

ABCGN
Update

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ABCGN Update

October 2009
Leadership Conference

2009 Initiatives

- Held first Item Writing Panel meeting
- Reviewing proposals for new testing company
- Reviewing educational products
- Participation in ABNS & CCI Research Summit

ABCGN By the Numbers

- 145 candidates sat for Spring exam
- 90 passed
- 300 candidates registered for Fall exam
- Computer-based testing is used by over 50% of candidates

New for Certification

- Beginning in 2010, ABCGN will offer computer-based testing ONLY
- One exception: a paper and pencil exam will continue to be offered at the Annual Course
- Benefits:
 - Convenience: More than 425 locations across the country to take the exam. Certificants will save travel expenses by taking the exam at a local site.
 - Flexible Dates: Certificants can choose any date that works for their schedule within a 30 day window.
 - Test Score Notification: We are working with our testing company to implement immediate score reporting.

Computer-based Testing

- Benefits
 - Reduced costs: ABCGN will be able to reduce the expenses for printing and shipping exams, renting test sites in hotels, and proctor travel.
 - Not fiscally responsible to provide site for less than 20 exam takers. Since the onset of CBT, many of our sites have had less than 10 certificants sitting for the exam.

Computer-based Testing

- Cost: The cost for the computer-based testing will remain the same as it has been for the past two years: \$400 for SGNA members; \$485 for non-members.

(There is an additional expense from the testing company incurred by ABCGN to offer computer-based testing, so please note that these expenses are simply being passed on to the candidate and that the ABCGN is not profiting from these fees.)

New for Recertification

- New Category—Category 12: ABCGN Test Development for Item Review Committee and Item Writers Panel
- Change in Category 1: Attendance at Nursing CE Approved Seminars or Workshops. Revised the following adding section in bold—✓ An agency, organization, or educational institution accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) **or whose continuing educational hours are accepted by the American Nurses Association Commission on Accreditation (ANCC).**

New for Recertification

- Change to Category 5: Independent Home Study Courses. Revised to following adding section in bold: An agency, organization, or educational institution accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) **or whose continuing educational hours are accepted by the American Nurses Association Commission on Accreditation (ANCC).**
- Change to Category 11: Involvement in ABCGN/SGNA/or SIGNEA —Increase maximum hours from 9 to 15

Volunteers

ABCGN Seeks Volunteers

- Item Writers
- Item Review Committee
- Recertification Committee

Regional Meeting Speakers

- ABCGN Board Members/Former Board Members willing to speak on Certification/Recertification
- Contact National Office to schedule a speaker for your meeting

Scholarships

- ABCGN does offer certification/recertification scholarships
- Please remind your regional members
- Scholarship deadline: December 15 for May exam and recertification and February 15 for October exam and recertification