



November/December 2012

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!

Season's Greetings from the NCTRC Board, Committees, and Staff!



NCTRC Sponsors National Forum for State Licensure

NCTRC held the National Licensure Forum at the ATRA Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ. The one-day forum included notable speakers addressing the need for establishing RT state licensure as well as specific segments outlining critical steps to establishing professional legal recognition. The forum was a unique approach designed to address state licensure from a comprehensive perspective with discussions ranging from conceptual need for licensure to the methodology for establishing licensure at the state level. The national forum was an unqualified success due to the exchange of pertinent information regarding the licensure process and the level of participation at the forum.

NCTRC sponsored representatives from all 50 states to attend the forum in order to advance state licensure to a national movement and to ensure that all CTRS certificants had access to vital strategic information. While NCTRC and ATRA will continue to provide national leadership for the licensure movement, it is expected that professional organizations and leaders will explore opportunities for licensure within their own states.

NCTRC and ATRA have begun the process of establishing a Joint Task Force (JTF) for RT State Licensure. It is envisioned that the Joint Task Force will serve as the national clearing house for information and resources related to the state licensure movement. It is expected that the JTF will be established by the start of 2013. Once the JTF is established, each state will be requested to identify a state coordinator who will serve as a liaison to the JTF. It is expected that the state coordinator will also provide leadership in the promotion of RT licensure within their state.

An excellent resource to review in an effort to become more knowledgeable about the licensure and credentialing process is the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) website www.clearhq.org.

CLEAR provides networking opportunities, publications, and research services for those involved with, or affected by, professional and occupational regulation. The organization often offers seminars and webinars on subjects directly related to state licensure and regulation.

NCTRC Board of Directors Meeting in Indiana

The NCTRC Board of Directors recently conducted its fall meeting on November 2-3, 2012 at Bradford Woods in Martinsville, Indiana . The NCTRC Board meets twice a year (April and November) to conduct business and review current issues and strategic initiatives. The Board had a very productive meeting resulting in the approval of several new initiatives and several

modifications to the *NCTRC Standards*. More specifically, the Board dedicated a full day to the development of a new five-year strategic plan. NCTRC plans to share the basis of the new strategic plan with key stakeholders within the greater TR community. The new plan will be initiated in April 2013. Please visit www.nctrc.org to review all current and pending certification standards.

NCTRC Presents at Conference

The NCTRC Board used the fall meeting as an opportunity to connect with TR/RT students and local CTRSs at regional conferences. This year the Board was able to attend and present at the *Recreation Therapists of Indiana Annual Conference*. The two-day conference included a variety of topics presented by the NCTRC Board of Directors and other noted speakers.

Thomas elected “Chair-Elect” of the NCTRC Board of Directors



Patricia K. Thomas, MPA, CTRS, has been elected to the position of Chairperson-Elect of the NCTRC Board of Directors at the Board's fall meeting. Patricia, who has served in the capacity of Vice Chair and a member of the Executive Committee during the past year, will assume the position of Chairperson of the NCTRC Board of Directors in April 2013. Patricia resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She earned her BS in Recreation with a Therapeutic Recreation emphasis from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and a Masters in Public Administration with a Health Care emphasis from Long Island University. Patricia is responsible for the oversight and implementation of the therapeutic recreation (TR) certificate program and all other TR courses at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She was recognized for her innovative teaching in the area of distance education with the 2010 Outstanding Teaching Award for Academic Staff at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM).

NCTRC Welcomes Nominations for New Board Members

If you or someone you know is interested in being considered for the NCTRC Board or a committee nomination, please contact the NCTRC Elections Committee via Bob Riley at (845) 639-1439 or briley@nctrc.org.

Recertification and Annual Maintenance Deadlines Approaching

NCTRC would like to remind you that if your five year recertification cycle ended on November 1, 2012, you will need to submit your recertification application postmarked by December 31, 2012. NCTRC does not accept recertification applications postmarked after this date. Annual maintenance applications are also due no later than December 31, 2012. To submit your application online, log in to [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) or visit www.nctrc.org for more information.

May 2013 Recertification Exam Option

If you are coming to the end of your five year recertification cycle in June 2013, then you can take the NCTRC exam to meet the requirements for recertification. The May 2013 exam is the only exam available that meets the May cycle Recertification requirements. The registration deadline for the May 2013 exam for recertification is March 1, 2013. Visit the NCTRC website www.nctrc.org to access the exam registration form. From the home page, click on “exam” or use your log in information to access the form. There are two options for submission. You can complete the registration form online and submit it with a credit card payment, or print out the

registration form, complete it and mail directly to NCTRC with a check, money order or credit card number. The dates for the May 2013 exam are May 6-18, 2013.

NCTRC Certification Standards Changes

Provided below is an abridged version of the pending *NCTRC Standards* changes. Please review a full version of each Standard change at www.nctrc.org.

Content Course Change: Increase in Therapeutic Recreation Content Course Requirements. Effective Date: January 1, 2013

Academic Path

*"A minimum of 18 semester or 24 quarter credit hours of therapeutic recreation and general recreation content coursework with no less than a minimum of **15 semester or 20 quarter credit hours in therapeutic recreation content**. A minimum of **5 courses** in therapeutic recreation is required and each course must be a minimum of 3 credit hours; AND..."*

Equivalency Path A & B

*"A minimum of 18 semester or 24 quarter credit hours of therapeutic recreation and general recreation content coursework with no less than a minimum of **15 semester or 20 quarter credit hours in therapeutic recreation content**. A minimum of **5 courses** in therapeutic recreation is required and each course must be a minimum of 3 credit hours; AND..."*

Content Course Change: Content Specific Therapeutic Recreation Coursework Requirements. Effective Date: January 1, 2013

Content specific Therapeutic Recreation coursework will be required as part of the NCTRC professional eligibility requirements. The specific course content will include the following areas: a) Assessment; b) TR Process; and c) Advancement of the Profession. It is recommended that each content area be addressed by a specific TR course and that at a minimum at least 50% of the course be devoted to the designated content material.

Field Placement Standards Information: Increase in the Number of Internship Weeks and Hours. Effective Date: January 1, 2013

*A minimum **560-hour, fourteen (14) consecutive week** field placement experience in therapeutic recreation services that uses the therapeutic recreation process as defined by the current NCTRC Job Analysis.*

Field Placement Standards information: Academic Field Placement Supervisor must possess the CTRS Credential. Effective Date: January 1, 2013

The Academic Field Placement Supervisor must be an active CTRS at the start of the field placement experience and is required to sign the final Field Placement Verification Form signifying that the candidate completed all stated components of the NCTRC field placement requirements.

NCTRC to Conduct ATRA Webinars

In an effort to continuously market the CTRS credential, NCTRC is scheduled to present the following ATRA Webinars:

February 27, 2013, 1-2pm EST – Recertification Standards

March 27, 2013, 1-2pm EST – Specialty Certification

For further information about the webinars, please visit the ATRA website at: <http://www.atra-online.com>

Did you know ...

- Growth in NCTRC exam registrations has been very significant this past year
- NCTRC offers specialty credentialing in five distinct areas of expertise
- NCTRC is a charter member of the Institute of Credentialing Excellence (formerly NOCA)

and is accredited by the National Commission of Certifying Agencies.

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.