


# Choosing Wound Care Certification?

Choose the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board: The Gold Standard for Certification®

		National Alliance of Wound Care (NAWC®)	American Board of Wound Management (ABWM®) (Formerly the American Academy of Wound Management)
<b>HISTORY</b>			
Credentiaing Over 30 Years	✓		
Credentials for wound care	✓ Since 1978	✓ Since 2002	✓ Since 1995
Credentials for ostomy care	✓ Since 1978		
Credentials for continence care	✓ Since 1978		
Credentials for foot care	✓ Since 2005		
Certifying only RNs (and higher)	✓ Over 6500 RNs hold WOCNCB credentials	All healthcare professionals # RNs unknown	All healthcare professionals Approximately 1240 RNs
International Credentialling	✓		
Credentials Offered	✓ CWOCN® – Certified Wound Ostomy Continence Nurse CWON® – Certified Wound Ostomy Nurse CWCN® – Certified Wound Care Nurse CCCN® – Certified Continence Care Nurse COCN® – Certified Ostomy Care Nurse CFCN® – Certified Foot Care Nurse Advanced Practice (AP) designations are also available CWOCN-AP®, CWON-AP®, etc.	✓ WCC® – Wound Care Certified DWC® – Diabetic Wound Certified LLE® – Lymphedema Lower Extremity	✓ CWS® – Certified Wound Specialist CWCA® – Certified Wound Care Associate CWSP® – Certified Wound Specialist Physician
<b>ACCREDITATION</b>			
ABSNC-Accredited Certification Programs	✓ CWOCN; CWON; CWCN; CCCN; COCN		
NCCA-Accredited Certification Programs	✓ CWOCN; CWON; CWCN; CCCN; COCN	✓ WCC	✓ CWS
Education Programs	✓ WOC Education Programs are accredited by the WOCN Society		



# CHOOSING WOUND CARE CERTIFICATION?

	WOCNCB® (as of 07-11)	NAWC® (as of 07-11)	ABWM® (as of 06-11)
<b>ELIGIBILITY For Examination</b>			
Licensure Requirement	Licensed RN (minimum)	Any licensed healthcare professional	Any licensed healthcare professional
Education and Clinical Experience Requirement	Any Bachelor's Degree (not required for Foot Care Certification) and complete WOC Education Program accredited by the WOCN Society Precepted through the WOC Education Programs	Complete Skin and Wound Management Course from WCEI And: 2 years experience or 120 precepted clinical hours	Bachelor's degree in a life science field (CWS®) 3 years direct wound care experience or 1 year fellowship (CWS)
Alternative experiential pathway for nurses who cannot attend Wound Education Program	✓ 1500 clinical hours related to wound care within past 5 years plus 50 CE credits	✓ 4 years full-time involvement in wound care and 60 CE credits in past 5 years	
<b>RECERTIFICATION</b>			
Recertification Term	5 years	5 years	10 years
Recertification by Professional Portfolio	✓ Submission of demonstrated professional activities related to wound care online		
<b>TEST DEVELOPMENT</b>			
Test Development by Nursing Peers	✓ Job analysis survey of nurses RN or higher practicing in each specialty used by peer volunteers and professional psychometricians to create exam	Job practice analysis	Role delineation study
<b>APPLICATION/FEEES</b>			
Online Application Processing	✓		
Deadlines	✓ No application deadlines; up to 12 months' eligibility to sit for WOCNCB exam.	Four weeks prior to the date that you are requesting to test.	Six weeks prior to the testing window. There are only 2 testing windows per year (Spring & Fall)
Exam Fees	✓ \$250 Plus \$50 for each WOCNCB exam taken	\$300 Plus \$30 for processing	\$550
No Annual Maintenance Fees	✓	✓	\$150 (\$1500 for 10 year credential period)

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