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

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)

How do I obtain an application?

- Go to ANCC-Certification
- 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 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 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 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