Background on ANCC and Nursing Certification in Case Management

The ANA Certification Program was established by the American Nurses Association (ANA) in 1973 to provide professional achievement recognition in defined functional or clinical areas of nursing.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), incorporated in 1991 as a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association, is the largest nursing credentialing organization in the United States. ANCC’s professional certification services provide national and international recognition for nurses who have proven themselves through education, experience, knowledge, testing and professional conduct. The ANCC Commission on Certification offers 25 examinations including an exam for nurse case managers.

Eligibility for Case Management Certification Exam

To be eligible to take the exam a registered nurse must:
- hold a current, active unrestricted RN license in the United States or its territories, or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.
- have practiced the equivalent of two years full time as a registered nurse.
- have a minimum of 2,000 hours of clinical practice in case management within the last two years.
- have completed 30 hours of continuing education in case management within the last three years.

Certification Reciprocity for Nurses Certified by CCM

Reciprocity refers to the ANCC Commission on Certification policy whereby your certification with a different certification organization may be recognized by ANCC. Nurses that hold Case Manager Certification with the Commission for Case Manager Certification (CCMC) will be granted reciprocity by ANCC and do not need to test.

Note: Reciprocity applicants must hold a current, active unrestricted RN license within a state or territory of the United States or the professional, legally recognized equivalent in another country.

Exam Dates

The Nursing Case Management exam is a computer-based exam and is offered throughout the year. After mailing your application, allow 4 – 6 weeks for a decision on eligibility, depending on the complexity of the contents of your application and supporting documents. If found eligible you will be given an authorization-to-test number and a 90-day window in which to schedule and take your exam. Exam locations can be found at [www.prometric.com/ancc](http://www.prometric.com/ancc).

Application Fees and Discounts

The regular application fee is $390.00 and the rate for American Nurses Association (ANA) members is $270.00.

ANCC or CCM? What's the difference?

Both ANCC and CCMC offer well-respected certifications in case management. However, only ANCC’s Nursing Case Management Certification was developed for nurses, by nurses, and focused specially on nursing case management. The Test Content Outline of the ANCC Nursing Case Management Certification is focused on the role that nursing case managers play in the modern health care system. This can be substantially different than that played by other certified case managers such as social workers and non-nurse managers. ANCC encourages all case management certification candidates to compare the content of the ANCC exam and the CCM exam. More and more nurses are realizing that nursing case managers play a unique role that is best reflected by the most highly respected name in nursing credentialing for over 30 years: ANCC! ANCC certifies more nurses than any other certification body and is the home of the renowned Magnet Recognition Program.

For detailed information about the application process or to download an application you may go to the ANCC website at [www.nursecredentialing.org](http://www.nursecredentialing.org). The Reciprocity application is for current CCMC-certified nurses. The Case Management Certification application includes eligibility information and an abridged test content outline. Customer Service representatives are available at (800) 284-2378, between 9:00 and 5:00 Eastern time, to answer your questions.