



March/April 2014

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**National Council  
For Therapeutic  
Recreation  
Certification**

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[www.nctrc.org](http://www.nctrc.org)

## Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

### Credentialing: Necessary Part of Career Advancement

The U.S. Census Bureau reported that in fall 2012, more than 50 million U.S. adults, or one in four, had obtained a professional certification, license or educational certificate apart from a postsecondary degree awarded by colleges and universities. This is the Census Bureau's first-ever report on this topic. Among the adults included in the report, 12 million had both a professional certification or license and an educational certificate; 34 million had only a professional certification or license; and 7 million had only an educational certificate. For a review of the full report visit [U.S. Census Bureau](#).

### Recreational Therapy Cited in *The Economist*

A recent edition of the publication *The Economist* (January 18, 2014) rated recreational therapy as the least likely profession to be replaced by technological advancement and automation within the next two decades (2013-2033). To read the article visit [The Economist](#).

### May 2014 Exam Registration Tops 700 Candidates...Again!

NCTRC has experienced a significant increase in the number of applicants for the May 2014 exam. The total number of candidates scheduled to complete the May exam is 726. The May 2014 exam enrollment figure is the third year in a row that the NCTRC exam had more than 700 candidates.

### Marketing the CTRS Credential

In an effort to continuously promote the CTRS credential and inform certificants about recertification and specialty certification, NCTRC has committed to present and exhibit at the following national conferences:

- May 14-16: Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association, Banff, Alberta, Canada
- Sept. 13-16: ATRA Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, OK

Please plan to visit NCTRC at the above listed conferences.

### Recertification and Annual Maintenance Deadlines Approaching

NCTRC would like to remind you that if your five year recertification cycle ends on May 1, 2014, you will need to submit your recertification application postmarked by June 30, 2014. NCTRC does not accept recertification applications postmarked after this date. Please be aware that the Recertification process can take upwards of 4-6 weeks. If you are required to be certified for your employment, please do not wait until the deadline to submit your application. Annual maintenance applications are also due no later than June 30, 2014. For your convenience the recertification process and annual maintenance can be completed online at [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) or visit [www.nctrc.org](http://www.nctrc.org) for more information.

### Helpful Reminders to Ensure a Successful Internship

The summer months often serve as an opportunity for students to complete their academic internships. In order to provide a smooth transition to obtaining the CTRS credential, the following requirements must be met during the internship experience:

- The length of the internship must be a minimum of 14 consecutive weeks and 560 hours.
- The intern must work a minimum of 20 hours per week and no more than 45 hours per week.
- The internship supervisor must be employed full-time at the sponsoring agency and work a minimum of 32 hours per week. At least 50% of the supervisor's duties must be in therapeutic recreation and they must be an active CTRS on the first day of your internship.
- The internship must be supervised by an academic supervisor and an agency supervisor both of whom need to be a CTRS.
- The internship agency supervisor must be certified for at least one year prior to supervising interns.
- The internship experience must be based on the therapeutic recreation process as defined by the current [NCTRC Job Analysis](#).

Please visit NCTRC's website to review and download the [NCTRC Field Placement Standards](#). NCTRC offers a marketing packet specifically geared towards the field placement standards. If you would like to receive a packet, please contact Noelle Molloy at [nmolloy@nctrc.org](mailto:nmolloy@nctrc.org).

### **Do you know ...**

#### **The Strength and Value of the CTRS Credential?**

1. NCTRC standards are based on current knowledge and skills necessary for competent practice and continued competence in therapeutic recreation.
2. NCTRC evaluates individual qualifications for certification and recertification through a comprehensive system of review, verification, and standardized national testing to assure that each individual awarded the CTRS has in fact, met the qualifications to hold the credential.
3. NCTRC monitors adherence to standards to assure that cases involving potential harm to public health and safety are investigated fully and that appropriate sanctions of reprimand, suspension and/or revocation are instituted as needed.
4. The CTRS credential is the designation used to inform the public and consumer of health care services of the existence of this competence in recreational therapy.

**In fact, it is the only national certification designed to protect the consumer of recreational therapy services.**

Please contact NCTRC at 845-639-1439 or [nctrc@nctrc.org](mailto:nctrc@nctrc.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

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