

## RNCM Practice Development Guide to Board Certification

While board certification is not required for practice in RNCM roles, many nurses are interested in achieving board certification as a part of their professional practice development. Board certification is a quality indicator of demonstrating knowledge, experience, and competence in a specific area of nursing practice and specialty credentialing is awarded after successfully passing a national exam.

Certification exams are offered through nationally recognized certifying organizations with most requiring practice experience in the role as part of the eligibility criteria. Each organization outlines their eligibility criteria and testing details and most provide test preparation and study materials to support your success in passing their exam.

As you consider how board certification fits with your professional goals, consider the following:

1. **What are my reasons for pursuing board certification?** Answering this question for yourself will help you decide whether board certification is a match for your professional goals as board certification requires an investment of time and money.
2. **Does this certification reflect my RNCM practice?** There are many different types of certifications, and it is important for you to select an exam that matches your practice role and experience.
3. **Is this exam focused on nurses or are other healthcare professionals also eligible to take the same exam?** This is important to some nurses and organizations as they are interested in achieving a credential that is specific to nursing. For example, a healthcare organization working to achieve magnet status may prefer that RNCMs pursuing specialty credentialing do so through ANCC as the American Nurses Credentialing Center is the testing and certification arm of the American Nurses Association that supports Magnet status.
4. **Will I be able to meet the criteria to renew my credential once I pass the exam?** Typically, credentials are renewed every 3-5 years depending on the certifying organization. Renewal requires the completion of a designated number of continuing education hours or activities and payment of a renewal fee. Make sure you review the renewal requirements to ensure that this is something that you'll be able to accomplish.
5. **Will I be able to use the National RNCM Certificate Program to meet Continuing Education requirements of a certifying organization?** Yes. Graduates of the National RNCM Certificate Program earn 32 CE and are positioned to meet the CE eligibility requirements for specialty credentialing through ANCC, the American Nurses Credentialing Center. ANCC professional development activities can be recognized by other certifying organizations and there is usually a simple review process you can follow to receive approval. The National RNCM Certificate Program can also be used to meet CE requirements for credentialing renewal.

Listed below are Board Certification Organizations that offer specialty credentialing in case management and related fields:

### Case Management Board Certification Organizations Most Commonly Selected by RNs:

Organization	Specialty Credential	Eligibility Criteria/Exam Details
<b>American Case Management Association</b> Focus: RNs, SWs working in a hospital system	ACM™ (Accredited Case Management Certification) CMAC (Case Management Administrator Certification)	<a href="https://www.acmaweb.org/acm/">https://www.acmaweb.org/acm/</a>
<b>American Nurses Credentialing Center®</b> Focus: RNs in RNCM practice	CMGT-BC™ (Nursing Case Management Board Certification)	<a href="https://www.nursingworld.org/our-certifications/nursing-case-management/">https://www.nursingworld.org/our-certifications/nursing-case-management/</a>
<b>Commission for Case Manager Certification</b> Focus: RNs, SWs, & other allied health professionals	CCM® (Certified Case Manager) CDMS® (Certified Disability Management Specialist)	<a href="https://ccmcertification.org/get-certified">https://ccmcertification.org/get-certified</a>
<b>National Academy of Certified Care Managers</b> Focus: RNs and other health professionals working in care management programs	CMC (Care Manager Certified)	<a href="https://www.naccm.net/">https://www.naccm.net/</a>

### Related Board Certification Organizations

Organization	Specialty Credential	Eligibility Criteria/Exam Details
<b>American Board of Managed Care Nursing</b> Focus: RNs, LPN/LVNs, LCSWs, LMSWs, LPCs and others may pursue eligibility	CMCN (Certified Managed Care Nurse) CMCP (Certified Managed Care Professional)	<a href="http://www.abmcn.org/">http://www.abmcn.org/</a>
<b>Association of Rehabilitation Nurses</b> Focus: RNs working in rehabilitation	CRRN® (Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse)	<a href="https://rehabnurse.org/crrn-certification/crrn-certification">https://rehabnurse.org/crrn-certification/crrn-certification</a>
<b>American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing</b> Focus: RNs working in care coordination/transitional care management	*CCCTM (Certified in Care Coordination and Transitional Care Management) <i>*Certification Exam is No Longer Offered/Renewal of Existing Credential Continues</i>	<a href="https://www.aaacn.org/certification/care-coordination-transition-management-certification">https://www.aaacn.org/certification/care-coordination-transition-management-certification</a>
<b>International Commission on Health Care Certification</b> Focus: RNs, health professionals, legal professionals	CGCM™ (Certified Geriatric Case Manager)	<a href="https://www.ichcc.org/certified-geriatric-care-manager-cgcm.html">https://www.ichcc.org/certified-geriatric-care-manager-cgcm.html</a>
<b>National Association of Social Workers</b> Focus: Bachelor & Master prepared SWs	C-SWCM (Certified Social Work Case Manager) C-ASWCM (Certified Advanced Social Work Case Manager)	<a href="https://www.socialworkers.org/">https://www.socialworkers.org/</a>
<b>Patient Advocate Certification Board</b> Focus: health related professionals working in patient advocacy	BCPA (Board Certified Patient Advocate)	<a href="https://www.pacboard.org/">https://www.pacboard.org/</a>
<b>Patient Experience Institute and The Beryl Institute</b> Focus: Healthcare patient experience professionals	CPXP (Certified Patient Experience Professional)	<a href="https://pxinstitute.org/">https://pxinstitute.org/</a>