



Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation

125 Enterprise Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1214 • Toll Free: 877-769-ONCC
Phone: 412-859-6104 • Fax: 412-859-6168 • Email: oncc@ons.org • www.oncc.org

F A C T S H E E T

Overview

The Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation was established for the development, administration, and evaluation of a program for certification in oncology nursing. Incorporated in 1984 and governed by a Board of Directors, ONCC is the certifying body for oncology nursing, and has met all standards established by the American Board of Nursing Specialties and the National Commission on Certifying Agencies.

Mission & Vision

The mission of ONCC is to promote and provide oncology nursing certification for the enhancement of patient care and professional practice.

The vision of ONCC is that oncology care across the continuum will be provided by oncology certified professionals.

Certification Options

Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN®)

Nurses who attain certification at the basic level, focused on adult oncology, are recognized by the OCN® credential.

Certified Pediatric Oncology Nurse (CPON®)

Nurses who attain certification at the basic level, focused on pediatric oncology, are recognized by the CPON® credential.

Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse (AOCN®)

Nurses who attain certification at the advanced level, focused on adult oncology, are recognized by the AOCN® credential.

Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse Practitioner

(AOCNP) Nurses who attain advanced certification, focused on the role of the oncology nurse practitioner, are recognized by the AOCNP credential.

Advanced Oncology Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist

(AOCNS) Nurses who attain advanced certification, focused on the role of the oncology clinical nurse specialist, are recognized by the AOCNS credential.

Certification Eligibility

All ONCC certification candidates must hold an active, unrestricted RN license to be eligible to take an ONCC examination. In addition, each ONCC certification has specific eligibility criteria for education and experience that must be met before the candidate takes the examination. These specific criteria can be found on the ONCC website at www.oncc.org, and in the *Oncology Nursing Certification Bulletin*.

Certification Testing

Certification is granted to candidates who meet the eligibility criteria and successfully complete a comprehensive multiple-choice examination. The OCN®, CPON®, AOCNP, and AOCNS examinations are offered in a linear computer-based format during quarterly twelve-day intervals at more than 300 locations throughout North America.

Renewal of Certification

OCN®, CPON®, AOCNP, and AOCNS Certification may be renewed through the Oncology Nursing Certification Points Renewal Option (ONC-PRO) or by successfully retesting. AOCN® Certification may be renewed by ONC-PRO only. ONC-PRO allows nurses to accrue points toward certification renewal in the categories of continuing nursing education, continuing medical education, academic education, publications, presentations, precepting, and/or volunteer service. Complete information about ONC-PRO, as well as logs for recording ONC-PRO points, can be found on the ONCC website at www.oncc.org.

Currently, more than 21,000 nurses are certified as OCN®, more than 1,300 as CPON®, more than 1,300 as AOCN®, nearly 400 as AOCNP, and more than 150 as AOCNS.

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