

WOCNCB® Comparison of Wound Certification Programs*

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	WOCNCB® Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board	NAWC® National Alliance of Wound Care	AAWM American Academy of Wound Management	
Credential(s) Offered	<p>CWCN® – Certified Wound Care Nurse</p> <p>CWOCN®, COCN®, CCCN®, CWON™, plus Advanced Practice credentialing in wound, ostomy, or continence nursing. Foot care certification offered for RNs at all levels (CFCN®).</p> <p>Credentials are offered to Registered Nurses with a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree.</p> <p>Established: 1978 Term of Certification: 5 years</p>	<p>WCC® – Wound Care Certified</p> <p>Credentials are offered to Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical/ Vocational Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Physical Therapists, Physical Therapy Assistants, Occupational Therapists, Physicians, or Physician's Assistants with active, unrestricted licenses.</p> <p>Established : 2002 Term of Certification: 5 years</p>	<p>CWS® - Certified Wound Specialist</p> <p>Credentials are offered to any licensed healthcare professional with a Bachelors, Doctoral or Master's degree in life sciences related field</p> <p>Established: 1995 Term of Certification: 10 years</p>	<p>CWCA™ - Certified Wound Care Associate</p> <p>Credentials are offered to any licensed healthcare professional with at least 3 years clinical experience.</p> <p>Term of Certification: 10 years</p>
Accreditation	<p>American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS), the only national body to independently accredit nursing specialty certification programs. (CWOCN®, CWCN®, COCN®, CCCN®)</p> <p>National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), an administratively independent resource recognized as the authority on accreditation standards for professional certification organizations/programs. (CWOCN®, CWCN®, COCN®, CCCN®)</p>	<p>National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), an administratively independent resource recognized as the authority on accreditation standards for professional certification organizations/programs.</p>	<p>National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), an administratively independent resource recognized as the authority on accreditation standards for professional certification organizations or programs.</p>	<p>No independent accreditation of certification program.</p>
Entry-level Eligibility for Credential(s): Didactic Education and Clinical Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RN licensure AND • Bachelors Degree or higher AND • 40 hours of didactic wound specialty education in a WOCN Society-accredited single specialty wound care program and 20 additional hours dedicated to meet student learning needs. • 40 hours of precepted clinical practice in a WOCN Society accredited single- or tri-specialty wound care program <p>(Graduate and experiential options are also available)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professions listed above AND • Currently active in care of wound patients, or in management, education, or research directly related to wound care while actively licensed for at least two years full-time/four years part-time within the past five years • AND must meet ONE of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-day training program consisting of classroom training and lab practice • Current certification through AAWM or WOCNCB • Experiential Option <p>No additional supervised practicum required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupations listed above AND • Must have a Bachelors Degree or higher in a life sciences related field • Must have three (3) years of clinical experience in wound care <p>No additional supervised practicum required</p> <p>(Experience is part of the eligibility requirements.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupations listed above AND • Must have three years of clinical experience in wound care <p>No additional didactic education required</p> <p>No additional supervised practicum required</p> <p>(Experience is part of the eligibility requirements.)</p>
Exam Fees	<p>\$300 for the wound specialty certification plus \$50 for each additional specialty certification.</p>	<p>\$330 initial examination fee. No annual maintenance fees. For those taking the training course, exam fee is included in course fee. Visit www.wcei.net for current course fees.</p>	<p>\$550 initial exam fee with \$150 annual fee to maintain certification. (\$1900 total)</p>	<p>\$300 initial exam fee with \$150 annual fee to maintain. (\$1650 total)</p>
Recertification Requirements	<p>Successful completion of one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Examination (\$300 fee) Portfolio submission (minimum of 10 CE credits plus professional activities or projects related to specialty focus.) 	<p>Recertification Fee \$330. Successful completion of one of the following is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination • Wound Management Certification Training Course (no exam required) Visit www.wcei.net for current course fee. • Continuing Education (60 contact hours) • Continuing Education and Outreach Program (CEOP) (30 contact hours plus community outreach and publication, presentation, leadership or research) 	<p>Minimum of (6) CEUs annually. Self-Assessment examination every 10 years. Fee: \$400.</p>	<p>Minimum of (6) CEUs annually. Self-Assessment examination every 10 years. Fee: \$300</p>