

THE VALUE OF NCCT CREDENTIALING

Medicine, engineering, and nursing are just a few of the professions that require a license for practice. The law requires these professions to be licensed because of the risk of harm to the public if practiced by someone who is incompetent. A state license is a credential that provides assurance to the public that an individual has met predetermined standards.

Certification is another credential that provides the public with evidence that an individual has met defined standards for career entry. This, too, is designed to protect the public. National certification is a voluntary process sponsored by a certifying body like the National Center for Competency Testing (NCCT).

CREDENTIALS ARE ONLY AS GOOD AS THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE THEM.

- All seven NCCT healthcare certification programs have been awarded accreditation by meeting the standards of the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).
- The NCCA is the accrediting arm of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence, which has been awarded accreditation by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) as a standards developer.

Individuals who earn certifications are equipped to bring something more than just a resume or an application to the job search. They are equipped with something that differentiates them. Here is an example of how certification has helped to distinguish NCCT Medical Assistants from others without credentials:

At one time, only specified state licensed professionals could enter radiology, medication, and lab orders into the Computerized Physician Order Entry system to meet the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) rules. Credentialed Medical Assistants have been added to that list of professionals, provided their credentials are issued by an independent certifying body—like NCCT!

Credentials can be helpful throughout one's entire professional career. They may help with new job prospects and opportunities for promotion, or with proof of professional development when needed by regulatory or accrediting bodies. Since ongoing professional development is part of the recertification process, NCCT certificants who maintain active status will have documented completion of approved continuing education activities annually!

CERTIFICATION: AN INVESTMENT IN A LIFELONG CAREER