



Certification UPDATE

Winter 2015

Keeping BONENT Members Informed

New BONENT International Grants Unveiled

BONENT is now offering grants of \$250 per applicant (maximum of two/per year). The grant will be awarded exclusively to prospective applicants for the BONENT certification examination who reside in underprivileged countries as defined by the World Bank and have difficulty paying for the exams.

Each applicant must write a 300-500 word essay on the year's current topic, which must accompany the application. This year's topic is "What are the biggest challenges facing the nephrology profession in your country?"

presently work in the field of nephrology for at least one year and their work records can be verified. BONENT will apply the grant to the cost of a BONENT exam. For an application form and more details, visit www.BONENT.org. Deadline for submission is September 30.

The grant will be provided to individuals that

New Bio-Medical Exam Update

For the last two years BONENT has been working on a new exam for Bio Medical Technicians. The debut of the Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical Technician (CHBT) exam was on February 1st 2015.

The goal of the BONENT Board was to establish an exam to help the Bio Medical Technicians to be recognized as professionals and to demonstrate their competency in the dialysis setting.

Adding to its CHT, CHN and CPDN dialysis certifications, BONENT has introduced the new CHBT exam to measure technical proficiency in certain skills and general areas of knowledge. Eligibility for the exam is 12 months of work experience in nephrology, of which includes a minimum of 6 months of dialysis BioMedical (BM) experience and any BM training certificates.

Nephrology technicians may receive certification in either or both exams - patient care (CHT) and bio-medical (CHBT). The 3-hour examination, via Paper and Pencil Exam only, tests eight major domains of practice and tasks performed in the scope of hemodialysis technology. **Apply now or tell your BioMed tech about the new exam.**



Tips & Facts

Annual Certification Fee

Paying the Annual Certification Fee keeps your BONENT certification up-to-date.

- Notify BONENT each time your address or contact information changes to ensure you continue to receive the Annual Certification Fee Invoice and friendly email reminders.
 - You can also make these changes on the BONENT website (click the **My Info** link in the orange tab at the top).
- Remember to pay the BONENT Certification Fee each year to continue receiving certification benefits.
- To avoid late fees, remember to pay by the due date listed on your invoice.
- Payment can be made via:
 - Check or money order (paid by mail) and made out to BONENT
 - Credit card (paid by fax or via the BONENT website (click the **My Info** link in the orange tab at the top).

BONENT can only **VERIFY YOUR CERTIFICATION** to your employer if your Annual Certification Fee is paid to date.

Recertification Process

Follow these tips for a successful BONENT Recertification:

- BONENT certification lasts 4 years. Your recertification date is found on your wallet card, annual invoice and on the BONENT website (click the **My Info** link in the orange tab at the top).
- Make a plan to obtain continuing education each year of your certification period:
 - A total of 40 hours is needed every 4 years.
 - Start by planning on getting 10 CE's each year.
- Remember to pay your Annual Certification Fee to stay current.
- Mail your signed Recertification Application to the BONENT Executive Office 4-8 weeks before your certification expiration date.

Don't wait until the Last Minute!
3-4 Weeks Required to Process Your Application (from the date we receive it)

Certification UPDATE

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 Nursing & Technology**



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

We're Continuing to Improve. Get Involved!



RJ Picciano
 President

Tell Your Bio-Med Technicians to Take the New CHBT Exam

We finally have kicked our newest exam, the Certified Hemodialysis Bio-Medical Technologist (CHBT). The first administration of the exam was held in February in Ohio. We have set the passing point for the exam and we now have our first BONENT certified CHBT's. The CHBT is not computer-based yet. So, if someone wants to take it, they need to sign up for one the paper/pencil sites listed on the website.

So, everybody get out there and spread word. Tell your Bio-Med staff it is time to sign up, take the exam and get their CHBT!

Is Your RN Dialysis-Certified?

While you at it, tell the RN's that for them to get certified! PCT's are required to be certified, but the nurses who supervise them aren't. We don't want anyone who is not certified to be involved in taking care of our patients. BONENT has the CHN and the CPDN for the nurses.

CHN and CPDN Exams to be Updated

We are updating the CHN and the CHT exams this year. So, if you hold one these certifications, we are looking for members to be on the committees to revise these exams. **If you are interested in being part of this, contact the exam committee chair, Lyle Smith, at lyle_bonent@msn.com.**

Plan to Attend a Regional Seminar

We have a great group of BONENT Regional Education Seminars lined up for 2015 (see the ad on page 3).

The first seminar, the Mid-West Seminar, is being co-hosted by ESRD Network 9/10 on Sunday, June 7th in Indianapolis (see the ad on page 4). This is going to be our best seminar so far and we are limited to 200 participants by the space. So, sign up early at the lower rate and guarantee yourself a seat!

The next 2 BONENT Regional Education Seminars will be in New York City (August 16, 2015) and Miami (September 27, 2015). Watch the website for more details.

Join our CE Committee

We are looking for a few local members to be part of the organizing committee for the last 2 seminars. **If you are interested in being part of this, contact the Continuing Education Director, Lyle Smith, at lyle_bonent@msn.com.**

The states below require BONENT Regional Representatives.

Alabama	Louisiana	North Dakota
Alaska	Maine	Oklahoma
Arizona	Maryland	Oregon
Arkansas	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania
Colorado	Michigan	Rhode Island
Connecticut	Minnesota	South Carolina
Delaware	Missouri	Utah
District of Columbia	Montana	Vermont
Hawaii	Nebraska	Virginia
Idaho	Nevada	Washington
Iowa	New Hampshire	West Virginia
Kansas	New Mexico	Wyoming
	North Carolina	

Interested in becoming a Regional Representative?

Visit www.BONENT.org for qualification requirements and responsibilities. Contact BONENT Executive Director Peter Anas at 202-462-1252, ext. 20 or via email at peter@BONENT.org

Dedication Deserves Recognition.

Order Your 10 Karat Lapel Pin Today!

Dedication to your profession. It's one of the reasons why you became BONENT-certified. Proudly display your certification status by wearing a beautifully crafted 10k gold lapel pin. Select from your area of certification (CHN, CHT, CHBT or CPDN) for only \$30.

For an Order Form, visit www.BONENT.org and click on Lapel Pins.



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE INTERVIEW

Michael Morales

Chief Executive Officer
Dialysis Education Services
Bellflower, California

What is your background experience?

Clinical: CHT, CCHT-A, CCNT; **BioMedical:** Reuse technician, CBNT, CHBT; **Business:** Bachelors of Science (Business Administration); **Educator:** Master in Health Administration and Education; **Consultant:** Health care curriculum development, Nephrology subject matter expert, capital raiser, and network builder; **Author:** "Core Curriculum for Hemodialysis Technicians (preceptor module)", "Developing a Strong Culture of Safety", "Certifications can help you climb the career ladder," "Venous needle dislodgements in dialysis settings", "What's hot at ASN?"; **Editor:** Medcrave Online (Nephrology and Urology Journal); **BONENT:** Regional representative since 2011

What led you to this as a profession?

My empathy for people suffering from CKD stems from growing up with a home hemodialysis patient of 35 years until his death in 2009.

In what ways has membership in BONENT benefited you?

Above all, my BONENT certifications make me most proud. BONENT's commitments to certification, education, and continu-



ous improvements have raised the bar of entry level of knowledge, skills, and abilities in its membership.

What do you see as the biggest challenge facing the Dialysis field?

In my opinion the biggest challenges in the dialysis field are rooted in limited resource for mass treatment reimbursements. Considering the number of diagnosed type II diabetic (26 Million), hypertensive (67 Million), and the presumed 1 in 9 Americans suffering CKD the incidence of ESRD could compound overnight into a fiscal nightmare.

How have you, personally, kept up with changes in the field?

I subscribe to and read publications, attend conferences, talk to experts, and try to listen as much as possible.

As the BONENT board member, what changes do you see in the life of a dialysis technician in the future?

I think the role and model of a dialysis technician is changing at a rapid pace that we should expect to continue. Technicians are filling roles in non-traditional environments such as home and nursing home environments, training programs, administration, vascular access coordination, and independent consultation. All I can be sure of is that the technician will get better in professional, technical, critical thinking, and empathetic abilities.

Join Your Colleagues &

Get **8 CEs in 1 Day**
at a BONENT Regional Seminar



BONENT
Continuing
Education
PROGRAMS



**Midwest
Regional
Seminar**

BONENT
Continuing
Education
PROGRAMS

Sunday, June 7, 2015
Indianapolis, IN



**Northeast
Regional
Seminar**

BONENT
Continuing
Education
PROGRAMS

Sunday, July 16, 2015
Newark, NJ



**Southeast
Regional
Seminar**

BONENT
Continuing
Education
PROGRAMS

Sunday, September 27, 2015
Miami, FL

For ALL DIALYSIS PROFESSIONALS

BONENT Members & Non Members: RN • LPN • Technician

Join Your Dialysis Colleagues & Get **8 CEs in 1 Day**

at the BONENT MidWest Regional Seminar

Sunday, June 7, 2015 in Indianapolis, Indiana

Topics & Speakers

The Politics of Dialysis

Brain Haag, MD

Professionalism

Craig Fisher, PHD, LCSW

Home Dialysis Service

Jim Dineen

President, EagleDreamer/Creative
Management Consultants

Infection Control

Mary Kay Foster RN

Infection Preventionist, IU Health
Academic Health Center

The Renal Network Overview

Raynel Wilson, RN, CNN, CPHQ

Director of Quality Improvement,
The Renal Network

Kathi Niccum, Ed.D.,

Director of Patient Services,
The Renal Network

What's New in Vascular Access?

Stephen R. Ash, MD, FACP

HemoCleanse, Inc. and Ash
Access Technology, Inc.



Ask the Experts: Roundtable

Discussion on Access Management

Lynn Poole, RN, FNP, ESRD

National Coordinating Center (NCC)

Stephen Ash, MD, FACP

Bryan Haag, MD

There's No Place Like Home

NxStage Representative

Comments from Past BONENT Seminar Attendees

*"Wonderful seminar.
I'll come back the next time."*

*"All our staff should come to this
seminar."*

*"I am impressed with the
dedication of BONENT."*

*"You are setting a standard and
advancing our field."*

*"This improves the health of our
patients."*

Co-Sponsored by

The Renal Network

ESRD Networks 9 & 10

Starts at ONLY
\$99 for
8 CEs

For More Details & Registration

Go to www.BONENT.org; Click on Seminars (at bottom of left hand bar)

Register by April 30!

Radisson Hotel Indianapolis Airport

2500 S. High School Road, Indianapolis, IN 46241

