

FOCUS ON CRA



What Is a Credentialing Body and What Does It Do?



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What is certification?

Certification is defined as a voluntary process by which a non-governmental agency or association grants recognition to an individual who has met certain predetermined qualifications specified by that agency or association. Such qualifications may include

graduation from an accredited or approved training program, acceptable performance on a qualifying examination, and/or completion of some specified amount or type of work experience. The process administered by the Radiology Administrator Certification Commission (RACC) which leads to the Certified Radiology Administrator (CRA) credential meets this definition.

What is the purpose of certification?

The purpose of most credentialing programs is to elevate the credibility and professionalism of the members of the associations by developing and promulgating the standards and to elevate the quality of the products and services delivered by certified individuals. Certification and accreditation are attempts at self-regulation in lieu of possible federal and state regulation.

To whom are credentialing bodies accountable and why is the RACC separate from AHRA?

It is important that such credentialing programs provide evidence that they are improving the quality of the services or products delivered without an undue increase of cost for that service or product. The programs must also avoid the appearance that they are self-serving because of the revenue gained

from the training products and services provided by the credentialing body. Antitrust and restraint-of-trade case law indicate that the agency offering a credential should be administratively and fiscally independent from any related trade, professional or educational associations, or special interests. The RACC was created with a semi-autonomous relationship with AHRA to demonstrate compliance with this requirement.

The National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA) is a membership organization created to provide a forum for all types of organizations interested in learning more about competency assessment, assurance, and certification. The National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCAA), an independent entity linked to NOCA, is responsible for setting the

standards and approving certification programs for all professions and occupations—a certifier of certifiers.

Why is there a public member of the RACC?

The RACC was created with the intent to meet NCAA standards when that is feasible. With this goal in mind, the RACC was structured in a manner

consistent with NCAA standards. The RACC is a 7-person commission that consists of 6 persons who are certified in radiology administration and 1 person who represents the general public (known as the public member). The RACC policies and procedures define the public member as any member of the public who has used radiology services in any practice setting. No public commissioner shall be certified as a radiology administrator or have any personal, professional, or supervisory relationship with a CRA. The public member is selected and appointed by the RACC. ■

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Call For RACC Public Member Nominations

The Radiology Administration Certification Commission (RACC), the autonomous governing body of the Certified Radiology Administrator (CRA) program, is accepting nominations for the role of public member.

The RACC public member serves on the commission to represent the general public. RACC commissioners, including the public member, serve 3-year terms.

The public member is any member of the public who has used radiology services in any practice setting, but cannot be certified as a radiology administrator or have any personal, profes-

sional, or supervisory relationship with a CRA. Any current CRA in good standing is eligible to make nominations for the public member.

The public member will be selected and appointed by the RACC.

Nominations must include: nominee's name, nominee's telephone number, reason for making the nomination, as well as the name and contact information of the CRA making the nomination.

Submit nominations to Kathryn Keeler at kkeeler@crainfo.org no later than September 5, 2008. ■



May 2008 CRA Exam Results

Congratulations are extended to the May 2008 class of Certified Radiology Administrators (CRAs). There currently are 634 CRAs nationwide.

Twenty-seven individuals received a passing score on the computer-based examination over the course of the month. These individuals may be recognized by the CRA credential after their names. ■

Arizona

Pam Forshier, CRA

Maryland

Joseph H. Linstrom, CRA

Oregon

Thomas Pummer, CRA

Colorado

Stephen P. Mattson, CRA

Michigan

Bart Berndt, CRA, RN, RT(R), MHA

South Carolina

Angela McMillan, CRA, BHS, RT(R)(MR)(M)

Florida

Paul Claus, CRA

Minnesota

Kathleen Williams, CRA, BA, RT(R)(CT)

South Dakota

Beth L. Weber, CRA

Georgia

Susan L. Moore, CRA

North Carolina

Nancy Davis, CRA

Mark E. Janas, CRA

John Nani, CRA

Kevin Simon, CRA, RT(R), MBA

Tennessee

Walter A. Bowman, CRA, MA, RT(R)

Illinois

Robert Kunzer, CRA

Texas

John M. Hurley, Jr., CRA, MBA

M. Kevin Spears, CRA

Indiana

Michael A. Julian, CRA

New York

Frances Dietz, CRA, MPH

Virginia

Loraine M. Prowant, CRA

Kentucky

George D. Ruggles, CRA

Mark E. Steely, CRA

Ohio

Kay Holland, CRA, RT(R)(CT)

Jeff Kuderca, CRA

Janet Scott, CRA

Washington

Linda Rodriguez, CRA