that certification has brought to your practice.
- Incorporate those benefits and any other achievements into a portfolio to share with your current and future employers.
- Seek support for certification from your employer.
- Ensure your curriculum vitae or resume accurately reflects your status as a CRNI<sup>®</sup>.

Earning and maintaining your CRNI<sup>®</sup> indicates that you are willing to go the extra mile for your patients. The professional dedication that you exhibit by obtaining certification warrants recognition. If you or your employer have an innovative way that you recognize certified nurses, let INCC know so we can share that information with other CRNI<sup>®</sup>s.

**Note:** Don't forget to include the registration symbol<sup>®</sup>, along with the CRNI<sup>®</sup> acronym, to protect the integrity of your credential.

## About INCC

The Infusion Nurses Certification Corporation (INCC) was established in 1983 to benefit and protect the public through assessment, validation, and documentation of the clinical eligibility and continued competency of nurses delivering infusion therapy in all practice settings. INCC supports education and ongoing research, and validates the reliability of credentialing mechanisms and their relationship to clinical practice. INCC promotes recognition of its credentialed nurses and programs to the public, to other healthcare organizations, and to the nursing profession.

INCC is responsible for the CRNI<sup>®</sup> program, which must abide by judicial, regulatory, and professional testing standards. Challenges to the validity of certification can be reviewed by the courts to ensure that they are fair and nondiscriminatory. INCC is a separate but sibling corporation to the Infusion Nurses Society.

For more information, please contact:

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# CRNI<sup>®</sup>s Market Yourself



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**ABNS**  
American Board of Nursing Specialties  
Promoting Excellence in Nursing Certification

INCC is accredited by the American Board of Nursing Specialties