ONCC
Oncology Nursing
Certification Corporation

Overview

The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC) is a non-profit organization that develops, administers, and evaluates programs for certification in oncology nursing. ONCC was incorporated in 1984 and is governed by a Board of Directors, who represent various levels of certification in oncology nursing and the public at large. ONCC administered its first certification examination, the Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN®) examination in 1986. Today, ONCC offers eight credential programs. More than 39,000 nurses are currently certified by ONCC.

Mission & Vision

The mission of ONCC is to promote health and safety by validating competence and ensuring life-long learning in oncology nursing and related specialties.

The vision of ONCC is that oncology care across the continuum is provided by oncology certified professionals.

Overview

OCN® - Oncology Certified Nurse. Basic-level certification focusing on adult care.

CPHON® - Certified Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurse. Basic-level certification in pediatric hematology oncology.

AOCNP® - Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse Practitioner. Advanced level, role-specific certification for nurse practitioners in adult oncology.

CBCN® - Certified Breast Care Nurse. Specialty certification in breast care nursing.

BMTCN® - Blood and Marrow Transplant Certified Nurse. Specialty certification in BMT nursing.

AOCNS® - Advanced Oncology Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist. Advanced level certification for the clinical nurse specialist in adult oncology (available for renewal only).

AOCN® - Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse. An advanced level of certification focusing on adult care (available for renewal only).

CPON® - Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse. Basic level certification in pediatric oncology (available for renewal only)

Certification Eligibility

All ONCC certification candidates must hold a current, active, unencumbered RN license to be eligible to take an examination. In addition, each ONCC certification has specific eligibility criteria for education and experience that must be met before the candidate takes the examination. These specific criteria can be found on oncc.org and in the Test Registration Manual.

Certification Testing

Certification is granted to candidates who meet the eligibility criteria and successfully complete a comprehensive multiple-choice examination. Examinations are offered at nearly 300 computer-based testing centers in North America.

Certification Testing

ONCC certification is valid for four years. There are three components to certification renewal: practice hours, professional development activities, and successful retesting. Two of these three components must be met in order to renew certification. Three renewal options are available, based on the combinations of these renewal components:
- Option 1: Practice hours + Professional Development Activities
- Option 2: Practice hours + Successful Testing
- Option 3: Professional Development Activities + Successful Testing.