Recertification Process

Candidates taking and passing the Certified Bariatric Nurse Examination will be issued a time-limited credential that is valid for four years.

Recertification must be completed before the expiration date of the credential or the credential will expire, the registry number of the individual will be retired, and the individual will be removed from the list of Certified Bariatric Nurses. Individuals whose credentials expire will no longer have the right to use the designation CBN. If the requirements for recertification are completed successfully prior to the expiration date, the credential and existing registry number of the individual will be renewed for another four-year period.

*The CBN certificant is responsible for maintaining valid credentials; ASMBS has no obligation to notify certificants of the impending expiration of the certificant’s status.*

When should you recertify your CBN?

Recertification of the CBN can be a lengthy process so please allow enough time to enter the fulfillment options online as well as take into consideration review of credits by the committee. Recertification can take up to, but is not limited to, 12 weeks.

The table below is in reference to the candidate’s final year of certification. As an example, if you tested in February 2013, your early recertification registration dates would begin March 1, 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CBN’s who tested in the July window</th>
<th>CBN’s who tested in the February window</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Recertification Registration</td>
<td>September 1 through April 30</td>
<td>March 1 through October 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Recertification Registration (if you submit your fulfillment materials within 3 months of your due date, there is a possibility that there will be an interruption in your certification status)</td>
<td>May 1 through August 31</td>
<td>November 1 through February 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration for Recertification (For up to one year after certification expired - after one year of expirations, the certificant will need to apply as a new candidate and take the examination)</td>
<td>September 1 or after</td>
<td>March 1 or after</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Review and Approval Process

The process of recertification may be accomplished in one of two ways:

1. Re-testing Recertification Option:
   CBN Certificants can opt to take the CBN examination within four years of certification.

2. Professional Development/Continuing Education Recertification Option:
   CBN Certificants must demonstrate that they have participated in continuing education relevant to
   the field of bariatric nursing. (Please see the section on continuing education below.)

All recertification applications are reviewed for approval by the CBN Recertification Committee. A
regular schedule for reviews is followed, which occurs 4 times per calendar year. To avoid a lapse in
certification, it is highly recommended that the recertification application be submitted as early as
possible.

Upon review of the submitted recertification information for recertification option two (professional
development/continuing education), the candidate will be approved, not approved, or application
incomplete. An incomplete application often has missing data or information regarding the activities
listed. Other common errors include duplicate entry of an event, miscalculation of contact hours,
and inclusion of non-bariatric related activities. To avoid these and other errors, it is important to
review your online application thoroughly before submission.

Before applying for the CBN Recertification, the following eligibility criteria including
compliance with the ASMBS Standards of Conduct must be satisfied:

You must be currently licensed as Professional Nurse (RN or equivalent for international
nurses) in one of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia or Puerto Rico.
   1. A valid license number must be submitted with the application. Acceptable international
      nurses’ licensure will be determined on an individual basis by the ASMBS
   2. You must also have a minimum of 1000 hours of professional practice (within the
      preceding 4 years) of nursing care of Morbidly Obese and Bariatric Surgery patients,
      predominately in the Bariatric surgery process (i.e.: pre-operative, peri-operative or post-
      operative/post-surgery care).

   a. An RN who serves as a Metabolic & Bariatric Surgical Clinical Reviewer (MBSCR) at an accredited Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery Accredited Center
      through the Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery Accreditation & Quality Improvement
      Program (MBSAQIP) is eligible to take the examination, assuming they meet all
      other requirements.

You must provide verification of both requirements upon request.

In addition, eligibility for the CBN Recertification also requires adherence to the ASMBS Standards
of Conduct, which can be found on pages 7 & 8 of the ASMBS CBN Candidate Handbook.
**Option One: Re-testing Recertification**

Candidates for recertification of the CBN credential must pass the CBN Examination prior to the expiration date of their current certification. The content of the examination will be based on the most current role delineation survey conducted by the ASMBS.

Individuals may attempt the recertification examination a maximum of three times before their CBN certification expires. Certificants whose credential expires may be eligible to apply for the examination as a new candidate if they meet all requirements for eligibility at the time of application.

**Option Two: Professional Development/Continuing Education Recertification**

The ASMBS strongly encourages CBN certificants to maintain and improve their knowledge and skills through continuing education in topics related to Morbid Obesity and Bariatric Surgery including co-morbidities. The purpose of the certification renewal program is to ensure that certified individuals demonstrate a continuing commitment to expand their knowledge and enhance their professional competency within their certification specialty of Morbid Obesity and Bariatric Surgery including co-morbidities.

Individuals who wish to complete recertification of their CBN credential by this method will be required to complete one of the following methods within the 48 months preceding the expiration of their certification:

1. 80 contact hours of continuing education,
2. 40 contact hours of continuing education and 2 presentations,
3. 40 contact hours of continuing education and 1 published article in a peer reviewed journal, or
4. 40 contact hours of continuing education and academic credits.
5. 120 hours as a formal RN student preceptor

*These activities must be completed prior to application for recertification.*

1. **80 Contact Hours of Continuing Education**

Credits granted or awarded for continuing education by a certified or approved for contact hours by an accredited provider or approver of nursing continuing education are accepted. Content of continuing education programs should be relevant to one or more of the four domains of the CBN Examination Content Outline as well as relevant to the knowledge statements (See pages 28-31).

- Continuing education hours require the content must be applicable to nursing care of the morbidly obese or bariatric surgical patient (examples: workshops, study modules, grand rounds offered by your place of employment, local, state or national nursing or professional organization sponsored conferences).
- Independent study and/or e-learning approved for continuing education hours may be used for the required continuing education hours (examples: independent study programs, on-line courses, articles from professional journals)
• CME (Continuing Medical Education) credits may be used for programs that have been formally approved for CME hours. The content must be applicable to morbid obesity or bariatric surgery and relevant to one or more of the four domains of the CBN Examination Content Outline as well as relevant to the knowledge statements (See pages 28-31) (examples: presentations on co-morbid medical conditions of obesity, bariatric surgical procedures, nutritional aspects of obesity/bariatric surgery, epidemiological or psychosocial aspects of morbid obesity).

• Equivalency: 1 CME = 1 contact hour

Tips for Success: Include content details for activities that do not clearly state they relate to the obese/bariatric population in the title. For example, if you attend a Conference on Pain Management or an Advanced Practitioner or Staff Development Conference, you will need to list the specific sessions attended that relate to the care of the obese/bariatric population. Also, specific activities related to employment such as BLS, PALS, ACLS are not acceptable as well as unrelated education for licensure; for example, nursing ethics unless relates specifically to the obese population.

2. 40 Contact Hours of Continuing Education and 2 Presentations

Presentations
Different educational presentations in care of bariatric patients that fulfill these criteria:
• primary presenter of a first time presentation;
• presentation(s) time adds up to at least 2 clock hours; more than two presentations can be added together to make the time requirement.
• presentation(s) is/are delivered in a structured teaching/learning framework to nurses, other health care providers, or the public at conferences, grand rounds, in-services, seminars, CD-ROM, internet-based or other e-learning formats, teleconferences, patient/family teaching, or public education.
• Do not submit repeat presentations of the same material or modifications of the same material.

Patient education presentations that are given to patients as a portion of the duties of your nursing position will not be accepted.

3. 40 Contact Hours of Continuing Education and 1 Published Article in a Peer-reviewed Journal or Peer-review of a Manuscript

Publication or Research
• One (1) article published in a peer-reviewed journal or a book chapter related to your certification specialty. You must be the author, co-author, editor, co-editor, or reviewer. You must submit the published article citation and in the case of the peer-reviewed journal article indicate the journal, the date of the review request, your submission date(s), and the disposition of article reviewed.
• Four (4) different articles related to your certification specialty published in a non-peer reviewed journals.
• Primary author of content related to your certification specialty utilized in e-learning and/or other media presentation.
• Primary grant writer for either a federal, state, or national organization project, and grant writing is not a primary component of your employment responsibilities. The purpose of the grant must be related to your certification specialty.

4. 40 Contact Hours of Continuing Education and Academic Credits

Academic Credits:
• Complete four semester credits or six quarter credits of academic courses that are required for a nursing major or that address the biopsychosocial knowledge base of professional human service (Example: nursing, nutrition, epidemiology, psychology, physiology, pharmacology). These credits must be provided by an accredited college or university.
• Academic credit received for a thesis or dissertation related to your bariatric certification is acceptable.

5. Preceptor Hours
• Complete a maximum of 120 hours as a preceptor in which you provided direct clinical supervision/teaching to students in an academic program that is related to your certification specialty OR
• Provide a minimum of 120 hours of clinical supervision related to your certification specialty to registered nurses in a formal registered nurse refresher or internship program that relates to our certification specialty.
• For either option above, the following rules apply:
  - Clinical nurse specialists or nurse practitioners must precept CNS and/or NP students in an academic program related to their certification specialties
  - Orientation preceptor hours are not accepted.
  - Preceptor hours cannot be counted toward your certification practice hour requirement.
  - Faculty may not utilize this category for clinical supervision of students in their educational program.

Recertification certificates will be mailed in 8-12 weeks after the submission deadline. If you need verification of your recertification before this time you may request a verification letter via email by contacting cbn@asmbs.org.

Audit

If your certification record is selected for audit, you will be required to submit supporting documents such as a copy of the presentation outline, abstract, letter accepting your abstract, or a letter inviting you to speak, and to provide evidence that you actually presented the topic e.g. a thank you letter on official letterhead. Please maintain supporting documentation for the entire four year certification cycle. Candidates found to have provided fraudulent information are subject to disciplinary action including loss of eligibility for recertification and revocation of their CBN credential.
**Recertification Fees**

The table below outlines the fees for recertification of CBN based on early, regular and late registration dates:

The recertification fee must be paid online by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover). *Any other form of payment will not be accepted; and your application will remain unprocessed.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early Recertification Application Fee (up to 120 days before expiration)</th>
<th>Regular Recertification Application Fee (Within 120 days of expiration)</th>
<th>Late Recertification Fee (up to 365 days after CBN expiration)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASMBS/IFSO Members</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-members</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>