**Become a Certified Cardiac-Vascular Nurse (RN-BC)**

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**What are the requirements to take the Cardiac-Vascular Nurse certification test?**

- RN
- Have practiced the equivalent of 2 years
- Have a minimum of 2000 hours (or roughly one year) of Cardiac-Vascular clinical experience within the last 3 years
- Completed 30 hours of continuing education in Cardiac-Vascular in last 3 years

**Who is the credentialing organization, or certifying body, that administers the test?**

- [American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)](https://www.ancc.org)

**How do I obtain an application?**

- Go to [ANCC Certification](https://www.ancc.org)
- You can apply online or by mail

**What do I need to know about the test?**

- You are allowed 3.5 hours to complete the computer based exam
- 175 questions on assessment and diagnosis of cardiovascular disease, and planning, implementation and evaluation of patient care, education of the individual, family, and community
- Test at a [Prometric Testing Center](https://www.prometric.com) during a 90-day window at a time and location convenient to you: there are four testing sites within 30 miles of Loyola including Chicago, Lombard, Deerfield and Joliet
- The fee for initial certification is $395; a discount is applied for membership to a variety of Cardiac-Vascular associations

**What should I review for the test?**

- Test outline, practice questions, and a reference list are available at [ANCC](https://www.ancc.org) free of charge
- A Cardiac-Vascular Review and Resource Manual is strongly recommended and is available at the ANCC website for purchase
- A webinar is also available for purchase online which provides continuing education contact hours, valuable study tips and information to be utilized in preparing for certification exams
- The ANCC recommends a six month study period prior to taking the exam if preparation is done on a self-study basis

**Once I am certified, how do I maintain my certification?**

- Certification spans a period of five years prior to renewal
- [ANCC](https://www.ancc.org) has an online continuing education tracker simplifying the recertification process

**What professional organizations are available to join?**

- American Nurses Association
- American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation
- Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
- Society for Vascular Nursing

**Have more questions? We can help!**

Contact the Nursing Education and Professional Development Council: Send an email via Trinity Outlook to one of the members listed at the following link [Nursing Education and Professional Development Council](https://www.ancc.org)