



March/April 2015

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National Council For Therapeutic Recreation Certification

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Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

NCTRC Announces Joint Marketing Campaign

NCTRC has joined with the American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA) and the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association (CTRA) to introduce a new marketing campaign for the Therapeutic Recreation profession. The three organizations meet quarterly to share insights and communicate developments in the field. An outgrowth of these meetings is the agreement to pursue a common marketing brochure that may be used to educate allied professionals and consumers of recreational therapy services. The organizations have agreed to co-present their common vision of the profession at the ATRA Mid-Year conference (March 8-10) and the CTRA Annual Conference (May 13-15). Stay tuned for more developments regarding this collaborative effort.

May 2015 Exam Registration Tops 700 Candidates...Again!

NCTRC has experienced a significant increase in the number of applicants for the May 2015 exam. The total number of candidates scheduled to complete the May exam is 705. The May 2015 exam enrollment figure is the fourth year in a row that the NCTRC exam had more than 700 candidates.

NCTRC has begun offering the CTRS exam six times a year. The testing dates are as follows:

- July 6-18, 2015
- September 7-19, 2015
- November 2-14, 2015
- January 4-16, 2016
- March 7-19, 2016
- May 2-14, 2016

Marketing the CTRS Credential

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

- April 1-3: Southeast Recreational Therapy Symposium, Savannah, GA
- April 26-28: New York State Therapeutic Recreation Association, Saratoga Springs, NY
- May 13-15: Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association, St. John's, Newfoundland
- Sept. 25-30: ATRA Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM

Recertification and Annual Maintenance Deadlines Approaching

NCTRC would like to remind you that if your five year recertification cycle ends on June 30, 2015, you will need to submit your recertification application postmarked by June 30, 2015. 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, 2015. For your convenience the recertification process and annual maintenance can be completed online at [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) or visit 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 Internship Standards](#). NCTRC offers a marketing packet specifically geared towards the internship standards. If you would like to receive a packet, please contact Noelle Molloy at nmolloy@nctrc.org.

Don't forget that as an agency CTRS supervisor you can earn CEUs towards your recertification. Please review the [NCTRC Internship Supervision Guidelines for Continuing Education Credit](#) for more information.

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 as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS).
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, the CTRS is the only international credential designed to protect the consumer of recreational therapy services.

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.

