

WOCNCB® Comparison of Wound Certification Programs*

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	WOCNCB® Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board	NAWC® National Alliance of Wound Care	AAWM American Academy of Wound Management	
Credential(s) Offered	The only certification exclusively for <u>nurses</u> with a bachelor's degree or higher who practice in the areas of wound, ostomy, continence. Includes CWOCN®, CWCN®, COCN®, CCCN®, CWON™, plus Advanced Practice credentialing in wound, ostomy, and/or continence nursing. Foot care certification offered for RNs at all levels (CFCN®).	One certification for wound care offered for all levels of nursing, all levels of physical therapy (including assistants), occupational therapy, physicians and physician assistants WCC® - Wound Care Certified	One certification for wound care offered for all multidisciplinary practitioners in the field of wound management CWS® - Certified Wound Specialist CWCA™ - Certified Wound Care Associate	
Accreditation	* American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) , the only national body to independently accredit nursing specialty certification programs. * National Commission of Certifying Agencies (NCCA) , an administratively independent resource recognized as the authority on accreditation standards for professional certification organizations/programs.	No independent accreditation of certification program.	CWS® * National Commission of Certifying Agencies (NCCA)	CWCA™ No independent accreditation of certification program.
Required education and clinical training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 240 hours of didactic education, plus 120 hours of precepted clinical practice in Accredited programs. Graduate/ experiential pathways also available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active in the care of wound care patients, or in management, education or research directly related to wound care while actively licensed for at least two years full-time/four years part-time within the past five years. AND 5-day seminar consisting of classroom training and lab practice, including examination review. OR Current certification through AAWM or WOCNCB. 	CWS® <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have a Bachelors Degree or higher in a life sciences related field Must have three (3) years of clinical experience in wound care. 	CWCA™ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have three (3) years of clinical experience in wound care. No additional didactic education required.
Length of Certification	5 Years	5 Years	10 years	
Fees	\$300 for a single specialty certification and \$50 for each additional certification.	\$330 for the examination, included in training course registration fee of \$2,797.*	\$550 initial exam fee with \$150 annual fee to maintain certification and \$400 recertification fee every 10 years.	
Recertification Requirements	Successful completion of examination or Professional Growth Program (PGP)	Successful completion of one of the following: a. Examination b. Recertification Course \$530 (No exam required) c. Continuing Education (60 hours) d. Continuing Education and Outreach Program (30 hours plus community outreach)	*Self-Assessment examination every 10 years	
Established	1978	2002	1995	

Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Certification Board · 555 E. Wells St., Suite 1100 · Milwaukee, WI 53202 · (888) 496-2622

*References: www.wocncb.org; www.aawm.org; www.nawccb.org; www.wcei.net; www.noca.org/noca; www.nursingcertification.org