



National Council for
Therapeutic Recreation
Certification

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January/February 2017 e-News

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Happy New Year from NCTRC!

NCTRC Certification Standards Change

In a recent Board of Directors Meeting, a change was made to the interpretation of full time work experience when reviewing internship experiences for students out of academic programs.

“NCTRC requires that an agency internship supervisor must be employed at least 30 hours per week at the agency, with at least 50% of the job duties within therapeutic recreation services.”

The Board of Directors decision was made to remove the descriptor, “full time,” from Part I of the Certification Standards focusing on Internship Site Supervisors. This decision was based on the fact that requiring a minimum of 30 hours per week encompasses the intent of the “full time” language previously used.

Internship Thanks

NCTRC extends its deepest appreciation to CTRSs who serve as internship supervisors. The internship supervisor has an extremely important role in the development of new TR professionals and potential CTRSs. The academic internship is a very valuable and important part of the professional preparation process and we deeply appreciate your involvement.

NCTRC has several resources that may be of assistance to students during their internship and application for certification. If you would like to receive a copy of a marketing packet specifically related to the internship experience, please contact NCTRC by phone or email and we will gladly send one to you. Additionally, these resources and other items of interest pertaining to the NCTRC credentialing program are available directly from our website www.nctrc.org.

Just a reminder that as an agency CTRS internship supervisor, you can receive continuing education credit towards your recertification. For additional information, please review the [Guidelines for Continuing Education for NCTRC Internship Supervision](#) and the [NCTRC Internship Supervision Continuing Education Form](#).

E-mail Notification....Are you up-to-date?

NCTRC uses e-mail notification as the first and primary means of communicating important information to all CTRSs. Please make sure that all of your contact information is up-to-date especially your e-mail address so that notifications are received in a timely manner.

Please visit [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) to log in. If you are having difficulties accessing your account, click “Reset my Password” at the bottom of the page. You will be asked for the email address in the NCTRC database. If your email has changed, please send a request to change your email address to nctrc@nctrc.org. Please see the message sent to your email address and follow the instructions listed.

CTRSs to Celebrate Therapeutic Recreation Month: February 2017

The purpose of Therapeutic Recreation Month is to enhance public awareness of therapeutic recreation programs and recreational therapy services, promote inclusive recreation opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and recognize the CTRS as the qualified provider of RT services. According to NCTRC, recreation therapy, also known as therapeutic recreation, is a systematic process that utilizes recreation and other activity-based interventions based upon the assessed needs of individuals with illnesses and/or disabling conditions. The purpose of the RT process is to improve or maintain physical, cognitive, social, emotional and spiritual functioning in order to facilitate full participation in life. For more information, please check out [About Recreational Therapy](#) on the NCTRC website.

NCTRC has developed a [TR Month Flyer](#) for promotional use. Please feel free to print this marketing tool and make several copies to display at your agency. NCTRC also offers an array of promotional materials for use at your agency during TR Month or any other time, to help promote the CTRS credential and recreational therapy services. All NCTRC promotional materials can be downloaded in PDF format from the [NCTRC website](#) or you can contact NCTRC if you would like multiple copies of a specific brochure.

During TR Month, CTRSs and their agencies will host a series of lectures and presentations, career days, adaptive sport events, workshops, receptions, information booths, and open houses. Proclamations, press releases, articles and public service announcements are also great ways to enhance the awareness of the CTRS credential during Therapeutic Recreation Month. The [American Therapeutic Recreation Association \(ATRA\)](#) and the [Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association \(CTRA\)](#) offer promotional items at their respective websites to enhance the TR Month celebration.

NCTRC Welcomes New Board Members

As a result of the recently conducted Board election, NCTRC is proud to announce the addition of two new members to its Board of Directors. Suzanne Prosser, MSHCA, CTRS and Andrea Waters, CTRS will officially join the NCTRC Board in March 2017 and serve a three-year term from 2017-2020. A brief profile of each new member appears below.



Suzanne Prosser, MSHCA, CTRS currently resides in Chandler, Arizona. Suzanne attended Arizona State University where she completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Parks and Recreation Management with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation. While working full time at the Phoenix VA Healthcare System, Suzanne completed her Master of Science degree in Health Care Administration from Grand Canyon University. Beyond her work at the Phoenix VA Healthcare System, providing recreation therapy services to Veterans with serious mental illness alongside a multidisciplinary team, Suzanne is continuously looking

for opportunities to advocate and advance the profession of recreational therapy.



Andrea Waters, CTRS resides in Hubbards, Nova Scotia, Canada. She earned her Bachelor of Recreation, Therapeutic Recreation from Dalhousie University. Andrea has 21 years of experience in TR and is currently a professional practice leader of recreation therapy at IWK Health Centre and a recreation therapist in Pediatric Rehabilitation. Andrea has also done a significant amount of work with the Canadian Paralympic Committee related to awareness initiatives and is a strong advocate for the role of recreational therapy.

If you or someone you know is interested in being considered for the NCTRC Board or committee appointment, please contact the NCTRC Nomination and Elections Committee via Anne Richard, at (845) 639 -1439 or nctrc@nctrc.org.

Licensure Reminders

There are currently 4 states that require licensure to practice as a recreation therapist (Oklahoma, New Hampshire, North Carolina and Utah). If you live in and/or plan on working as a recreation therapist in one of those states, NCTRC would like to remind you that you will need to contact the local licensure board for information on how to get licensed in that state.

NCTRC is Out and About

In an effort to continuously market the CTRS credential, NCTRC is scheduled to present at the following conferences and webinars in the upcoming months:

February 8, 2017, 1-2pm EST – New Application Standards – Canadian TR Association Webinar

February 24, 2017 – NCRTA Student and Professional Issues Forum – Mount Olive, NC

April 5, 2017, 11-12pm EST – Internship Standards – Canadian TR Association Webinar

April 12-14, 2017 – Southeast RT Symposium, Savannah, GA

May 24-26, 2017 – Canadian TR Association Annual Conference, Kelowna, British Columbia

For further information about the CTRA webinars, please visit: <https://canadian-tr.org/>

ATRA Webinar dates to be announced shortly, please visit: <https://www.atra-online.com/> for the upcoming dates.

Please mark your calendars and plan on visiting the NCTRC staff at one of these conferences.

March Annual Maintenance Reminder

The March 2017 renewal cycle is now in effect. NCTRC will notify CTRSs of their pending renewal date by email or postcard. Certificants can complete the CTRS renewal process on-line via [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#). Printed application packets are available upon request by contacting NCTRC at (845) 639-1439. Please be sure to update your current contact information with NCTRC.

NCTRC Annual Board Meeting

The NCTRC Board of Directors and Standing Committees will conduct the NCTRC Annual Meeting on March 15-17, 2017 in Central Valley, NY. Among other items, the agenda for the meeting includes review and acceptance of the annual budget, proposed standards changes, and standing committee reports. Newly elected Board Members and recently appointed Standing Committee members will begin their three-year terms commencing with the annual meeting. Please contact NCTRC if you have any questions regarding the annual meeting.

Please contact NCTRC at 845-639-1439 or nctrc@nctrc.org if you have any comments or questions.

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

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LINKS

[American Therapeutic Recreation Association](#)

[Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association](#)

[Institute for Credentialing Excellence](#)

[Therapeutic Recreation Directory](#)

[US Dept. of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)

Recreation Therapy Licensure Boards:

[New Hampshire](#)

[North Carolina](#)

[Oklahoma](#)

[Utah](#)



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

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