



# Get an EDge on your career.



A certificate program to prepare for a career in the emergency department

Applying to an ED job can be competitive.

When the hospital is looking at your application, what sets you apart from the others?



BCEN® EDvantage sets you up for certified success by exposing you to the information and knowledge you'll need to someday pursue board certification from BCEN. Having a BCEN EDvantage certificate gives you a head start on the competition and better prepares you for a career in the ED.

### How does it work?

Participants are required to complete both in-person and online activities that give them a genuine, real-life ED experience. Here are just a sampling of the skill building assignments and course work you will be exposed to:

#### In-Person Activities

- Complete one Stop the Bleed course.
- Participate in a community volunteer event where you have face-to-face interaction and the opportunity to apply fundamental nursing skills.
- Complete Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) course for healthcare providers from the American Heart Association

#### Online Activities

- Complete three BCEN Learn accredited CE Courses (included in application fee)
- Complete Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System
- Complete FEMA IS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System
- Complete NIH Stroke Scale Training from the American Heart Association

#### Writing Assignments

- Research and identify one significant operational issue that impacts the Emergency Department.
- Complete an essay on specialty nursing certification, discussing your views on whether you believe specialty certification provides value to nurses, patients and organizations.
- Complete a reflection essay related to a clinical experience that made a significant impact on you.

#### Other Requirements

- Demonstrate membership and active participation in a professional membership association.
- Provide a complete resume.



### Eligibility

#### Nursing Students:

Must be no more than 12 months prior to graduation.

#### Current Nurses:

Must have unrestricted US or international RN license.

Must NOT hold a current BCEN certification or have an open certification application.

#### General Criteria:

Submit a \$75 program application fee.

Complete the program requirements within 6 months of submitting the application fee.

#### Curriculum

The BCEN EDvantage program is a combination of in-person, online and



written activities. All activities must be completed by the participant within 6 months of application, submitted and verified by BCEN. Upon completion, the participant will receive a certificate and a professional portfolio that can accompany you on job interviews. A digital badge will be generated which can be added to LinkedIn, resumes, professional documents and more.

**Disclaimer:** The program application fee is nonrefundable. All fees associated with programs required for submission are the responsibility of the applicant. BCEN reserves the right to deny portfolios that do not meet selected criteria. BCEN makes no guarantees that completing the BCEN EDvantage certificate program will secure you a position in the Emergency Department.



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[BCEN.org/EDvantage](https://www.bcen.org/EDvantage)

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### Why BCEN EDvantage?

BCEN EDvantage is designed to give you the edge in launching or furthering your career. Nursing school gave you the knowledge to succeed, but BCEN EDvantage provides opportunities to enhance it. This certificate shows potential employees you have the drive, passion and motivation to excel. It also sets you on a course for certified success by giving you many of the experiences and information you'll need to pursue board certification from BCEN.

# The Candidate's Journey

## From Nursing School to BCEN® Board Certification

Wherever you are in the journey, board certification from BCEN can set nurses up for even more success and fulfillment in the career you're building. We'll take you through the steps to plot your course to certification.

**You've got a bright future ahead. Get started!**

### 1 Enroll in BCEN EDvantage

Be part of this hands-on educational experience that shows hiring managers you have the drive, passion and motivation to excel.



### 3 Real-World Experience

We recommend two years of experience as an RN before you take your certification exam. Soak up all the knowledge your job offers, and seize any opportunity for further learning.



### 2 Toss that Cap, Graduate!

Celebrate now, because you've earned it. Tomorrow, the next stage in your journey begins. You've got the map, we've got the compass. Let's start you off in the right direction.



### 4 Start Building Your Professional Network Now

Join the professional organization(s) that will give you insight into your area of specialization, and connect you with other nurses who are on the same path. ENA, STN and ASTNA are all great places to start.



### 5 Start the Conversation

It's never too soon to create your support network as you pursue certification. Let your supervisor know you're planning to take your career to the next level with board certification. And when the time comes, you can find all the resources you need in our Make Your Case Toolkit on our website.



### 6 Earn Your Badges

No, we aren't talking about scouting or camping in the woods. But with each level of achievement, you unlock more of the skills you'll need to succeed as a certified emergency, transport or trauma nurse.

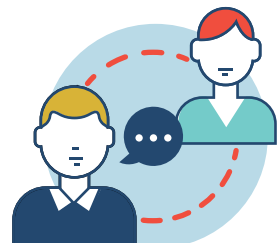
#### • Education Badges

Take continuing education courses in your area of specialization, because even after graduation, the learning never stops. Good certificates to focus on are Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC™).



### 7 Find a Mentor

• **Mentorship Badges**  
Behind every great nurse are other great nurses. Form connections with your peers and the nurses you aspire to be like, and ask one of them to serve as your professional mentor.



### 8 Keep Good Records

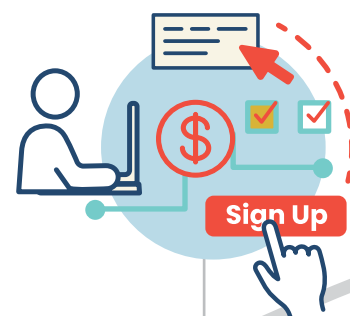
#### • Accountability Badge

Keep a record of all of the courses you've taken, meetings with mentors, and any other professional development opportunities you've taken advantage of. This will help you when it comes to making your case for certification support, and will build a solid foundation of confidence, capability and preparedness when it's time to take your exam.



### 9 Start the Countdown

Certification success begins with careful planning. Sign up for your free account at BCEN.org. Once you've chosen the certification that's right for you, we make it simple to submit your application. After we've determined you're eligible to pursue board certification and we receive your payment, we'll be in touch with your next steps.



### 10 The Journey Begins

Candidates have 90 days to schedule and sit for their exams at any of our Pearson VUE testing facilities. Choose the place and time that's right for you. We recommend scheduling your exam as quickly as possible.



### 11 Prepare for Success

It's not just about showing up; it's about slowing up and taking the time you need to succeed. BCEN offers helpful tools and tips for test preparation, including a BCEN practice exam. These exams are close to the real deal in delivery, content and scoring, and will give you a flavor of your actual exam. Plus, you have the opportunity to gain 3 CEs when you complete one! Practice exams can be purchased on learn.bcen.org and offer different methods for taking the exam to ensure you maximize your value.



### 12 You Got This

You've worked hard, you've stretched your wings and now you're ready to soar. Be sure to bring along two valid forms of ID when you head to the testing facility. After a brief orientation, you'll have three hours to complete your exam. Breathe deep and stay calm — you're ready for this!



### 13 Set Your Sights on the Future

Once you've completed the exam, results can be found on your dashboard in your BCEN account within 1 to 2 business days. In the event you do not pass, you'll receive a follow-up from BCEN on how to reapply.



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Excellence. Achievement. Impact.

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