

Certification



April 2025

President's Message

In this month's [message](#), MSNCB President Jessica Tully shares her reflections on Certified Nurses Day last month and the important work certificants do in healthcare on a regular basis.



[Read the President's Message](#)

Reminder: Testing Vendor Changes

As a reminder, MSNCB certification exams will transition to Data Recognition Corporation (administered through the Pearson VUE network), on Aug. 1, resulting in a testing intermission from June 13 to July 31, 2025. To provide as much availability to test as possible around this transition, there are changes to the **90-day eligibility period** for applications **approved after March 15. Please review the provided dates and guidelines to plan accordingly.**



IF YOUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED FROM APRIL 9–MAY 11

- Your eligibility to test will be extended to Aug. 27, without appointment availability from June 13–July 31.
- You will still have 60 days to schedule if your application is approved on May 11.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED FROM MAY 12–JUNE 8

- Your eligibility to test will be extended to Sept. 30, without appointment availability from June 13–July 31.
- You will still have 65 days to schedule if your application is approved on June 8.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED FROM JUNE 9–JULY 31

- Your eligibility to test will be granted on Aug. 1, and the 90-day eligibility policy will resume.

What's Your #WhyCMSRN?

You've worked hard to earn your CMSRN credential and your passion for the profession shines through. Now, we want to hear from you! What's your reasoning for pursuing certification? How has certification impacted your professional development? Share your story by participating in our #WhyCMSRN campaign. Submit a written or video testimonial today and help us highlight the importance and value of earning the CMSRN certification.



Write Your #WhyCMSRN

Record Your #WhyCMSRN

CMSRN Pulse Survey

As certificants, we want to hear how earning the CMSRN has impacted your career. Please take a few moments to complete this [short survey](#). These results will be used to promote certification in marketing materials such as emails and social media. Results will be anonymous.



Is It Your Turn to Recertify?

Is your CMSRN certification period nearing its end? Don't forget to renew and demonstrate your continuing competence! CMSRNs need to renew every five years. While you can submit your recertification application anytime during your fifth year, it's a great idea to start entering your contact hours now. Refer to the [CMSRN Recertification Guide](#) for all the details on maintaining and submitting your recertification application, and the [CMSRN Certification Handbook](#) for comprehensive details on maintaining and submitting your recertification. Stay ahead and keep your certification up to date!



Regardless of your chosen recertification pathway, AMSN can be used as a resource for medical-surgical knowledge. AMSN offers contact hour earning opportunities, such as the [CMSRN Certification Review Course](#), educational opportunities including [monthly webinars](#), and more.

[Learn More](#)

MEDSURG-BC vs. CMSRN

You may have or have colleagues who are MEDSURG-BC certified. But what's the difference between MEDSURG-BC and CMSRN?

The CMSRN is focused on practical applications, direct patient care, and real-world scenarios. If you know a medical-surgical nurse with the MEDSURG-BC credential, consider sharing our flyer with them to share the benefits of earning the CMSRN.

The flyer features the MSNCB logo on the left and the CMSRN logo on the right, both at the top.

MEDSURG-BC to CMSRN: Double Your Impact

Do you have a MEDSURG-BC certification? You might be eligible to add the Certified Medical-Surgical Registered Nurse (CMSRN) credential to your title without taking another exam! Keep your MEDSURG-BC, and add CMSRN to your toolkit.

Supercharge Your Nursing Career

Why transfer to CMSRN? The CMSRN is the gold-standard certification in the medical-surgical nursing specialty, demonstrating credibility and expertise by prioritizing these key elements of practice:

- Practical applications
- Direct patient care
- Real-world scenarios

Whether you work at the bedside, in education, as a nurse leader or beyond, the CMSRN can amplify your practice.

Quick Check: Are You Eligible?

- **Active MEDSURG-BC:** Your certification must be active for at least one year.
- **RN License:** Do you have your RN license in the U.S., Canada, or its territory? You're golden! International nurses can be verified by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS).
- **Practice Hours:** 1000 hours in the last five years, including clinical, management, or education. Student status is also accepted with verification from a clinical office.
- **Contact Hours:** 90 total within the past five years, with 60 in medical-surgical and 30 in professional development.

A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the flyer.

Your career upgrade awaits! Visit the MSNCB Website to learn more and apply today.

[Download the Flyer](#)

Virtual Nursing Is More Important Than Ever

“74% of hospital leaders believe virtual nursing will become integral to care delivery models in acute inpatient care (up from 66% in 2023).” —AvaSure 2024 Virtual Care Insight Survey Report

As the nursing profession evolves into dependence on virtual nursing, you should too. Make yourself just as integral by becoming certified in virtual nursing with the [Certified Acute-Care Virtual Registered Nursing \(CAVRN\) credential](#). Be a trailblazer in the realm of virtual nursing and maintain an innovative edge in your career by earning the CAVRN credential.



[Earn the CAVRN](#)

Share Your Med-Surg Story With Us

Medical-surgical nursing is at the heart of patient care, and we're interested in hearing how you bloomed into the medical-surgical nurse you are today. Your experiences, insights, and expertise help plant the seeds for the future of nursing — and we want to spring into action this year and share your stories.



[Share Your Story via Video](#)

[Share Your Story via Testimonial](#)

[Join the AMSN Community](#)

Looking for a greater community of like-minded medical-surgical nurses? Consider becoming an AMSN member! AMSN recently launched [the Huddle](#), a members-only community for discussing the latest insights and trending in medical-surgical nursing.

Other practical membership benefits include:



- Discounted registration for the [2025 AMSN Convention](#), taking place Sept. 11-13, 2025, in Austin, Texas
- One free contact hour a month to help maintain your certification and build your knowledge to ensure you're staying updated on trends within the specialty
- Monthly AMSN webinars focused on current trends and clinical best practices
- Access to the AMSN Career Center
- Ability to apply for AMSN grants and scholarships
- And so much more

Did we mention that all CMSRN and CAVRN certificants receive 10% of AMSN membership? Simply use code **CERT2025** when you sign up. Join AMSN today!

[Join AMSN](#)

Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification Board (MSNCB), 330 N. Wabash Ave., Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60611

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