



November/December 2014

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**National Council
For Therapeutic
Recreation
Certification**

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Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

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



NCTRC Executive Director Position Search

NCTRC is seeking qualified candidates for the Executive Director position due to the recent announcement by Bob Riley, CTRS, of his intention to step down as ED next summer (2015). The Executive Director position serves as the chief executive and spokesperson of NCTRC. All interested individuals should review the [position announcement](#) for further details regarding the NCTRC Executive Director position.

NCTRC Board of Directors Meet in California

The NCTRC Board of Directors recently conducted its fall meeting on October 30-31, 2014 at California State University in Long Beach, California. The NCTRC Board meets twice a year (Spring and Fall) to conduct its business and to review current issues and strategic initiatives. The Board had a very productive meeting resulting in the exploration of some new initiatives and approving modifications to the *NCTRC Standards*. More specifically, the Board discussed several issues pertinent to the profession and included in the NCTRC Strategic Plan. Among the topics reviewed by the Board were NCTRC's international focus, NCTRC name change, and a preliminary discussion of graduate degree entry-level requirements in allied health. The Board also accepted the findings of the 2014 Job Analysis Study and approved a recommendation to extend the administration of the certification exam to six times per year. Please visit www.nctrc.org to review all current certification standards.

Hinton elected "Chair-Elect" of the NCTRC Board of Directors



Dr. Jennifer Hinton, LRT/CTRS was elected to the position of Chairperson-Elect of the NCTRC Board of Directors at the Board's fall meeting. Jennifer, 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 2015. Jennifer, who resides in Sylva,

North Carolina, completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation from Kent State University and a Master of Science degree in Recreation and Park Administration with an emphasis in Outdoor Therapeutic Recreation from Indiana University. She holds a PhD in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management with an emphasis in Recreation Therapy from Clemson University. Jennifer is currently employed as Associate Professor and Director of the Recreational Therapy degree program at Western Carolina University. Her primary responsibility, along with her colleagues, is to ensure excellent educational opportunities for the approximately 80 majors and 100 pre-majors in the undergraduate program. This includes teaching courses, structuring curricula, providing service to persons with disabilities in the region and serving the University, and the profession. Jennifer is deeply committed to engaging in scholarly activity including research and presentations.

NCTRC Board Approves Six Times per Year Testing

The administration of the NCTRC certification exam will be expanded to include the implementation of six exams per calendar year. The NCTRC Board approved the plan to extend the test offerings at its recent meeting in Long Beach, California. The plan will go into effect with the newly established July 2015 exam and subsequent exams will be offered every two months as follows: September 2015, November 2015, January 2016, March 2016, and May 2016. NCTRC will adopt an open enrollment application process as part of the new exam schedule. All complete applications received by the designated submission date will be reviewed and considered for the next available exam administration. Applicants will be able to request a specific exam window within a one-year time frame of the approved application.

NCTRC to Implement New Job Analysis and Exam Content Outline

NCTRC is pleased to announce the completion of a new Job Analysis and the adoption of a new exam content outline. The updating of the Job Analysis is critical to the validation of the certification program because it identifies the tasks and knowledge areas that are important for competent performance by CTRs. The JA study was conducted to answer the essential questions: "What are the important job tasks related to competent practice?" and "What knowledge and skills are essential for competent performance?" The study findings serve as the basis of the NCTRC Certification Exam Content Outline and inform CTRs about content areas for continuing education related to recertification. The implementation of the revised exam content outline will commence with the newly established July 2015 exam. Information about the 2014 Job Analysis and the revised exam content outline will be available from NCTRC in January 2015.

NCTRC Presents at California Conference

The fall meeting of the NCTRC Board is viewed as an opportunity to connect with students and CTRs at local receptions and regional conferences. This year the Board was able to attend and present at the *California State University Long Beach Symposium*. The one-day conference included a variety of topics presented by members of the NCTRC Board and other noted speakers. The day included several sessions designed for students and a modified career luncheon organized by the CSU students in an effort to learn more about the field of TR/RT. If your state association or academic program would like to host a NCTRC Board meeting, please contact Bob Riley, at (845) 639-1439 or briley@nctrc.org to discuss the possibilities.

Recertification and Annual Maintenance Deadlines Approaching

NCTRC would like to remind you that if your five year recertification cycle expires at the end of 2014, you will need to submit your recertification application postmarked on or before December 31, 2014. NCTRC can not accept recertification applications postmarked after this date. Annual maintenance applications are also due no later than December 31, 2014. To submit your application online log in to [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) or visit www.nctrc.org for more information.

May 2015 Recertification Exam Option

CTRSs who are coming to the end of their five year recertification cycle in June 2015 are permitted to take the NCTRC exam to meet the requirements for recertification. The next available exam to take in order to meet the June 2015 recertification requirement is the May 2015 exam. The registration deadline for the May 2015 exam for recertification is March 1, 2015. Please visit the NCTRC website www.nctrc.org to access the exam registration form. From the NCTRC home page, click on "exam" or use your log in information to access the form. There are two options for submission: complete the registration form online and submit with a credit card payment, or print out the registration form, complete it and mail directly to NCTRC with check, money order or credit card information. The dates for the May 2015 exam are May 4-16, 2015.

NCTRC Welcomes Nominations for Board and Committee Membership

As a credentialing organization, NCTRC has the direct responsibility to maintain a cross section of CTRSs on its Board of Directors and Standing Committees. NCTRC anticipates vacancies for the Consumer Representative position on the Board of Directors and open positions on the Standards Hearing Committee, Standards Review Committee and Exam Management Committee. If you or someone you know is interested in being considered for the NCTRC Board or Committee involvement please contact the NCTRC Nomination and Elections Committee via Bob Riley, at (845) 639-1439 or briley@nctrc.org.

Did you know ...

- two-thirds of all CTRSs reside east of the Mississippi River
- the majority of CTRSs (70%) are employed in hospitals, SNFs, or residential facilities
- the majority of CTRSs (56%) report that the CTRS credential is a job requirement

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.