



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION FOR EMERGENCY NURSING™

BCEN at a Glance

BCEN's Mission: The **Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN®)** develops robust certification exams fostering empowered nurses across the emergency spectrum who contribute noticeably to patient care, safety and outcomes.

BCEN's Vision: The Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing is *the* benchmark for nursing certifications across the emergency spectrum.

About BCEN:

Emergency nurses—whether they work in general or pediatric emergency care, flight and critical care ground transport, or trauma care—must be at the peak of caregiving **excellence**. Board certification is a professionally recognized **achievement** and sought-after mark of excellence that validates specialty knowledge and clinical expertise that empowers nurses to **impact** patient care, safety and outcomes.

The **Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN)** is an independent, not-for-profit organization that develops national board certification programs for adult and pediatric emergency, flight and critical care ground transport, and trauma nurses. **Throughout 2020**, BCEN is celebrating **40 years** of emergency nursing specialty certification.

Board certification in emergency nursing:

- Validates nurses have met national standards of excellence in their specialty, ensures ongoing competency, and equips nurses to help their units run safely, efficiently and productively.
- Affirms nurses are the best they can be, distinguishing them among their peers and positioning them for maximum career success.
- Delivers a constant, proven and critical confidence boost as nurses work in health care's most uncertain, demanding and dynamic environment.
- Assures patients and their families that nurses possess a high level of clinical expertise, are on top of best practices, and can provide the highest quality care.

"Certification is the formal recognition of the specialized knowledge, skills, and experience demonstrated by the achievement of standards identified by a nursing specialty to promote optimal health outcomes."

—American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) definition

BCEN's Board Certification Programs + First Certificate Program:

Since 1980, BCEN has offered **recognized, respected and sought-after specialty certifications** for nurses practicing across the emergency spectrum:

	<u>Since:</u>	<u>Held by:</u>
CEN® – Certified Emergency Nurse	1980	~40,000
CFRN® – Certified Flight Registered Nurse	1993	~4,500
CPEN® – Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse	2009	~5,300
CTRN® – Certified Transport Registered Nurse	2006	~250
TCRN® – Trauma Certified Registered Nurse	2016	~5,200

(more)

The CEN®, CFRN®, CPEN®, and TCRN® certification programs are **nationally accredited** by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC). All of BCEN's certification programs are ANCC Magnet® Recognition Program-accepted. In 2020, BCEN introduced its **first certificate program, [BCEN EDvantage](#)**, to help prepare nursing students, new grads and practicing RNs for a career in the competitive and demanding emergency nursing specialty.

BCEN Programs and Services:

BCEN is dedicated to supporting nurses at every stage of their careers, as well as employers and nursing students, as part of our commitment to offering exceptional emergency nursing specialty certification programs, demonstrating the value of certification, and advocating for board certification for nurses.

In addition to offering five of the nursing profession's most rigorous certification programs, BCEN:

- Offers emergency nurses with an industry-leading portfolio of certification and recertification [resources and tools](#)
- Helps healthcare institutions and health systems thrive with [employer programs](#) and resources that support building, growing and recognizing a certified nurse workforce
- Sets students and RNs up for success through [scholarships](#) (\$175,000 awarded annually)
- [Recognizes nurses and institutions](#) who exemplify excellence as they encourage, support, promote and advance emergency nursing specialty certification through BCEN's annual **Distinguished CEN®, CPEN®, CFRN®/CTRN®, and TCRN® Awards** and BCEN's **National Certification Champion Award** for small facilities, large facilities, and health systems.

Certification Statistics:

In 2020, over **55,000 BCEN certifications** are held by nurses practicing across the emergency spectrum, with nearly 40,000 nurses holding the CEN® credential.

BCEN Funded and Initiated Research & White Papers:

In September 2017, BCEN released the results of the rigorous large-scale study, the **Value of CEN® Certification Research Study**. Reflecting the responses of over 8,800 certified and non-certified emergency nurses and 1,002 of their supervisors, this first-of-its-kind study in emergency nursing demonstrates significant positive correlations between emergency nursing certification and multiple nursing expertise, performance and career outcomes. [Read highlights of the study.](#)

In 2019, BCEN initiated a research partnership with emergency, trauma and transport industry organizations to conduct the first ever major research on the emergency nursing workforce. Read the peer-reviewed findings of the [Emergency/Trauma/Transport Nursing Workforce Study](#).

Between June 2018 and June 2020, BCEN introduced a **series of four white papers** for emergency nurses, ED leaders and administrators, educators, and in the case of its newest white paper, healthcare leaders across every specialty. These research-backed white papers, [available for free download](#), detail the benefits, value and impact of board certification and how to build a certified nurse workforce.

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Excellence. Achievement. Impact.

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