



May/June 2014

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

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Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

NCTRC Job Analysis Survey Coming Soon!

NCTRC is conducting a job analysis study to validate the work performed by Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists (CTRS). The purpose of the study is to identify the tasks and knowledge that are important to the work performed by CTRSs. The results of the study will be used to revise the CTRS test specifications and provide NCTRC with information to potentially adapt continuing education requirements for CTRS recertification.

As part of this study, all CTRSs are requested to complete an online survey. The survey will be emailed on June 9th and the response window will remain open until June 30th. Your participation is critical to ensure that the study and subsequent activities are a success.

Because your time is valuable and your knowledge is so important to us, NCTRC will grant one (1) continuing education hour to all individuals who submit a completed survey. In addition, NCTRC will award an Apple iPad to one CTRS selected at random from the list of individuals who respond to the survey.

Thank you in advance for your time and for contributing your expertise to NCTRC.

NCTRC Conducts Annual Board Meeting

The NCTRC Board of Directors conducted its annual meeting on April 10-11, 2014 in Newburgh, NY. Among the many achievements accomplished during the two-day meeting were the following:

- Three new members were inducted to the NCTRC Board of Directors for 2014-2017 term:
 - Carla Carmichael, CTRS (MD)
 - Eileen Andreassi, CTRS (NY)
 - Donna Gregory, CTRS (MD)
- A new Executive Committee for the term of 2014-2015 was elected:
 - Sharon Nichols, CTRS/L (NH), Chairperson
 - Jennifer Hinton, LRT/CTRS (NC), Vice Chairperson
 - Carla Carmichael, CTRS (MD), Treasurer
 - Susan Popek-Boeve, CTRS (MI), Secretary
- Three new members were appointed to NCTRC Standing Committees:
 - Marybeth Pozzuto, CTRS (NY): Standards Hearing Committee
 - Laura McLachlin, CTRS (CA): Standards Review Committee
 - Susanne Lesnik-Emas, CTRS (PA): Exam Management Committee

The Board approved conducting the NCTRC Annual Certificants Meeting at the ATRA Annual Conference to be held in Oklahoma City, OK, September 13-16, 2014.

Sharon Nichols, CTRS/L Elected NCTRC Chairperson

Sharon Nichols was installed as the new Chairperson of the NCTRC Board of Directors at the recently held NCTRC Annual Meeting. Sharon brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the Chair position. Sharon completed her BS degree in Education with a concentration in Therapeutic Recreation from Northeastern University. Sharon currently works as a Divisional Engaged Life Innovation Director for the Atria Senior Living Corporation. Her primary responsibility is to provide program support and direction to assistive living communities within the northeastern United States. Prior to joining Atria, Sharon worked as an Area Therapeutic Recreation Specialist for the Northeast Genesis Health Care Corporation. She served as a regional consultant to 85 assisted living and skilled nursing centers throughout New England. Her responsibilities included program development, staff development and training, culture change initiatives, specialty program development for short stay patients and dementia care. She was also responsible for promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, researching initiatives, quality and performance improvement, and served as an advocate for therapeutic recreation services throughout the corporation. Sharon has been an active member of several TR organizations throughout her career and has held leadership positions with professional associations on both the regional and national level.

NCTRC Attends CTRA Annual Conference

In the continuing effort to expand its international focus, NCTRC attended the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference in Banff, Alberta, May 14-16. NCTRC sponsored an exhibit booth, presented three educational sessions, and conducted a CTRS certificants meeting. NCTRC and CTRA continue to collaborate on an active basis to expand the CTRS credential throughout Canada. These strategic efforts have been very successful and resulted in a 100% increase in the number of CTRSs residing in Canada as measured during the past three years.

CTRS Profile Study

NCTRC recently completed a CTRS Profile Study in an effort to establish baseline data about CTRSs and their work environments. The primary tool used to collect the data was an on-line survey facilitated via Survey Monkey. The response rate to the survey was 41% of all active CTRSs. The results of the study will be utilized in a variety of ways including a research report, marketing brochure, and a PowerPoint presentation to be shared with the recreational therapy community. NCTRC is often requested to provide statistical data regarding the role and function of the CTRS by outside employment groups and prospective certificants. The data generated from this study will be used in direct support of the advancement of the CTRS credential and the profession.

NCTRC is also proud to announce that the winner of the Apple iPad drawing was Lara Lee Saunders, CTRS, of Natchez, MS. Congratulations!

Did you know ...

- NCTRC has an email contact service for the notification of CEU opportunities and research so please keep your email up-to-date with us
- NCTRC provides free marketing materials to promote the CTRS credential
- NCTRC provides pre-application review of CEU materials that have been completed for CTRS recertification

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.