

# Become an Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN)

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## What are the requirements to take the Oncology Nurse certification test?

- RN
- 12 months of RN experience within 36 months prior to application
- 1000 hours of oncology nursing practice within 30 months prior to application
- 10 CE in oncology in last 36 months

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

- [Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation \(ONCC\)](#)

## How do I obtain an application?

- Go to [ONCC](#)
- Download Test Bulletin
- You can apply online or mail in the application

## Where do I need to know about the test?

- Test Bulletin-Review Test Blue Print
  - The OCN blueprint in the **Test Bulletin** consists of 11 major subject areas, each with a percentage assigned to it.
  - The test is 165 multiple choice questions with 145 questions counting toward your score.
- This is a computer based test; testing sites are available at [Pearson VEU](#)

## What should I review for the test?

- Cancer Basics Book
  - Good review book can be viewed as e-book at the **Loyola Library** website from home or work.
  - There may be a hard copy on your unit.
- Loyola offers **Free** Review class twice a year
- 20 question practice test **Free** at [ONCC](#)
  - Additional practice tests at a \$15 fee are also available at [ONCC](#)

- ONS offers an online review class
  - Go to [ONCC](#) and type “review class” in search bar
  - The class is built as a 16 week course; the cost is \$160-180 for 50 CE

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

- The certification is valid for 4 years
- You may re-take the test in 4 years or collect 100 ONC-PRO points
  - ONC-PRO points can be Nursing CE at least 65 of 100 in oncology, CME, academic education, publications, presentations, precepting and volunteer leadership services.
  - Go to [ONCC](#) and select “Renew your certification” for details
  - There is also an ONC-PRO log available at [ONCC](#) to keep track of your CEs and then submit automatically online.

## What professional organizations are available to join?

- The cost of certification varies based on [Oncology Nursing Society \(ONS\)](#) membership status and early registration
- The cost to join ONS is \$102 and you will receive 2 journals with free CE opportunities with each issue, newsletters, other ONS cancer updates, discounts of publications/conferences and more.
- The exam is usually about \$120 if you are a non-member. So if you join, you would receive all the ONS membership benefits in addition to saving about \$20.

## 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](#)