

# Why is certification important?

## Certified nurses offer:



### Knowledge

Certified nurses have tested knowledge beyond entry-level care



### Experience

Certified nurses have met rigorous requirements for experience in their specialty



### Confidence

Provide employers with a level of confidence beyond an RN licensure alone

Find out more about how certified nurses can enhance patient care, professional staff and your image at [www.oncc.org](http://www.oncc.org).

## About ONCC

The mission of ONCC is to promote health and safety by validating competence and ensuring life-long learning in oncology nursing and related specialties. All ONCC certifications with active examinations are nationally accredited.



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Rev. 1/2017

## References

<sup>1</sup> Coleman, E.A. Effect of Certification in Oncology Nursing on Nursing Sensitive Outcomes. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*. Volume 13, Number 2.

<sup>2</sup> Wood, D. 2011 Salary Survey Shows Experienced Nurses Gaining Ground. *Nursezone.com*. Retrieved April 1, 2011 from [http://www.nursezone.com/Nursing-News-Events/more-news/Salary-Survey-Shows-Experienced-Nurses-Gaining-Ground\\_36634.aspx](http://www.nursezone.com/Nursing-News-Events/more-news/Salary-Survey-Shows-Experienced-Nurses-Gaining-Ground_36634.aspx).

<sup>3</sup> Value of Specialty Nursing Certification Survey. May 2006. American Board of Nursing Specialties.

# Employer Support for Certification



## Certifications available

- **OCN®** (Oncology Certified Nurse) — basic level certification focusing on adult care
- **CPHON®** (Certified Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurse) — basic level certification in pediatric hematology/oncology nursing
- **AOCNP®** (Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse Practitioner) — role-specific certification for nurse practitioners in adult oncology
- **AOCNS®** (Advanced Oncology Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist) — role-specific certification for clinical nurse specialists in adult oncology
- **CBCN®** (Certified Breast Care Nurse) — comprehensive certification for nurses who practice in breast care nursing
- **BMTCN®** (Blood & Marrow Transplant Certified Nurse) — comprehensive certification in blood and marrow stem cell transplantation nursing
- **AOCN®** (Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse) — advanced certification in adult oncology (available for renewal only)
- **CPON®** (Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse) — basic level certification in pediatric oncology nursing (available for renewal only)



## Certification is an investment

Certification is an investment in your:

- Staff's professional development
- Facility's commitment to providing quality care
- Public image

## Supporting certification in oncology nursing can help your institution:



Recruit qualified nurses



Retain experienced nurses



Meet a growing demand for cancer care



Respond to public preferences



Meet accreditation standards



## How to encourage certification

You can encourage certification by:

- Providing financial support
- Distributing certification information
- Recognizing certified nurses
- Offering salary incentives to certified nurses

### Financial support can include:

- Reimburse test fees and expenses
- Provide paid time off for review courses and to take the test
- Host on-site review courses
- Purchase test prep materials

### Recognition can include:

- Send a congratulatory letter from the CEO to newly certified nurses
- Present certified nurses with a credential pin
- Publish names and photos of nurses on your website, newsletter, or social media pages
- Nominate a nurse for an ONCC award

### Other encouragement can include:

- Recruit an advocate within your institution to promote certification benefits
- Host a certification fair
- Organize study groups
- Profile certified nurses on website or social media pages