What Employers Need to Know

About CBN Certification

The **Certified Bariatric Nurse (CBN)** credential is a professional certification for registered nurses who have demonstrated specialized professional experience and knowledge in the care of patients with obesity and/or metabolic and bariatric surgery.

Administered by the **American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS)**, the CBN credential provides a recognized way for nurses to demonstrate specialty knowledge and continued professional development in metabolic and bariatric nursing.

This resource provides nursing leadership, managers, human resources, professional development departments, and Magnet Program Directors with an overview of the CBN credential and its value within healthcare organizations.

CBN Certification at a Glance

Credential	Certified Bariatric Nurse (CBN)
Credentialing Organization	American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS)
Credential Type	Professional Certification
Population	Registered nurses practicing in obesity (pre-clinical or clinical) and/or metabolic and bariatric surgery
Assessment	Proctored certification examination
Accreditation	National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)
Accreditation Term	Through August 31, 2031
Certification Maintenance	Recertification is required to maintain the credential.
Verification	CBN Public Registry and ASMBS digital credentials

Why CBN Certification Matters

Patients with obesity and a history of metabolic and bariatric surgery receive care throughout the healthcare system—not only within dedicated bariatric programs. They may receive care in emergency departments, inpatient units, primary care, cardiology, orthopedics, perioperative services, imaging, rehabilitation, and other clinical settings.

CBN-certified nurses bring specialized knowledge of obesity and metabolic and bariatric care that can complement the expertise of the broader healthcare team.

CBN certification demonstrates that a nurse has:

- Met established professional nursing and specialty practice eligibility requirements.
- Demonstrated substantial professional experience in obesity and/or metabolic and bariatric nursing.
- Successfully completed a proctored certification examination assessing specialized knowledge.
- Committed to maintaining the credential through ongoing professional development and recertification requirements.

Depending on their role and experience, CBN-certified nurses may contribute as specialty resources, educators, mentors, program leaders, and bariatric champions within their organizations.

Value of Certification Statement

An NCCA-Accredited Certification

The CBN Certification Program is accredited by the **National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)**, the accrediting body of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (I.C.E.). NCCA accreditation provides independent recognition that the CBN Certification Program met nationally recognized standards for professional certification programs at the time of accreditation review.

The CBN Certification Program is accredited through **August 31, 2031**.

For employers, accreditation provides additional assurance that CBN is more than an educational course or certificate of completion. It is a professional certification based on established eligibility requirements, assessment of specialty knowledge, and ongoing requirements for maintaining certification.

Learn more about the CBN NCCA Accreditation

View the NCCA Value of Accreditation Brochure

Value of Accreditation Statement

CBN and Magnet Recognition

The CBN credential is eligible for inclusion in the **American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet Recognition Program® Demographic Data Collection Tool (DDCT)** as an accredited nursing certification.

This allows qualifying CBN-certified nurses to be included when organizations report eligible professional nursing certifications through the Magnet DDCT.

Organizations should refer to current Magnet Recognition Program requirements when determining how individual certifications are reported.

Learn more about Magnet-accepted certifications and verify CBN recognition

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Who Is Eligible for CBN Certification?

CBN certification is intended for registered nurses with professional nursing experience and substantial experience related to obesity and/or metabolic and bariatric surgery.

Candidates must meet established requirements for:

- Current registered nursing licensure or an accepted international equivalent.
- Professional nursing experience.
- Specialty practice experience in obesity and/or metabolic and bariatric surgery.
- Compliance with applicable professional and ethical requirements.

Candidates who meet the eligibility requirements must successfully complete the CBN certification examination to earn the credential.

Employers and candidates should refer to the current CBN Candidate Handbook for complete eligibility requirements.

Supporting CBN Certification

Healthcare organizations can support nurses pursuing and maintaining CBN certification through:

- Certification examination and recertification fee reimbursement.
- Continuing education and professional development funding.
- Paid or protected time for relevant professional development and examination preparation.
- Inclusion of CBN within organizational certification reimbursement programs.
- Recognition within professional advancement or clinical ladder programs, where applicable.
- Organizational recognition of nurses who earn or maintain CBN certification.

Supporting a nurse pursuing or maintaining CBN certification?
Download the CBN Certification Support & Reimbursement Request [PDF] [Word] for a customizable resource outlining the certification and the type of organizational support being requested.

Organizations with multiple nurses preparing for the CBN examination may also contact ASMBS to learn about current group examination preparation opportunities.

Verifying CBN Certification

Employers can verify an individual's current CBN certification status through the CBN Public Registry.

CBN-certified nurses may also share their ASMBS-issued digital credential through **Credly**, providing an additional way to view and share verified credential information.

The CBN designation may be used only while certification is current. Individuals whose certification has expired may not represent themselves as currently CBN-certified.

Resources for Employers

Use these resources to support, verify, and recognize CBN-certified nurses within your organization:

CBN Certification Support & Reimbursement Request
A customizable resource nurses can use when requesting examination reimbursement, professional development funding, recertification support, or other organizational assistance.

CBN Public Registry
Verify an individual's current CBN certification status.

CBN Digital Credential
Learn about ASMBS-issued CBN digital credentials and credential verification through Credly.

CBN Credential and Logo Usage Guidelines
Review requirements for appropriate use of the CBN designation and related credential marks.

Learn More

Additional information about CBN certification is available through ASMBS:

CBN Examination and Application Information
Eligibility requirements, application information, examination dates, and fees.

CBN Examination Preparation
Examination preparation information and available resources.

CBN Recertification
Requirements and resources for maintaining CBN certification.

CBN Employer Toolkit
Additional resources for healthcare organizations supporting and recognizing CBN-certified nurses.

Questions about CBN certification?

Contact cbn@asmbs.org.