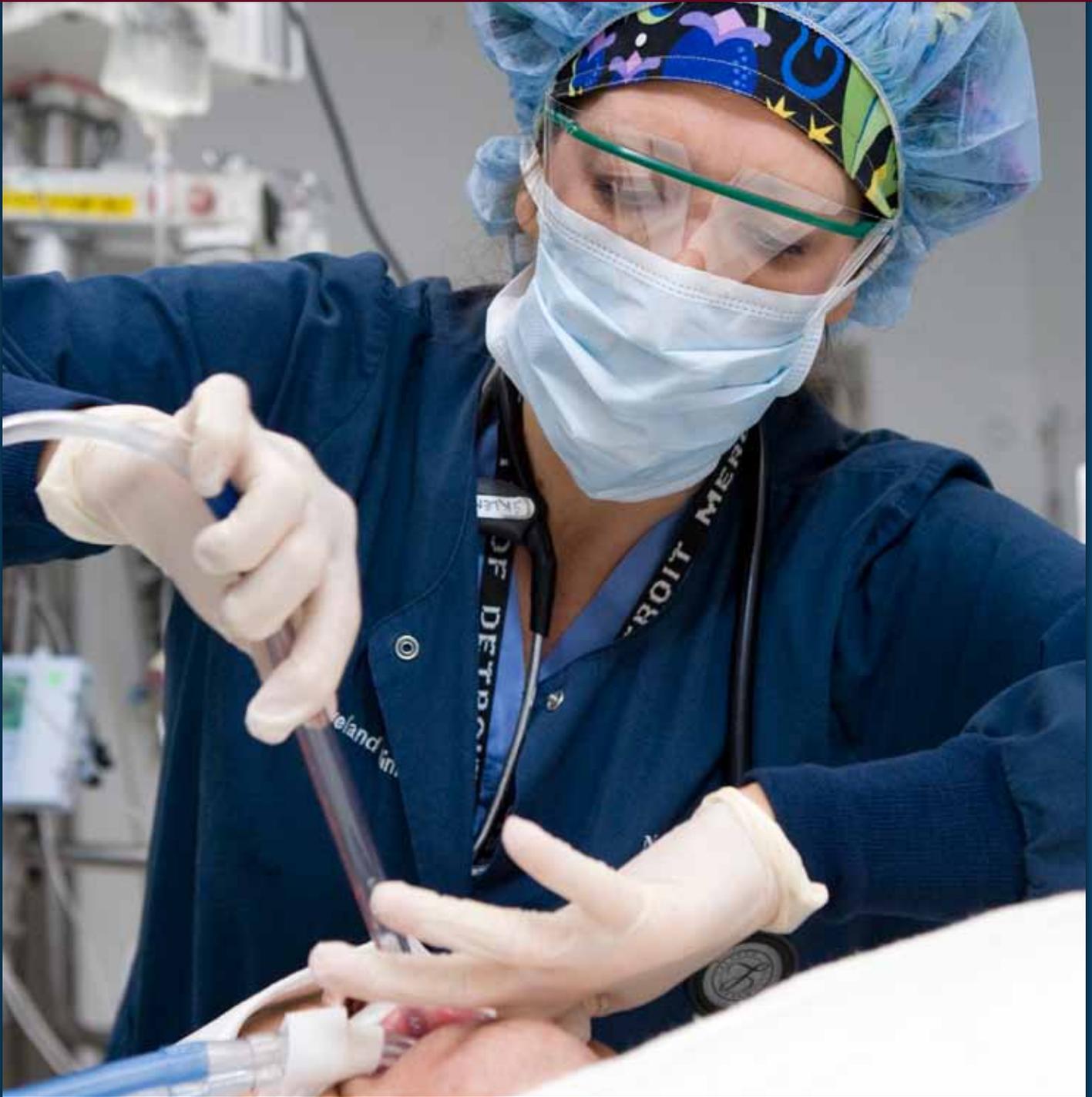


# Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

Continued Professional Certification Program



Recertification requirements approved by the  
National Board of Certification & Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists.

**NBCRNA**  
National Board of Certification & Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists

[www.NBCRNA.com](http://www.NBCRNA.com)

*Consumers* deserve to know that health care professionals not only are competent as they begin their careers, but also that they are exerting every effort to ensure that they remain competent throughout their careers. The fundamental basis for any health profession's interaction with the public must be demonstrable competence.

– Barger, M.; Camune, B.; Graves, B.; & Lamberto, J. (2009).  
The past, present and future of assessing continuing competency for midwives.  
Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health, 54 (5).

In 2012, the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA), adopted the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program as the new standard for recertification of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. The CPC Program takes effect January 1, 2016.





## General Requirements

### Licensure

Applicants for recertification must hold a current and valid registered nursing and/or advanced nursing practice license issued by the certificant's state board(s) of nursing.

### Initial Certification by NBCRNA

Applicants must be initially certified as a nurse anesthetist by NBCRNA or its predecessor(s).

### Length of Certification

Nurse anesthetists will be required to recertify every four years. A "progress audit" for each certificant will be completed every two years - individuals not completing at least half of the required components for recertification by that time will receive a letter reminding them of the four-year requirements.

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Should you have any questions along the way, please email [recertification@nbcrna.com](mailto:recertification@nbcrna.com) at any time to connect with a member of the recertification team.

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## Competency Modules

In every four-year certification cycle, candidates must complete four core competency modules, one in each of the following categories. The modules will qualify for assessed continuing education credits.

- Airway Management Techniques
- Applied Clinical Pharmacology
- Human Physiology and Pathophysiology
- Anesthesia Technology

## Recertification Examination

Beginning in 2016, nurse anesthetists will be required to take a recertification examination every eight years (every other four-year certification cycle):

For individuals certified before January 1, 2024, the first exam administration will be used for diagnostic purposes. Any nurse anesthetist who does not meet the passing standard in any major content area of the diagnostic exam will be required to complete additional continuing education credits in those content areas.

All nurse anesthetists will be required to meet a passing standard on the recertification exam at eight-year cycles by the year 2032 or 2033, depending on their certification cycle.

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Important dates	If you currently recertify in even years:
2014 - 2016	You must satisfy current requirements to recertify in 2016 (40 CE credits, practice requirement, etc.)
2016 - 2020	After recertifying under old requirements in 2016, you will begin to participate in the new CPC Program (annual assessed and non-assessed activities, required self-study modules). You will NOT take a recertification exam during this four-year certification cycle.
2020 - 2024	After recertifying in 2020, you must complete all CPC requirements, as well as a recertification examination before recertifying again in 2024. The examination is not pass/fail and will only be used as a diagnostic/developmental tool.
2024 - 2028	You must complete all annual CPC requirements. You will not take a recertification exam as part of this four-year certification cycle.
2028 - 2032	After recertifying in 2028, you will have to complete all CPC requirements, including a recertification examination, in order to recertify again in 2032. You will be required to pass the exam to maintain certification. You will be allowed four attempts.

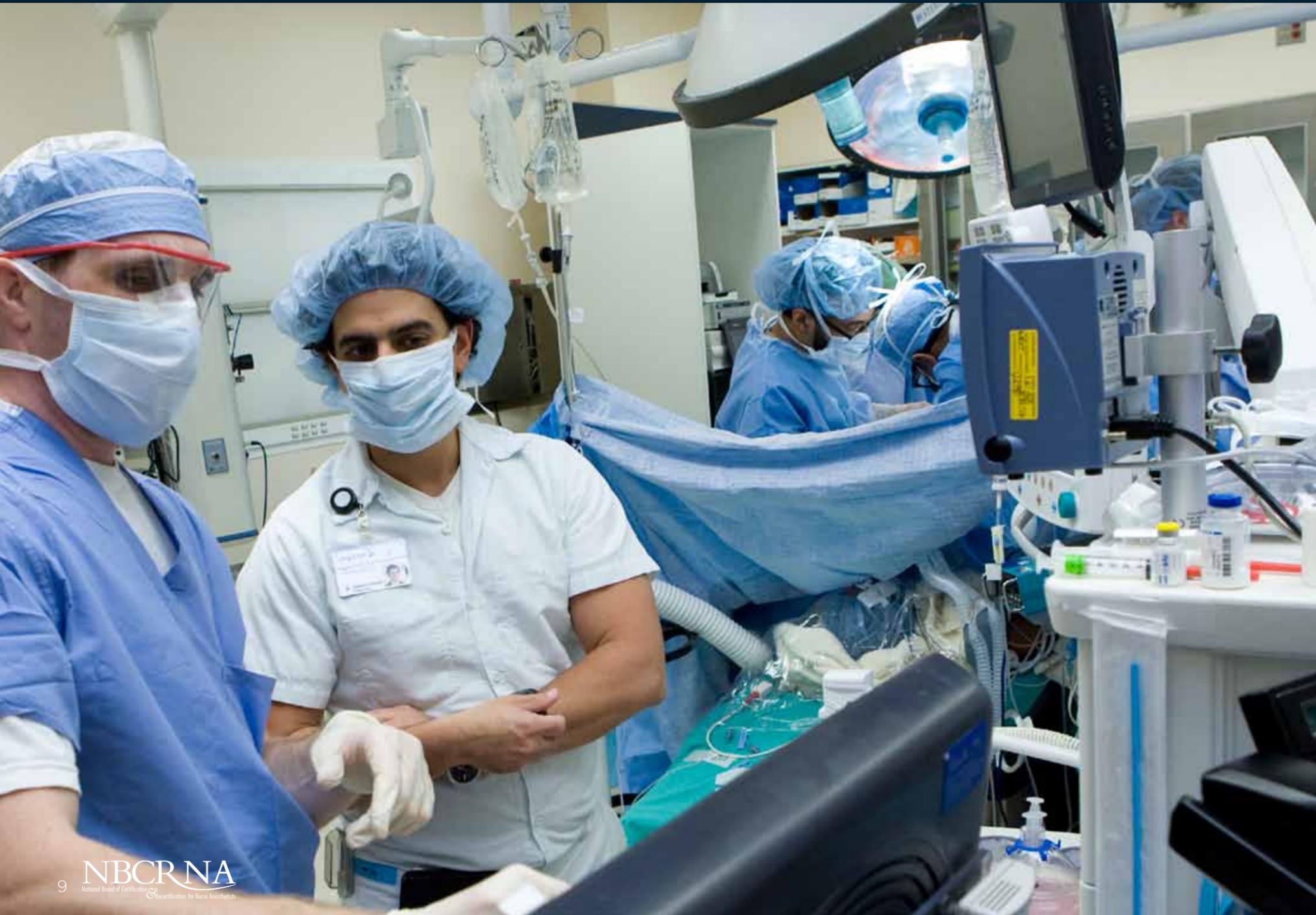
Important dates	If you currently recertify in odd years:
2015 - 2017	You must satisfy current requirements to recertify in 2017 (40 CE credits, practice requirement, etc.)
2017 - 2021	After recertifying under old requirements in 2017, you will begin to participate in the new CPC Program (annual assessed and non-assessed activities, required self-study modules). You will NOT take a recertification exam during this four-year certification cycle.
2021 - 2025	After recertifying in 2021, you must complete all CPC requirements, as well as a recertification examination before recertifying again in 2025. The examination is not pass/fail and will only be used as a diagnostic/developmental tool.
2025 - 2029	You must complete all annual CPC requirements. You will not take a recertification exam as part of this four-year certification cycle.
2029 - 2033	After recertifying in 2029, you will have to complete all CPC requirements, including a recertification examination, in order to recertify again in 2033. You will be required to pass the exam to maintain certification. You will be allowed four attempts.

## Criteria for Re-entry to Certification

NBCRNA will create a re-entry program with predetermined criteria for re-entry after lapsed certification.

## Professional Work Practice Requirements

The NBCRNA will no longer require practice hours for recertification once the CPC Program begins.



## Continuing Education

Continuing education requirements will be divided into “assessed” and “non-assessed” components.

15 assessed (include an end-of-activity assessment of learning) CE units per year required

10 non-assessed (professional activities with or without end-of-activity assessments) units per year required

Assessed units must have prior approval; non-assessed units are self-monitored but subject to NBCRNA audit

*Operational aspects of this program are in development and this brochure is not a comprehensive statement of all program requirements.*

# NBCRNA

- Ira P. Gunn, MLN, CRNA, FAAN

*The escalating speed with which science and technology advances has led many to conclude that the half-life of learning is growing exceedingly short, thereby making it even more important to validate health care professionals' currency of knowledge and continuing competence on a periodic basis.*

Promoting patient safety by enhancing provider quality.



**NBCRNA**  
is recognized as  
the leader in  
advanced practice  
nurse credentialing

The National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) is a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the state of Illinois. The NBCRNA's two councils, the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists (CCNA) and the Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (COR), carry out the credentialing activities of the NBCRNA.

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