



National Council for
Therapeutic Recreation
Certification

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November/December 2015 e-News

Posted on December 3, 2015

Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

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



NCTRC Launches New Website

This past summer NCTRC redesigned the website. We hope that the website is easier to navigate and more user friendly. Please be aware that any old links that may have been sent to you in various emails will not be active. Please visit the new website www.nctrc.org to access necessary forms or to log in to your NCTRC account.

NCTRC Board of Directors Meet in California

The NCTRC Board of Directors recently conducted its fall meeting on November 4-5, 2015 at the Palo Alto VA Health Care System in Palo Alto, 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 that included approval of modifications to the *NCTRC Standards* and exploration of some new initiatives. More specifically, the Board discussed several issues pertinent to the profession and included in the NCTRC Strategic Plan. Among the topics reviewed were NCTRC's international focus, recent improvements to the practice exam, ways to enhance marketing, the website, and IT support for both office functions and organizational data management. Please visit www.nctrc.org to review all current and pending certification standards.

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



Eileen Andreassi, MA, CTRS was elected to the position of Chairperson-Elect of the NCTRC Board of Directors at the Board's fall meeting. Eileen, 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 2016. Eileen, who resides in Harriman, New York, completed a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Sociology from SUNY-Binghamton and a Master of Arts in Administration of Therapeutic Recreation Service from New York University. She has 30 years of experience in the Therapeutic Recreation field and is currently Director of Therapeutic Recreation at Helen Hayes Hospital, a physical medicine and rehabilitation facility in Haverstraw, New York. She supervises five full-time staff, two part-time staff, 10 per diem staff and 35 volunteers. In addition, Eileen supervises a complementary alternative medicine program encompassing massage therapy, reiki, acupuncture, aromatherapy, music therapy, yoga, ai chi and seated yoga.

NCTRC Presents at California Conference

The fall meeting of the NCTRC Board is viewed as an opportunity to connect with students and CTRSs at local events and regional conferences. This year the Board was able to attend and present at the *Bay Area Therapeutic Recreation Association (BATRA)* Conference. The one-day conference included a variety of topics presented by members of the NCTRC Board and other noted speakers. If your state association or academic program would like to host a NCTRC Board meeting, please contact Anne Richard, at (845) 639-1439 or arichard@nctrc.org to discuss the possibilities.

Have you considered NCTRC Specialty Certification?

NCTRC introduced the Specialty Certification program in 2010. The primary purpose of NCTRC Specialty Certification is to acknowledge the CTRS whose practice has reached an advanced professional level, and to provide formal recognition of competence beyond the CTRS credential. NCTRC specialty certification provides an additional level of assurance to patients, consumers, and employers regarding the delivery of quality recreation therapy and therapeutic recreation services.

NCTRC awards Specialty Certification in five areas of practice:

- Physical Medicine/Rehabilitation
- Geriatrics
- Developmental Disabilities
- Behavioral Health

Community Inclusion Services

Currently NCTRC has 55 CTRSs that have obtained Specialty Certification. Of the 55 individuals, 33 are in Behavioral Health, 12 are in Geriatrics, 9 are in Physical Medicine/Rehabilitation and 1 is in Community Inclusion.

If you are interested in more information regarding Specialty Certification, please visit our website www.nctrc.org or call the office.

Recertification and Annual Maintenance Deadlines Approaching

NCTRC would like to remind you that if your five year recertification cycle expires at the end of 2015, you will need to submit your recertification application postmarked on or before December 31, 2015. NCTRC can not accept recertification applications postmarked after this date. Annual maintenance applications are also due no later than December 31, 2015. If you are required to be certified for your employment, NCTRC recommends submitting your application early. To submit your application online, log in to [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) or visit www.nctrc.org for more information.

May 2016 Recertification Exam Option

CTRSs who are coming to the end of their five year recertification cycle in June 2016 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 2016 recertification requirement is the May 2016 exam. The registration deadline for the May 2016 exam for recertification is March 5, 2016. 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 2016 exam are May 2-14, 2016.

Did you know...

- 45% of CTRSs are very satisfied with their current job
- 36% of CTRSs work in Behavioral Health
- 50% of CTRSs work with adults and older adults

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

CONTACT US

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NCTRC

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LINKS

American Therapeutic Recreation Association

Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association

Institute for Credentialing Excellence
Therapeutic Recreation Directory



NCTRC is a member of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) and the CTRS Credentialing Program is accredited by National Commission for Certifying Agencies

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US Dept. of Labor, Occupational Outlook
Handbook

Recreation Therapy Licensure Boards:

New Hampshire

North Carolina

Oklahoma

Utah

(NCCA).

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