

# 2025 Year in Review

Setting the Standard Through  
Quality & Innovation



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION  
FOR EMERGENCY NURSING  
Excellence. Achievement. Impact.



# Setting the Standard Through Quality & Innovation

## Executive Summary

2025 was a landmark year for the Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing in ways that underscore BCEN's enduring **commitment to quality and forward-thinking innovation** in service of **advancing nurses' specialty practice** across the emergency spectrum.



Each **BCEN certification** program posted notable growth, and BCEN's international footprint expanded.



The CBRN burn nursing specialty certification earned **initial accreditation** — and now **all six BCEN certification programs** are nationally accredited and Magnet-accepted.



**BCEN Learn** offerings now include **more than 100 topical CE courses, two new review courses** and **expanded trauma-related content**, plus the innovative professional development platform earned a **fifth international award**.

**BCENLearn**

## Executive Summary (continued)



Growth in both individual voucher purchases and vouchers with Test Assurance strengthened the **BCEN Voucher Program**, and BCEN debuted its first **professional development scholarships**.



Annual investment in nurses and nursing organizations continued through **specialty society academic scholarships**, along with recognition for top specialty nurses and workplaces committed to building a specialty-certified nursing workforce through BCEN's **annual national awards**.



The **Invest in Yourself campaign** amplified powerful and poignant stories of four nurses' professional and personal journeys.



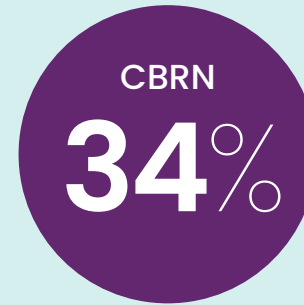
BCEN's industry leadership earned national recognition while BCEN advanced specialty certification through service and research—including a President's Award, a board leadership role at a national accrediting body and the release of findings from the **2025 Culture of Certification Support survey**.

**Together, these accomplishments demonstrate BCEN's ongoing dedication to empowering nurses, increasing access to certification and highlighting the contributions of board-certified emergency, trauma, transport and burn RNs.**

# Certification Program Growth & Momentum

BCEN ended the year with **65,364 credentials held**, representing a **4.3% year-over-year increase** – the strongest overall growth since 2020. All six certification programs posted solid growth, with the TCRN, CEN, and CPEN programs showing their strongest gains in recent years.

Introduced worldwide in fall 2023, the **CBRN** grew **34%** in 2025.

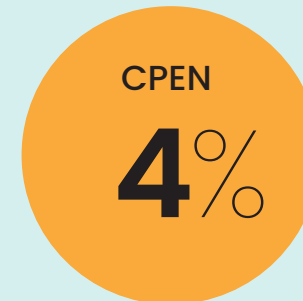
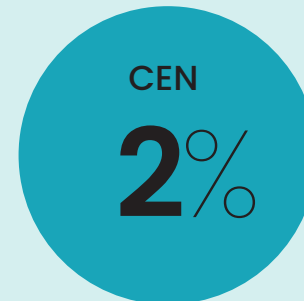


## Certification Growth Highlights

Trauma and transport certifications continued their long-term growth trajectories, with the **CTRN** up **9%**, and the **CFRN** and **TCRN** each up **more than 8%**.



The **CEN** and **CPEN** posted their strongest growth since the pandemic, rising **more than 2%** and **nearly 4%**, respectively.



## Certification Program Growth & Momentum (continued)



**41,636**

credentials held

**2.3% GROWTH**



**5,827**

credentials held

**3.8% GROWTH**



**7,769**

credentials held

**8.2% GROWTH**



**669**

credentials held

**9.0% GROWTH**



**8,741**

credentials held

**8.2% GROWTH**



**722**

credentials held

**34.2% GROWTH**



## Expanding Global Reach

BCEN now certifies nurses residing in **30 countries**, with the highest numbers in the United States, followed by Canada, South Korea and the United Arab Emirates.

# Advancing Excellence Through Accreditation, Culture & Community

## Accreditation Milestone

- In August, **the CBRN certification program earned initial accreditation** from the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) and, as a result, is now Magnet-accepted.
- **All six BCEN certification programs are now ABSNC-accredited and Magnet-accepted**, representing the gold standards in nursing specialty certification, marking a pivotal milestone in BCEN's 45th year.

## Cultivating Culture Inside and Out

- BCEN earned a **Brandon Hall Bronze Award for Employee Engagement**, its sixth Excellence Award, recognizing BCEN's strong people-centered culture and measurable organizational impact.
- BCEN surveyed all credential holders through the **2025 Culture of Certification Support survey** to understand how nurses are supported in their certification journeys and where employers are providing—or not providing—resources, recognition and incentives, and to identify gaps in support. The findings were **announced nationally** and will guide BCEN's certification advocacy, recognition and resource development efforts.



## Advancing Excellence Through Accreditation, Culture & Community (continued)



### Building Community in the Burn Industry

- In April, BCEN announced the **first Distinguished CBRN Award winner**, and burn centers became eligible for BCEN's annual award for organizations that champion certification.
- BCEN **established a partnership** with the **Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors**, marking BCEN's first formal patient advocacy agreement.



**“We are excited to partner with BCEN and support their efforts to promote excellence in burn nursing. Certification like the CBRN represents a crucial step in ensuring survivors receive the highest standard of care throughout every stage of recovery.”**

*Phoenix Society's Senior Director of Programs and Services | Jill Sproul, MS, RN*

# Amplifying Nurse Voices

## A National Platform for Powerful Professional & Personal Stories

- BCEN launched **Invest in Yourself**, a first-of-its-kind campaign in the nursing certification board space.
- The multi-year campaign kicked off in February and featured four certified nurses' stories in **compelling video interviews, highlighting their unique certification journeys** and why they chose to invest in their professional development with BCEN.
- Several of the nurses share how they invested in both their professional growth and their personal well-being, highlighting the **connection between certification, overall wellness and career satisfaction**.

## As Featured in Premier Nursing Journal & International Media

- Critical care transport nurse and nursing clinical instructor Jason Vest spotlighted the ground transport specialty in an ***American Journal of Nursing*** column, as featured on BCEN's **Journal Articles page**.
- BCEN 2020 Distinguished TCRN and U.S. Air Force veteran Mariah Rosensweet explained why she is **Devoted to Lifelong Learning** in an ***AirMed&Rescue* Military Special edition interview**.

### Hear from:



Allen



Mariah



Paula



Wilmar



# BCEN Learn Expansion & Engagement

**BCEN Learn** experienced another year of robust growth and meaningful engagement, with expanded trauma offerings as a standout theme. By year-end, the learning portfolio included **106 emergency nursing specialty courses**, **3 review courses**, **5 practice exams** and **10** new free **webinars**. Notably, approximately **75% of users** took advantage of bundle-and-save options.

**106**  
EMERGENCY NURSING  
SPECIALTY COURSES

**3**  
REVIEW  
COURSES

**5**  
PRACTICE  
EXAMS

**10**  
NEW FREE  
WEBINARS



## Trauma Content & Exam Prep Momentum

Expanded trauma offerings with new trauma-focused courses, the **Volume 2 Trauma Bundle** and a fully reengineered **TCRN practice exam** aligned with the revised content outline.

Hosted first **virtual trauma summit** in July 2025, welcoming **175 live attendees** and receiving high marks for practical, real-world content.

Introduced **TCRN Review Course** in October 2025.

## BCEN Learn Expansion & Engagement (continued)

### Review Courses for ED Nurses

- Earned a Brandon Hall Excellence Award for the **CEN Review Course** (launched mid-2024), with course registrations up 38.5%.
- Launched **TCRN Review Course** and **CPEN Review Course** in October 2025.
- Delivered **1,500+** review courses in 2025 across all three specialties offered (CEN, CPEN and TCRN).

DELIVERED

**1,500+** REVIEW COURSES

### Practice Exam Enhancements

- Added nearly **400** new items across all five BCEN Learn practice exams to expand breadth of information and better align with updated exam outlines.

ADDED NEARLY

**400** NEW PRACTICE EXAM ITEMS

### Webinar Engagement & Reach

- Hosted 10 new free-CE webinars, contributing to a **12.5% increase in total webinar views**.
- Recorded nearly **40,000** webinar registrations (new and existing, live and on-demand).

RECORDED NEARLY

**40,000** WEBINAR REGISTRATIONS

# Investing in the Future of Nursing

BCEN continued its commitment to supporting BCEN-certified nurses through academic scholarships and philanthropic giving. Notably, BCEN established the **Investment in the Future of Nursing Fund** to directly support nursing professional development through certification, recertification, and continuing education scholarships.

## Academic Scholarships

In 2025, BCEN again funded **\$145,000** in **academic scholarships** through nursing professional societies:

- Emergency Nurses Association (ENA): **\$40,000**
- Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association (ASTNA): **\$35,000**
- Society of Trauma Nurses (STN): **\$35,000**
- Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association (FNSNA): **\$35,000**



## Professional Development Scholarships

BCEN established the **Investment in the Future of Nursing Fund** and awarded **\$22,098** directly to nurses as follows:

- **18** initial certification scholarships
- **15** recertification scholarships
- **5** BCEN Learn Live scholarships covering conference registration and lodging



BCEN also contributed \$10,000 to the **ASTNA Bereavement Fund** and \$2,000 to the **Institute for Credentialing Excellence Research & Development Fund**.

# BCEN Voucher Program Participation & Customer Savings

The **BCEN Voucher Program** — offering volume discounts for **initial certification, retesting and renewals** to individual nurses and organizations alike — continued to deliver **meaningful financial savings**.



In 2025:

**6,312**  
VOUCHERS

**6,312 vouchers** were purchased by organizations and nurses, reinforcing the value of programs that help make certification more accessible.

GREW  
**3%**

**Test assurance** vouchers **grew from 23% to 26%** of total voucher sales.

**17.6%**  
INCREASE

**Over 17%** increase in vouchers purchased by individual nurses.

**\$1.2**  
MILLION

Total savings generated = **\$1.2 million**

# Leadership, Recognition & Championing Certification

## BCEN Leaders Recognized for Industry Impact & Service

- The **American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS)**, whose members represent over 1 million specialty certified nurses across dozens of specialties, **honored BCEN CEO Janie Schumaker** with the prestigious **Janel Parker President's Award**. The annual award recognizes an individual or organization within the ABNS membership for significant contributions to specialty nursing certification and to the ABNS organization.
- **BCEN Director of Certification and Accreditation Amy Grand, MSN, RN, ICE-CCP**, was elected board of directors president by the Accreditation Board for Nursing Specialty Certification (ABSNC). ABSNC is the only accrediting body dedicated exclusively to nursing professional certification.

## Celebrating Top Specialty Nurses & Certification Champions

- The **2025 Distinguished Award honorees** included the **first Distinguished CBRN**, Amanda Kumar, BSN, RN, CBRN. **Meet all the winners.**



- The **2025 National Certification Champions** were: UCHealth Emergency Room – Harmony Campus (small facility), Hackensack University Medical Center – Adult and Pediatric Emergency Department (large facility), and The University of Tennessee Medical Center Emergency & Trauma (health system).

# Stay in Touch with BCEN



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION  
FOR EMERGENCY NURSING  
Excellence. Achievement. Impact.



**Subscribe** to  
BCEN's newsletter



**Discover** new  
CE opportunities

