

Your Recertification Survival Guide

Stay Certified with Confidence

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| 1 | How many credits do I need to recertify? | You need 45 credits in your recertification application. 15 credits can be in general nursing, while the remaining 30 must be in the 4 core specialties. |
| 2 | What is the difference between a contact hour, CE, CEU and CNE? | CNE's, CEU's and CE's are the same as contact hours. 1 contact hour = 1 CE = 1 CEU = 1 CNE |
| 3 | Can I use CME/AMA credits in my recertification application? | CME and ANA credits are the same. You may use up to 15 CME/AMA credits in your application. The other 30 hours must be CEU's. |
| 4 | It says that I need 2 contact hours in patient safety, and my OSHA course was 4 hours. Can I use this credit for my patient safety requirement? | You may use your OSHA training course in your recertification application, but it will only count toward 1 hour of patient safety. You are required to have 2 separate patient safety contact hours, for example, and OSHA training course and a HIPPA training course would fulfill the requirement. |
| 5 | I recertified in November of 2022, but did not use my credits from ISPAN 2022, can I use those credits in my 2025 recertification? | No - all credits in your application must have been published in your 3-year certification period. Since ISPAN was in October of 2022 and your certification was renewed in November of 2022, these credits do not fall within the 3-year period. |
| 6 | When can I start uploading documents into my recertification application? | One month after you have recertified, you are able to begin your next recertification application. We suggest uploading your contact hours as you earn them. The application will save all progress, and makes it easier when your application is due! |
| 7 | I have both CPSN and CANS certifications, can I use the same credits for both? | Yes - as long as the contact hours used fit the requirements for both CANS and CPSN, you may use the same credits for both applications. |

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8	I returned to school to work on my BSN/MSN/PhD, can I use any of my course credits for my recertification?	Yes - these courses will meet the criteria for Category B: Academic Courses. One semester credit equals 15 contact hours.
9	What are the Core Specialties?	Plastic/Aesthetic Surgery, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Cosmetic Surgery or Facial Plastic Surgery (ENT)
10	Where in the application do I put my credits in the core specialties?	Form A: Core Specialty Programs
11	Where in the application do I put my general nursing credits?	Form D: General Nursing and Healthcare Programs
12	Can I use my ISPAN credits in my recertification application?	Of course! All credits offered at the ISPAN Annual Meeting may be used in your application, as long as they are within your 3-year certification period.
13	I still need a few more credits. My application is due in a week. Where can I get credits online?	If you go to PSNCB.org and click on the "resources" tab, there is a list of online resources that offer virtual CEU's. We recommend Medscape, StatPearls, NurseCE4Less, NursingCenter and the PSN Journal.
14	I used a journal article that I took within my 3-year certification period, but it wasn't accepted. Why?	All journal articles must have been <i>published</i> within the 3-year certification period. This credit was likely denied due to the article being published prior to the certification period.
15	Do I have to submit the recertification application to maintain my certification?	No, nurses may choose to recertify by taking the certification exam, in lieu of completing the recertification application.

Plastic Surgical Nursing Certification Board