



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION FOR EMERGENCY NURSING™

BCEN at a Glance

Mission: The **Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN®)** supports nurses to achieve excellence by being the industry leader in professional credentialing while promoting the value of certification and lifelong learning.

Vision: Every patient across the emergency spectrum receives care from a BCEN-certified nurse.

About BCEN:

Emergency nurses—whether they work in emergency, 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.

Founded in 1980, the **Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN)** is an independent, not-for-profit organization that develops national board certification programs for adult/mixed and pediatric emergency, flight and critical care ground transport, and trauma nurses.

Board certification in emergency, trauma and transport 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:

BCEN offers five **recognized, respected and sought-after specialty certifications** for nurses practicing across the emergency spectrum:

	<u>Launch:</u>	<u>Certificants:</u> (on 03/01/21)
CEN – Certified Emergency Nurse	1980	40,740
CFRN – Certified Flight Registered Nurse	1993	4,772
CPEN – Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse	2009	5,448
CTRN – Certified Transport Registered Nurse	2006	295
TCRN – Trauma Certified Registered Nurse	2016	6,177

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, including the CTRN®, are ANCC Magnet® Recognition Program-accepted. In May 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.

Other BCEN Programs & 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 October 2020, BCEN launched [BCEN Learn](#), an all-in-one continuing education program featuring interactive CE courses, topical webinars, full-length practice exams and the BCEN & Friends podcast.

BCEN also:

- Offers emergency nurses with an industry-leading portfolio of certification and recertification [resources and tools](#), including the popular [Nurse Recognition Kit](#)
- Helps employers thrive with [the BCEN Voucher Program](#) as healthcare institutions and health systems build, grow and recognize a certified nurse workforce
- Sets students and RNs up for success through [scholarships](#) (over \$1 million since 2008)
- [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 and large organizations and health systems.

Certification Statistics:

At year-end 2020, nearly **57,000 BCEN certifications** were held by RNs and advanced practice nurses working across the emergency spectrum, with more than **40,000 nurses holding the CEN credential**.

BCEN Research:

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.

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 Survey](#) [here](#).

BCEN White Papers & Commitment to Excellence Series:

BCEN's research-backed, free [white papers](#) for emergency nurses, ED leaders and administrators, educators, and healthcare leaders across every specialty detail the benefits, value and impact of board certification and how to build a certified nurse workforce.

BCEN's [Commitment to Excellence Series](#) chronicles the history, evolution and impact of BCEN's five emergency nursing specialty certifications.

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Rev 03/21

Excellence. Achievement. Impact.

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