



Media Contact

Marsha Berenson, Marketing Manager

888-496-2622

MBerenson@wocncb.org

www.WOCNCB.org

For Immediate Release

New WOCNCB Online System Streamlines PGP Recertification Process

Milwaukee, WI June 18, 2010 The Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Certification Board (WOCNCB®) premieres the Online PGP Portfolio, a secure, Web-based software system that allows WOCNCB-certified wound, ostomy or continence (WOC) nurses to complete, archive and submit their Professional Growth Program (PGP) portfolios quickly and easily. The WOCNCB established the Professional Growth Program as an alternative to taking an exam for recertification. PGP recognizes the activities that go beyond routine practice or that represent the pathway WOCNCB-certified nurses took from novice to expert.

According to WOCNCB President, Diana Gallagher, MS, RN, CWOCN®, CFCN®, “The WOCNCB PGP recertification alternative allows certificants to demonstrate their knowledge of wound, ostomy, continence or foot care nursing by tracking and recording evidence of their continual learning and professional growth. The WOCNCB supported the creation of the Online PGP Portfolio to make the PGP process faster and simpler for our certificants, who can now log on and document immediately after completion of an activity.”

The Online PGP Portfolio can be accessed at any time from any browser. Each certificant creates a password-protected file that can be updated at any time. The online forms are designed with drop-down boxes that are easy to fill out, and the software automatically assigns and calculates point values per project or activity, allowing the certificant to keep track of points needed for recertification. All portfolio activities entered into the online submission system are maintained over the entire 5-year recertification period, and the servers used to maintain the data have back-up systems in the event of any data loss. Certificants must still keep verification documentation of activities and projects, such as sign in sheets and copies of programs, in the event of audit.

At this time, the Online PGP Portfolio is only available for recertification of the wound, ostomy or continence credentials. However, the WOCNCB plans to add recertification capabilities for the Certified Foot Care Nurse (CFCN®) credential in the future.

About the WOCNCB

The Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board is a professional organization dedicated to providing consumer safety and protection by offering credentialing in the areas of wound, ostomy, continence and foot care nursing to registered nurses who meet WOCNCB's stringent qualifications and pass its certification examination. WOCNCB certified nurses provide quality care to patients in a variety of settings, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, and home healthcare. The WOCNCB has certified more than 5,800 nurses worldwide. The WOCNCB is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification, formerly the accreditation committee of the American Board of Specialty Nursing (ABNS).

For more information, contact the WOCNCB at (888) 496-2622, e-mail marketingmanager@wocncb.org, or visit www.wocncb.org.

WOCNCB 555 E. Wells Street, Suite #1100 Milwaukee, WI 53202-3823

The wound, ostomy and continence certifications of the WOCNCB are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABNSC), formerly the accreditation committee of the American Board of Specialty Nursing (ABNS).

