



February/March 2011

Quick Links

[NCTRC Home](#)

[My NCTRC Login](#)

[NCTRC Recent News](#)

[CTRS Renewal](#)

[Standards and Publications](#)

[NCTRC Board](#)

[Contact NCTRC](#)

**National Council
For Therapeutic
Recreation
Certification**

845.639.1439

nctrc@nctrc.org

www.nctrc.org

Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

NCTRC Celebrates 30th Anniversary

The National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC) is proud to announce its 30th anniversary of excellence in providing professional certification to recreational therapists in the field of therapeutic recreation. Established in 1981 as a non-profit organization, NCTRC has provided credentialing services to more than 50,000 recreational therapists who qualified and obtained the Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) credential. The CTRS credential is well established as the benchmark of quality within therapeutic recreation and those individuals who hold active certification as a CTRS are recognized as the qualified providers of TR/RT services. Look for upcoming commemorative events to celebrate this significant milestone, including a celebration at the Annual Certificants' meeting to be held at the [ATRA](#) Annual Conference in September of this year.

NCTRC honors and congratulates all of the CTRSs who have maintained their credential during these past three decades, and extends a sincere "thank you" to all current and past Board members, committee members, and staff who have directly contributed to the success of NCTRC during the past thirty years. Without this outstanding level of support, NCTRC and the profession of TR/RT would not have achieved this significant milestone and its many recognized achievements along the way.

NCTRC Historical Milestones

- 1981: NCTRC is officially established.
- 1981: NCTRC has 3000 registered personnel.
- 1985: NCTRC incorporates as an independent organization.
- 1986: NCTRC hires its first full-time Executive Director.
- 1988: NCTRC conducts the first Job Analysis Study.
- 1990: NCTRC administers the first national CTRS Exam.
- 1990: NCTRC establishes CTRS recertification program.
- 1991: NCTRC adopts a mission statement and celebrates 10th Anniversary.
- 1993: NCTRC obtains accreditation by the National Commission of Certifying Agencies.
- 1994: NCTRC establishes CTRS trademark on both a state and national basis.
- 1996: NCTRC conducts second Job Analysis Study.
- 2001: NCTRC administers the first computer-based CTRS exam.
- 2001: NCTRC celebrates 20th Anniversary.
- 2003: NCTRC hires a new Executive Director.
- 2005: NCTRC introduces computer on-line processing of applications.
- 2006: NCTRC conducts third Job Analysis Study.
- 2007: NCTRC Board adopts States Recognition Policy (licensure advocacy).
- 2008: NCTRC implements exam eligibility prior to degree attainment option.
- 2010: NCTRC establishes Specialty Certification program.

May Recertification and Annual Maintenance Reminder

The May 2011 renewal cycle is now in effect. NCTRC will notify CTRSs of their pending renewal

date by email or postcard. Certificants can complete the CTRS renewal process on-line via [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#). Printed application packets are available upon request by contacting NCTRC at 845-639-1439. Please be sure to update your current contact information with NCTRC.

May Recertification Exam Option

Please be advised certificants who are at the end of the five year recertification cycle can take the NCTRC exam to meet the requirements for recertification. The May 2011 exam is the only exam that can be completed to meet the May cycle recertification requirements. The registration deadline for the May 2011 exam is March 11, 2011. Please visit the NCTRC website www.nctrc.org to access the exam registration form. At the home page, click on "exam" or use your log-in information to access the form. There are two options for submission: 1. fill out the registration form online and submit it with a credit card payment or 2. print and complete the registration form, and mail it directly to NCTRC with a check or credit card number. The dates for the May 2011 exam are May 2-6, 2011.

NCTRC Annual Board Meeting

The NCTRC Board of Directors and Standing Committee Members will conduct the NCTRC Annual Meeting on March 31-April 1, in Newburgh, NY. The agenda for the meeting includes review and acceptance of the annual budget, proposed standards changes, and submitted committee reports. Newly elected Board Members and recently appointed Standing Committee Members will begin their three-year terms commencing with the annual meeting.

Therapeutic Recreation Cited in Government Publications

Two recent publications issued by the federal government cite therapeutic recreation as a viable and exciting career option for students. The U.S. Department of Education cited therapeutic recreation as an example of a four-year degree that students may wish to consider in the DOE publication entitled *My Future, My Way: How to Go, How to Pay*. A copy of the publication can be viewed or downloaded at http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/MyFutureMyWay_04_2009.pdf.

The second document was published by the [Department of Labor](#) and appeared on the [Yahoo Financially Fit](#) website in an article about interesting careers. The DOL projects demand for recreational therapists will outpace the average for all occupations in the next decade due to the aging Boomer population.

Did you know ...

- NCTRC subcontracts the operation of its exam program to Prometric, a subsidiary of the Educational Testing Service.
- Prometric has over 300 test sites throughout the U.S. and Canada.
- NCTRC has sponsored an exam program for over twenty years.

Please contact NCTRC at 845-639-1439 or nctrc@nctrc.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support of NCTRC and the CTRS credential.