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This publication contains information about the NBCRNA’s criteria for recertification. Nurse anesthetists are responsible for knowing the contents of this brochure. All correspondence and requests for information concerning recertification should be sent by email to the NBCRNA at recertification@nbcrna.com.

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This document was last updated January 2015

The NBCRNA does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, marital status, gender identity, physical or mental disability, medical condition or sexual orientation.

NBCRNA credentialing programs are accredited by the following organizations:
The National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) is a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the state of Illinois. NBCRNA credentialing provides assurances to the public that certified individuals have met objective, predetermined qualifications for providing nurse anesthesia services. A nurse anesthetist who is certified by the NBCRNA is expected to: respect basic human rights and the dignity of all patients; protect the patient from harm; advocate for the patient’s welfare and collaborate with other members of the health professions; be responsible and accountable for his or her actions; maintain confidentiality of patient information, except when disclosure is required by law; and maintain the knowledge and skill necessary for competent nurse anesthesia practice.

While state licensure provides the legal credential for the practice of professional nursing, private voluntary certification indicates compliance with the professional standards for practice in this clinical nursing specialty. The certification credential for nurse anesthetists has been institutionalized in many position descriptions as a practice requirement or as the standard for demonstrating equivalency. It has been recognized in state nurse practice acts and state rules and regulations.

The primary purpose of the NBCRNA is to seek to ensure that nurse anesthetists have the necessary knowledge and skills to practice safely and effectively. In so doing, it also protects the value of the CRNA credential. The NBCRNA has designed objective criteria intended to determine whether an individual holding the NBCRNA-issued CRNA credential is properly licensed, has attested to engagement in the practice of nurse anesthesia; has participated in continuing education and other activities sufficient to indicate an effort to keep current with advances, and is free of any mental, physical, or other problems that may interfere with the practice of nurse anesthesia. Whenever program eligibility criteria are developed and/or revised, the NBCRNA engages multiple stakeholders to ensure appropriate consideration has been given as to the impact of NBCRNA decisions.

NCCA defines competence as "the ability to perform a task, function, or role up to a set of prescribed standards" (NCCA, 2014) and continuing competence as demonstrating "specified levels of knowledge, skills, or abilities not only at the time of initial certification but also throughout an individual’s professional career" (NCCA, 2014). These concepts serve as the foundation underpinning the NBCRNA certification and continued certification programs.

**Vision**
The vision of the NBCRNA is to be recognized as the leader in advance practice nurse credentialing.

**Mission**
The mission of the NBCRNA is to promote patient safety through credentialing programs that support lifelong learning.

**History**
The primary certification program for nurse anesthetists was introduced by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) in 1945. It was initially administered by the Credentials Committee of the AANA. In 1975, the AANA approved the establishment of councils for the accreditation and certification processes, and the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists (CCNA) assumed the responsibility for the National Certification Examination (NCE). By this action, the profession recognized that credentialing mechanisms, which include examination and certification, function to protect and benefit the public.
Realizing that evidence of continued professional excellence was becoming increasingly important in our society, the AANA Board of Directors in 1968 directed the AANA Education Committee to study the issue of recertification. At the AANA Annual Meeting in 1969, a bylaw was adopted to establish an optional program to provide certificates to members who had demonstrated they had completed clinical and didactic experiences reflective of the changes in nurse anesthesia practice within a five-year period. Recognizing that continuing education provides one means to assess current educational and knowledge levels of practitioners, a mandatory continuing education program was adopted by the AANA membership at the 1976 Annual Meeting, with full implementation effective August 1, 1978.

In September 1978, the AANA membership adopted the bylaw revisions providing for an organizational restructuring of the Association and establishing a Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (COR). Bylaw provisions granting the COR autonomy were adopted in 1983. In 2007, the CCNA and the COR became independent of the AANA, and together they incorporated as the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA).

With its continued mission to promote patient safety, the NBCRNA will implement the Nonsurgical Pain Management subspecialty certification in 2015 and the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program in 2016.

**Purpose**
The NBCRNA is the organization charged with protecting and serving the public by assuring that individuals who are credentialed have met predetermined qualifications or standards for providing nurse anesthesia services.

No national organization can expect to determine the specific procedures that any individual nurse anesthetist is qualified to perform. Neither can any national organization determine whether an individual nurse anesthetist may have developed an impairment that could interfere with the proper administration of anesthesia. Ultimately, these judgments must be entrusted to the individual nurse anesthetist and to those with whom he or she works.

**Structure**
The NBCRNA Board of Directors is composed of nurse anesthetists who hold the NBCRNA-issued CRNA credential and who are actively engaged in clinical practice or in teaching or administration of a nurse anesthesia educational program; a board-certified surgeon and a board-certified anesthesiologist, both of whom have a current working relationship with nurse anesthetists; and a representative of the public at large.

**NCCA Accreditation**
The primary certification and recertification programs of the NBCRNA are accredited through April 2017 by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), a private not-for-profit organization. The NCCA is the accrediting branch of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE), which is the national standard setting organization for credentialing groups, including certification boards, licensing boards, and associations. The NBCRNA (and before it, the CCNA and COR) has been continuously accredited by the NCCA since 1980.
NCCA accreditation means that the NBCRNA credentialing programs meet the highest national voluntary standards for private certification. It means that the programs have been reviewed by an impartial commission and deemed to have met the nationally accepted criteria and guidelines of the NCCA.

**ABSNC Accreditation**

The primary certification and recertification programs of the NBCRNA are accredited through July 2017 by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) of the American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS). The NBCRNA (and before it, the CCNA and COR) was one of the first national credentialing organizations to be recognized and accredited by the ABSNC.

The ABNS, established in 1991, is the national peer review program for specialty nursing credentialing organizations. ABNS serves as the national umbrella organization for nursing specialty certification boards authorized and recognized to certify nurse specialists in the United States. It promotes the highest quality of specialty nursing practice through the establishment of standards of professional specialty nursing certification.

**Recertification Overview**

Through the recertification process, the NBCRNA seeks to advance the quality of nurse anesthesia care provided to patients. Specifically, it endeavors to make sure that nurse anesthetists are maintaining their skills and keeping current with scientific and technological developments. It also strives to assure that appropriate limitations are placed on those who are known to have developed conditions that might adversely affect their ability to practice nurse anesthesia.

A nurse anesthetist who has satisfied the NBCRNA’s objective criteria receives recertification for a period of 2 years. Recertification is not and cannot be a guarantee of competence to perform all nurse anesthesia procedures. Full recertification is, however, an indication that the recertified nurse anesthetist has maintained a current license to practice, has exercised his or her skills, has participated in approved continuing education activities and is not known to have developed any impairment that could interfere with the practice of nurse anesthesia.

The NBCRNA also recognizes that some individuals who have not met the criteria for Full Recertification may nonetheless be qualified to practice, although sometimes subject to certain limitations. For this reason, the NBCRNA has created two categories of interim recertification. These categories are designed to reflect the particular situations of individual nurse anesthetists and to make potential employers or colleagues aware of these situations.

Finally, the NBCRNA seeks to conduct the recertification process in a fair manner. Accordingly, it gives nurse anesthetists an opportunity to seek review and appeal of an adverse decision. Throughout the recertification process, the NBCRNA attempts to keep an individual’s file confidential unless disclosure is authorized by the individual or required by law.

**Categories of Recertification**

The NBCRNA recognizes two categories of recertification: Full and Interim.
Full Recertification
Applicants who fulfill all recertification criteria are granted Full Recertification.

Interim Recertification
The two categories of Interim Recertification are Provisional Recertification and Conditional Recertification. The purpose of these two categories is to provide for those individuals who, for a specific reason and for a limited period of time, may not be in full compliance with all recertification criteria. A more complete description of these categories is set forth below in the Criteria covering Provisional Recertification and Conditional Recertification.

Criteria for Full Recertification

In order to receive Full Recertification, an applicant must comply with all of the following requirements:

Initial Certification
Receipt of initial certification by the NBCRNA or its predecessor.

Licensure
Documentation of compliance with all state requirements for licensure as a registered nurse performing nurse anesthesia, including a current unrestricted license to practice as a registered professional nurse, with authority to practice nurse anesthesia if such authority is granted, in at least one state and in all states in which the applicant currently holds an active license. For those individuals employed by the United States government, “state requirements” refer to the requirements of any state or territory of the United States.

Continuing Education
Documentation of completion of 40 hours of approved continuing education, as set forth in the Continuing Education Program of the AANA, within the two-year period prior to the applicant’s upcoming August 1 recertification date or, if the applicant’s recertification period is shorter than two years, within such shortened period prior to the applicant’s upcoming August 1 recertification date.

Nurse anesthetists may earn continuing education (CE) credits beginning the day after an individual's recertification application is approved.

Graduates of a program of anesthesia accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs who achieve a passing score on the National Certification Examination and are granted initial certification by the NBCRNA must earn 40 hours of approved continuing education from the date of initial certification through the applicant’s upcoming August 1 recertification date.

Practice
Certification by the applicant that he or she has been or will have been substantially engaged in the practice of nurse anesthesia during the 2-year period prior to the applicant’s upcoming August 1 recertification date and that the record of practice is accurate.
Substantial engagement in the practice of nurse anesthesia generally should consist of a minimum of 850 hours of practice over the 2-year recertification period. Because individual practice experiences vary, it is the responsibility of the applicant to assess whether his or her practice experience constitutes substantial engagement and to so certify.

The practice of nurse anesthesia may include clinical practice, nurse anesthesia-related administrative, educational or research activities, or a combination of two or more of such areas of practice. To be nurse anesthesia-related, activities must have as their primary objective and be directly related to the delivery of anesthesia care to patients or the improvement of delivery of anesthesia care to patients.

The decision as to whether an applicant has satisfied the practice requirement is at the discretion of the NBCRNA.

**Certifications by the Applicant**
Each applicant must make the following certifications:

1. That his or her license has never been revoked, restricted, suspended or limited by any state, has never been surrendered, and is not the subject of a pending action or investigation.
2. That he or she does not currently suffer from a mental or physical condition which might interfere with the practice of nurse anesthesia.
3. That he or she does not currently suffer from drug or alcohol addiction or abuse.
4. That he or she is not currently participating in a drug-related, alcohol-related or other type of treatment, monitoring or rehabilitation program, including any voluntary programs even if disclosure is not required by the state.
5. That he or she has not been convicted of, and is not currently under indictment for, any felony.
6. That he or she has not been the subject of any documented allegations of gross incompetence, unprofessional behavior or unethical conduct.
7. That he or she has been or will have been substantially engaged in the practice of nurse anesthesia during the 2-year period prior to the applicant’s upcoming August 1 recertification date, and that the record of practice submitted with the application is accurate.

If the applicant does not so certify, he or she must provide full documentation of the reasons therefore with sufficient specificity to allow the NBCRNA to evaluate the possible impact of the problem or action on the applicant’s current ability to practice nurse anesthesia, and to resolve the issue to the NBCRNA’s satisfaction.

**Waiver of Liability and Confidentiality Statements**
Each applicant for recertification must, by his or her signature, agree that he or she has read, understands, and intends to be legally bound by these statements.
Criteria for Interim Recertification: Provisional

Provisional Recertification — Pending Fulfillment of Practice Requirement

1. **Applicability.** The NBCRNA may grant Provisional Recertification to applicants who are currently able to practice nurse anesthesia but have not been substantially engaged in the practice of nurse anesthesia during the two-year period prior to the applicant’s upcoming August 1 recertification date and, therefore, do not meet the practice criterion of the Criteria for Recertification. The Provisional Recertification card granted under this paragraph shall state that the nurse anesthetist does not have the current practice experience required for Full Recertification.

2. **Eligibility.** In order to be eligible for Provisional Recertification - Pending Fulfillment of Practice Requirement applicants must:
   a. Comply with all recertification criteria other than the practice criterion set forth in the Criteria for Full Recertification; and
   b. Submit all application materials required for recertification in the Application for Recertification section; and
   c. Fulfill the applicable requirements set forth in section 3, 4 or 5 below, as applicable to the individual’s prior engagement in practice.

3. **No substantial engagement for two to three years.** For applicants who have not been substantially engaged in nurse anesthesia practice for more than two years but who practiced substantially within three years prior to the next upcoming August 1 recertification date:
   a. Provisional Recertification may be granted if the applicant:
      (1) meets the criteria set forth in sections 2(a) and (b) above; and
      (2) submits a record of practice as set forth in the Application for Recertification section, demonstrating substantial engagement in nurse anesthesia practice within the past three years.
   b. Provisional Recertification granted under section 3 will expire automatically on the July 31 following the date of issuance unless:
      (1) the Provisional Recertification period was less than twelve months, in which case it may be extended upon request until the following July 31; or
      (2) the applicant submits documentation of substantial engagement in nurse anesthesia practice during the Provisional Recertification period, in which case Full Recertification may be granted; or
      (3) the applicant petitions the NBCRNA for an extension of Provisional Recertification stating the reasons why an extension is warranted, in which case the NBCRNA will review the petition and may, in its discretion grant an extension for such period as the NBCRNA deems appropriate.

4. **No substantial engagement for three to five years.** For applicants who have not been substantially engaged in nurse anesthesia practice for more than three years but who practiced substantially within five years prior to the upcoming August 1 recertification date:
   a. Provisional Recertification may be granted if the applicant:
(1) meets the criteria set forth in sections 2(a) and (b) above; and 
(2) submits a record of practice as set forth in the Application for Recertification section, 
demonstrating substantial engagement in nurse anesthesia practice within the past five years; and 
(3) submits documentation of enrollment in the NBCRNA Refresher Program.

b. Provisional Recertification granted under section 4 will expire automatically on the July 31 
following the date of issuance unless:

(1) the Provisional Recertification period was less than 12 months, in which case it may be 
extended upon request until the following July 31; or 
(2) the applicant submits documentation of (i) successful completion of the applicable 
refresher requirements, and (ii) substantial engagement in nurse anesthesia practice 
during the Provisional Recertification period, in which case Full Recertification may be 
granted; or 
(3) the applicant petitions the NBCRNA for an extension of Provisional Recertification 
stating the reasons why an extension is warranted, in which case the NBCRNA will 
review the petition and may, in its discretion, grant an extension for such period as the 
NBCRNA deems appropriate.

5. No substantial engagement for more than five years. For applicants who have not been 
substantially engaged in nurse anesthesia practice for more than five years prior to the upcoming 
August 1 recertification date:

a. Provisional Recertification may be granted if the applicant:

(1) meets the criteria set forth in sections 2(a) and (b) above; and 
(2) submits documentation of enrollment in the NBCRNA Refresher Program.

b. In order to obtain Full Recertification, the applicant also must achieve a passing score on the 
National Certification Examination (NCE) administered by the NBCRNA.

c. Provisional Recertification granted under section 5 will expire automatically on the July 31 
following the date of issuance unless:

(1) the Provisional Recertification period was less than 12 months, in which case it may be 
extended upon request until the following July 31; or 
(2) the applicant submits documentation of (i) successful completion of the applicable 
refresher requirements, (ii) achievement of a passing score on the National 
Certification Examination (NCE), and (iii) substantial engagement in nurse anesthesia 
practice during the Provisional Recertification period, in which case Full Recertification 
may be granted; or 
(3) the applicant petitions the NBCRNA for an extension of Provisional Recertification 
stating the reasons why an extension is warranted, in which case the NBCRNA will 
review the petition and may, in its discretion, grant an extension for such period as the 
NBCRNA deems appropriate.

6. Refresher Requirements. A clinical refresher program must be established in conjunction with another 
certified registered nurse anesthetist or an anesthesiologist and must be conducted at an accredited 
medical facility located within the United States or its territories. An accredited medical facility is
defined as currently holding accreditation as granted by a national facility accreditor such as The Joint Commission. The refresher program must be prior-approved by the NBCRNA.

An applicant has up to 24 months to complete the Refresher Requirements. If the requirements have not been completed within 24 months, the applicant must reapply and begin the refresher course again unless the NBCRNA, in its discretion, determines that extraordinary circumstances warrant further extension.

7. NCE Requirements. An individual who is required to retake and pass the NCE may attempt the examination up to four times within one year from the date of official notification that the didactic and clinical requirements of the Refresher Program have been completed. The nurse anesthetist must successfully pass the exam within that time frame.

8. Early Application for Full Recertification. Applicants who complete the applicable requirements for Full Recertification prior to the expiration of their Provisional Recertification may apply to the NBCRNA for Full Recertification at such earlier date.

9. Limitations. The NBCRNA, in its discretion, may deny an applicant more than one period of Provisional Recertification or may extend a Provisional Recertification period for only a limited time.

Provisional Recertification — Pending Completion of Treatment, Monitoring or Rehabilitation Program
The NBCRNA may grant Provisional Recertification to an applicant who is participating in a drug-related, alcohol-related or other type of treatment, monitoring or rehabilitation program provided that the applicant has satisfied all of the Criteria for Recertification. The Provisional Recertification card granted under this paragraph shall state that the nurse anesthetist is provisionally recertified. Upon receipt of documentation of successful completion of such a program, the NBCRNA may grant Full Recertification.

Provisional Recertification — Pending Outcome of Investigation or Disciplinary or Legal Action
The NBCRNA may, at its discretion, grant provisional recertification if an applicant’s license is the subject of a pending investigation, or if the applicant is awaiting the outcome of a pending disciplinary or legal action, hearing, trial or appeal. The Provisional Recertification card granted under this paragraph shall state that the nurse anesthetist is provisionally recertified. Upon resolution of the investigation or the disciplinary or legal action, the NBCRNA will grant or deny recertification.

Criteria for Interim Recertification: Conditional
Grant of Conditional Recertification
Applicants who have a restricted license to practice professional nursing and, where applicable, nurse anesthesia, in any state in which the applicant currently holds an active license, or whose license is on probation or conditioned upon meeting certain requirements, may be granted Conditional Recertification provided that all other recertification requirements have been fulfilled. The Conditional Recertification will reflect any conditions imposed by the appropriate state licensure authority. Examples of a restricted license include a license to practice only under supervision and a license to practice provided the individual remains in a drug-related,
alcohol-related or other type of treatment, monitoring or rehabilitation program for a stated period. The Conditional Recertification card granted under this paragraph shall state that recertification is conditioned on the individual’s compliance with the terms of his or her license conditions.

Conditional Recertification Period
Conditional Recertification shall remain in effect as long as the individual complies with all terms of the conditions on his or her license. It shall be revoked for failure to comply. The nurse anesthetist shall be responsible for providing the NBCRNA with written documentation from the state board of nursing that he or she has complied with all licensure conditions for the requisite period of time.

Change in Status

1. Full Recertification may be changed to Conditional Recertification for failure to maintain an unrestricted license to practice professional nursing and, where applicable, nurse anesthesia, in all states in which the applicant currently holds an active license.

2. A request to change Conditional Recertification to Full Recertification must be accompanied by official written documentation from the state board of nursing sufficient to demonstrate that any licensure condition has been removed.

3. The decision to change an individual’s recertification status is at the discretion of the NBCRNA.

Application for Recertification

In order to be recertified, each applicant must submit the following materials to the NBCRNA:

1. Application and Fee(s)

   A completed, signed, electronic Recertification Application, including, but not limited to, acceptable documentation of continuing education credit and payment of all recertification fees, must be received by the NBCRNA no later than the July 31 expiration date of the applicant’s current recertification or the first date on which a nurse anesthetist is eligible to recertify. However, to allow adequate time for processing and verification of information, application materials should be submitted to the NBCRNA at least 4 weeks prior to the July 31 expiration date.

2. Documentation of Licensure

   a. Every applicant must document that he or she has a current and unrestricted license to practice as a registered professional nurse, with authority to practice nurse anesthesia if such authority is granted, in at least one state and in all states in which the applicant currently holds an active license. For those individuals employed by the United States government, the license may be issued by any state or territory of the United States.

   b. If the applicant has practiced in more than one state during the prior 2-year period, the applicant must provide appropriate documentation of licensure for the relevant time of practice in each state shown on the applicant’s record of practice.

3. Documentation of Continuing Education

   Acceptable documentation of completion of 40 hours of approved continuing education, as set forth in the AANA Continuing Education Program, must be received by the NBCRNA no later than the applicant’s July 31 expiration date, but preferably at least 4 weeks prior to the July 31 deadline.
4. Documentation of Practice
   Every applicant must submit a record of practice setting forth:
   a. a list of the facilities at which the applicant has practiced clinical nurse anesthesia or performed nurse anesthesia-related administrative, educational or research services within the preceding two-year period;
   b. the applicant’s title at each facility, such as "practitioner" or "educator";
   c. the address of each facility;
   d. the name and phone number of a contact person who can verify employment at each facility; and
   e. the inclusive dates of practice at each facility.
5. Effective Date of Recertification
   a. If an applicant has complied with all recertification criteria and the NBCRNA has received and approved a complete application by the July 31 deadline, the effective date of recertification will be August 1.
   b. If an applicant has not complied with the recertification criteria by the July 31 deadline, or the NBCRNA has not received and approved a complete application by July 31, the effective date of recertification will be the date on which the recertification criteria have been satisfied and a complete application has been received and approved by the NBCRNA. In such cases an applicant’s recertification period will be shortened accordingly. The NBCRNA will not, under any circumstances, extend the July 31 expiration date for compliance with recertification criteria.
6. Audit Policy
   a. All information provided by the applicant during the recertification process may be subject to audit and verification by the NBCRNA.
   b. If an applicant’s record is selected for audit, he or she must submit all requested materials to the NBCRNA electronically within five calendar days from the date the NBCRNA’s request is received.
   c. Refusal to comply with the audit process may, at the discretion of the NBCRNA, result in disciplinary action, including revocation of recertification, in accordance with the NBCRNA Policies and Procedures for Discipline and Appeals.

Procedures
Confidentiality
Any information or material that is received or generated by the NBCRNA in connection with testing, the certification of a candidate, the recertification or CPC compliance of a nurse anesthetist, or any NBCRNA review, disciplinary or appeal proceeding, will be kept confidential and will not be released except where release is authorized by the individual or required by law. However, the following information may be disclosed: the name of the nurse anesthesia educational program attended, dates of attendance, completion date, certification eligible status, certification status, dates of recertification or CPC compliance, current recertification or CPC compliance status, and reportable disciplinary actions. The NBCRNA may use de-identified information from an application and any subsequent examination(s) for the purpose of statistical analysis.
The NBCRNA shares certificant name, address, and certification/recertification/CPC compliance status with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and individual state boards of nursing. The NBCRNA shares alumni information (i.e., name, phone number, and USPS and email addresses) with the graduate nurse anesthesia educational program when requested, provided the alumnus has given the NBCRNA the permission to do so.

The NBCRNA shares certificant name, address, phone number, nurse anesthesia educational program information, certification/recertification/CPC compliance status, and CE earning period with the AANA unless the certificant indicates on his/her NBCRNA profile page that addresses and phone numbers should not be shared with the AANA.

Consent to Investigation
Submission of an application for recertification constitutes consent to investigation and verification by the NBCRNA or its designee of the applicant’s license status, continuing education, record of practice, and other matters which may impact on the applicant’s compliance with the Criteria for Recertification. Investigation and/or verification may be conducted either on a random basis or if, in the sole discretion of the NBCRNA, such investigation and/or verification is warranted by the facts presented by a specific application.

Duty to Notify NBCRNA of Change in Compliance with Criteria
If, at any time during the recertification period, there is a change in an individual’s continued compliance with the recertification criteria, the individual must promptly notify the NBCRNA of the change, and the individual’s recertification status will, if appropriate, be modified accordingly. Failure to notify the NBCRNA of any such change may, at the discretion of the NBCRNA, result in disciplinary action, including revocation of recertification.

Evaluation of Information by the NBCRNA
The NBCRNA may consider, investigate and evaluate any information which, in its judgment, may affect an individual’s compliance with the recertification criteria. On the basis of any such information, the NBCRNA may determine that cause exists to revoke an individual’s recertification. Such information may also be referred to an appropriate outside body for further investigation. The NBCRNA shall have no obligation to investigate the professional standing of any nurse anesthetist or to refer any information to an outside body.

Change of Name or Address
It is the responsibility of every nurse anesthetist to notify the NBCRNA of a change of name, address or email address. The claim that an applicant did not receive information from the NBCRNA, or that an applicant submitted material that was not received by the NBCRNA, will not excuse the applicant from payment of a reinstatement fee, from non-retroactive recertification, from non-renewal of recertification, or from other appropriate sanctions.

Recertification Period
Full Recertification is effective for a period of up to two years. Recertification granted on August 1 expires two years later on July 31. Recertification granted at any time other than August 1 expires on July 31, two years following the August 1 immediately preceding the date on which recertification was granted. Recertification expires automatically at the end of the recertification period unless renewed.

Interim Recertification may be granted for a period of less than two years at the discretion of the NBCRNA.
New Graduates

New graduates of nurse anesthesia educational programs accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) who achieve a passing score on the National Certification Examination (NCE) and are granted initial certification by the NBCRNA must comply with all of the requirements of the Criteria for Full or Interim Recertification and must submit all of the materials required in the Application for Recertification section.

Discipline and Appeals

Candidates for certification and certified registered nurse anesthetists may be subject to disciplinary review based on irregular behavior; fraudulent credentials; or legal, regulatory or credentialing actions. Review and appeal of reportable disciplinary actions or adverse decisions affecting certification or recertification may be available pursuant to NBCRNA Policies and Procedures for Discipline and Appeals, which can be accessed on the NBCRNA website, www.NBCRNA.com, or requested from the NBCRNA.

Transition to the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Program

Effective August 1, 2016, the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) program will replace the current 2-year recertification program. As of that date, maintenance of certification and achievement of CPC-compliance will be determined in accordance with the criteria for Continued Professional Certification. Additional CPC Program information will be disseminated over the next year.

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