



Certification UPDATE

Fall 2018

Keeping BONENT Members Informed



BONENT Announces a One-Time Certification Amnesty Program for 2019

In honor of the BONENT 45th Anniversary (1974 – 2019), BONENT announces a one-time Certification Amnesty Program, **only available in 2019**. This program is for those BONENT members whose certification expired 1-10 years ago: Did not need to stay certified, or

- Did not stay in dialysis, or
- Certified with another organization, or
- Were certified with another BONENT credential, or
- Could not afford and/or did not pay the Certification Annual Fees at the time.

To apply for this Amnesty Program, you must:

- Complete and sign the Recertification Application;
 - ◆ Check the box next to “Yes” on the Recertification Application:
 - You must have obtained at least 40 contact hours during the last 4 years
 - At least 30 of the 40 hours must be Nephrology-based CEs
 - The balance can be from General Health CE programs
 - ◆ OR use the one-time Waiver (if you have not used it in the past)
- Pay the \$200 expired certification fee;
- Your completed application and payment must be sent by mail only and received by BONENT between

January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. Do not fax or email the application.

Allow 4 weeks for the approval process. Once your application is approved, your certification will be reinstated and a new BONENT Certification Wallet Card will be mailed to you. Each year, you will be responsible for paying the BONENT Annual Fee to maintain your certification. You will have to recertify every 4 years.

You qualify for the Amnesty Program if your Certification Expiration Date (as noted on your current wallet card) is between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2017.

| TYPES OF RECERTIFICATION | SUBMIT IN 2019 | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | Recertification Form Due | Fees* | Continuing Education Hours Or Other |
| Regular | By your certification expiration date | Certification Fees paid up-to-date | 40 Hours of CE OR 1-time Waiver <i>(if not used in the past)</i> |
| Lapsed Certification | 2 - 12 mo. after your certification expiration date | \$100 + Outstanding Certification Fees | OR Take the exam |
| Expired Certification AMNESTY PERIOD | Jan. 1/09 – Dec 31/17 | \$200 | |

* Incomplete and returned check fees added where applicable.

Certification UPDATE

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**Board of Nephrology Examiners
Nursing & Technology**



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Look at How BONENT is Helping You Achieve Your Recertification

The 2019 Certification Amnesty Program

As you see this issue has a special focus – Recertification and the recently approved Certification Amnesty Program. 2019 is the only year that this will be available, if you are lapsed or expired. See all the details on page 1 and 3 of this newsletter.



RJ Picciano
President

After 20 Regional Seminars, What Have we Learned?

After a successful BONENT Regional Education Seminar in Newark, we completed another year of with three regional seminars. So now, that is 6 years and 20 seminars! And they are getting better and better.

I would like to thank BONENT Vice-President, Lyle Smith and his Continuing Education Committee, especially John Larson CHT who has organized our Midwest Seminars for the past 3 years. They are always looking for more BONENT members to help. If you have ideas of what should be in the 2019 Seminars, please volunteer by contacting Lyle at lyle_bonent@msn.com.

So, what did we learn this year?

Western Regional Seminar

In San Jose at our Western Seminar, we had excellent speakers on a number of important topics. Ann Diroll presented on one of the most important topics to our patients - End Organ Stunting. This is a new area of focus for CMS. You will be hearing more about this. Jane Wilson spoke on Infection Prevention - another area of focus for State Inspectors. Lisa Hall from Network 16 and KCER, told us How to Prepare for Emergencies.

We thank Joe Sala, who presented at all 3 of our seminars on Professionalism and the Role of the Technician. From personal experience Joe shared the potential for all dialysis professionals. Joe started his career as a patient care technician and now is the administrator of ambulatory care clinics (including a number of dialysis clinics) for a New York hospital group.

MidWest Regional Seminar

In Chicago at our MidWest Seminar, we also had a great line up. The Keynote speaker was Dr. Sanjay Mohindra. He taught us now that we have AVF's in our patients, how do we optimally manage them - another message that we can use every day.

James Murphy from FKC, spoke on the Principles of Fluid Management. This relates to what we heard in San Jose about End Organ Stunting. Marion Shuck, Community Affairs Manager from Gift of Hope, gave a great presentation on Organ Recovery and how important that is to our patients.

Northeast Regional Seminar

In Newark at our Northeast Seminar, we had our largest crowd of the year – over 200 attendees! The Keynote speaker was Lynda Ball, President of ANNA. She told us about all the new access options that are now available and also the one that are in development. Dori Schatell from Medical Education Institute presented on Sexuality and the Dialysis Patient. This topic is so important to our patients and so seldom discussed with them. MEI is the organization that brings us the Core Curriculum for Dialysis Technicians, the best book to study to study for the BONENT and the other exams. It is available at MEIresearch.org.

What Do Our Regional Seminars Lack?

Now you might ask, with all these great speakers, what do the BONENT Regional Education Seminars lack?

YOU!!!

If you didn't attend any of these Regional Seminars, look at what you've missed, as well as not receiving 8 continuing education credits for each seminar. Hopefully, we'll see you at one of our 2019 seminars.

STEP 1 Choose 1 Recertification Option

A. Obtain 40 Contact Hours:

You must get at least 40 contact hours during the last 4 years.

- **At least 30 out of the 40 contact hours must qualify for Group A** (Nephrology-based programs - Seminars, Webinars, Home Study & BONENT Approved CE Programs).
- **The balance can be in Group B (General Health).**
- To use this option, check the box next to "Yes" on the Recertification Application.

OR

B. Retake the Examination:

Submit:

1. A completed, signed and dated Recertification Application. Check the box next to "I wish to recertify by taking the BONENT exam".
2. A completed signed and dated exam application.
3. Payment for Annual Fee(s) and the exam fee. If you pass the exam, you will receive a new BONENT wallet card in the mail.

OR

C. Use Your One-time Waiver:

- The one-time waiver allows you to automatically recertify without having to accumulate 40 contact hours.
- This option can only be used once in a lifetime.
- To use this option, check the box next to "I wish to use my one-time waiver" on the Recertification Application.

STEP 2 Make sure your Fees are paid

Current Member: There is no fee to recertify. However, we cannot process your recertification application until all fees for previous years and the current year are paid in full.

Lapsed Certification: Your certification is Lapsed if it is 1-12 months after your certification expiration date and your recertification application not been submitted or annual fees have not been paid:

- Pay the \$100 Lapsed Certification Fee + any outstanding Annual Certification Fees.

Expired Certification: Your certification is Expired if it is 1 to 10 years after your certification expiration date:

- **2019 Certification Amnesty Program:** You qualify if your Certification Expiration Date (as noted on your wallet card or in the BONENT database) is between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2017.
- Pay the \$200 Expired Certification Fee

Additional Fees:

- **\$60 Incomplete Recertification Fee:** You will be charged the incomplete fee if you do not submit completed documentation.
- **\$80 Returned Check Fee:** You will be charged the returned check fee if your check is returned/bounces.

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|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
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* Incomplete and returned check fees added where applicable.

STEP 3 Complete & Mail the Application Form (page 4)

Complete the Recertification Application on the back of this page and be sure that all of your fees have been paid. Faxed or photocopied recertification applications will NOT be accepted. Your paperwork will be reviewed to determine if it meets BONENT recertification criteria. When the process is completed, certification for an additional four years will be awarded and a wallet card will be issued to you.

Do I have to submit copies of my Continuing Education certificates?
You do not have to submit certificates, unless you are audited.



Board of Nephrology Examiners Nursing & Technology

100 South Washington St., Rockville, MD 20850

Phone (202) 462-1252

2019 Recertification Application

This Application must be completed to fulfill requirements for recertification. It must be postmarked no later than your certification expiration date. There is no fee to recertify. However, we cannot process your certification application until all annual fees for previous years and the current year are paid in full. If you are audited, you must submit the entire Recertification Booklet with CE certificates.

Note: A \$60 incomplete fee will be assessed to all incomplete forms.

Please print in ink.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Last First Mo. Day Yr.

BONENT ID# _____ Certification Expiration Date _____

Address _____

City State Zip Check if new address

Email _____ SS# [Last 4 digits] _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ Cell _____

Have you met all requirements for Recertification? (You **MUST** check one below):

YES I have completed 40 Contact Hours with 30 in Group A. (Your paperwork may be randomly selected for audit by BONENT. See below)

NO (a) I wish to recertify by taking the BONENT exam (Exam Application must be attached with this form)

(b) I wish to use my one time waiver (*once in a lifetime*)

Audit & Retaining Your Continuing Education Records

Recertification applicants must keep continuing education documents for two years. If you are selected by BONENT for an audit, you must submit proof of having met continuing education requirements (CE certificates). If you are unable to submit the required information, the unverified contact hours will automatically be dismissed. If you fail to respond to an audit, the BONENT Board may consider this as grounds for disciplinary action.

I certify that all information contained in my Application for Recertification by the Certification Board of Nephrology Examiners and Nursing & Technology (BONENT) is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I authorize BONENT, its officers, directors, committee members, employees, and agents ("BONENT's designated parties") to review my application and other materials related to my recertification and to determine whether I have met BONENT's standards for recertification.

By signing the Authorization, I acknowledge that I have read and understand BONENT's rules and standards. I understand and agree to the revocation or any other limitation of my certification if any statements made on this application, other material related to recertification, or hereafter supplied to BONENT are false or inaccurate or if I violate any of the rules or standards of BONENT.

I agree to cooperate promptly and fully in any review of my certification by BONENT, including submitting such documents and information in this application and other materials related to recertification. I authorize BONENT and BONENT's designated parties to communicate my certification status to any individual, employer, or organization that requests this information. I further authorize and consent for the purpose of statistical analysis, provided I am not personally identified in information released.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless BONENT and BONENT's designated parties for any action taken pursuant to the rules and standards of BONENT with regard to my certification and this Application for Recertification.

I understand and agree that if I am granted BONENT's recertification, it will be my responsibility to remain in compliance with all of BONENT's recertification standards including the BONENT code of Professional Practice. I understand it is my responsibility to maintain valid certification status by either performing satisfactorily in each of the major content areas of the examination during the fourth year of certification or demonstrating my successful accrual of at least 40 contact hours of continuing education credits.

By signing, I acknowledge that I have read and understand this information and agree to abide by these terms. I declare under penalty of perjury under laws of my state that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail to: BONENT, 100 South Washington St., Rockville, MD 20850

Send This Original, Signed Application. Do Not Send Photocopies Or Faxes.

01/01/19