

Beginning with 2014 recertifications, this learning needs self-assessment must be completed by all certificants who chose to recertify using a paper application. For nurses recertifying in 2014-2018, the form should be completed at least 1 year before recertifying and forwarded to ONCB, 330 N. Wabash St., Suite 2000; Chicago, IL 60611. Moving forward, the form should be completed within the first year of the new certification term and sent to ONCB at the address above. Keep a copy of the completed form with your CE records so you can complete the evaluation at the time of recertification.

Nurses using LearningBuilder, ONCB's free electronic CE records maintenance and recertification system, will complete the learning needs self-assessment online and will not need to use this paper assessment.

As part of ONCB's efforts related to continuing competence, certificants are asked to identify at least one topic area each in Category A and B as a focus for CE efforts. These identified learning needs can serve as a possible guide for certificants' continuing education during a certification cycle.

Topics/Descriptions for Category A

1. Musculoskeletal Anatomy and Physiology

Activities under this topic may include content on anatomy of bone and muscle (e.g., microscopic structure of bone, types of joints [synovial, fibrous, cartilaginous]).

2. Musculoskeletal Assessment

Activities under this topic include content on musculoskeletal physical examination techniques and parameters (e.g., gait, muscle strength, joint range of motion).

3. Musculoskeletal Diagnostics

Activities under this topic may include content on relevant blood and urine tests (e.g., ANA, rheumatoid factor), radiographic studies (e.g., CT scan, MRI, bone scan), and special diagnostic studies (e.g., arthroscopy, bone marrow aspiration).

4. Perioperative Orthopaedic Care

Activities under this topic may include content on preoperative assessment and teaching specific to musculoskeletal conditions, intraoperative care of the patient undergoing musculoskeletal surgery, and postoperative evaluation specific to musculoskeletal surgery (e.g., neurovascular assessment).

5. Pain Management

Activities under this topic may include content on general principles of pain management or pain management modalities with specific musculoskeletal application (e.g., epidural analgesia for total joint arthroplasty).

6. Complications of Musculoskeletal Conditions/Procedures

Activities under this topic may include content on complications specific to musculoskeletal conditions or procedures (e.g., VTE, fat embolism, compartment syndrome, delayed union/malunion). Other topics not unique to musculoskeletal care will receive credit under Category B (e.g., delirium, pressure ulcers, constipation, hospital-acquired pneumonia, urinary retention).

7. Infections

Activities under this topic may include content on infections specific to musculoskeletal care (e.g., osteomyelitis, septic arthritis, prosthetic infections, bone and joint tuberculosis). General information on surgical site infection will receive credit under Category B.

8. Therapeutic Modalities

Activities under this topic may include content on therapies unique to musculoskeletal care (e.g., external fixator, CPM machine, braces/orthotics/orthoses, ambulating devices and techniques).

9. Pediatrics/Congenital Disorders

Activities under this topic may include content on musculoskeletal conditions and procedures typically associated with pediatric patients (e.g., Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease, Blount's disease, osteogenesis imperfecta, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy).

10. Arthritis and Connective Tissue Disorders

Activities under this topic may include content on arthritis and related disorders (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile arthritis, osteoarthritis, gout, Lyme disease, ankylosing spondylitis, reactive arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, systemic sclerosis, lupus, fibromyalgia). Also included are surgical treatments for these conditions (e.g., total joint arthroplasty, osteotomy, arthrodesis).

11. Metabolic Bone Conditions

Activities under this topic may include content on metabolic skeletal disorders (e.g., hyperparathyroidism, osteomalacia, osteoporosis, Paget's disease, rickets).

12. Musculoskeletal Trauma

Activities under this topic may include content specific to musculoskeletal trauma (e.g., strain and sprain, dislocation and subluxation, fracture, bullet and blast injuries/crush injuries). Also included are surgical treatments for musculoskeletal trauma (e.g., ORIF for hip fracture). Other topics not unique to musculoskeletal care will receive credit under Category B (e.g., airway management, hemodynamics, emergency response systems).

13. Lower Extremity

Activities under this topic may include content specific to musculoskeletal disorders of the lower extremity, including foot and ankle (e.g., Achilles rupture/tenosynovitis, plantar fasciitis, Charcot foot, hallux valgus, diabetic foot, mallet toe, hallux valgus), knee (e.g., overuse syndromes, pediatric knee conditions), and hip/femur/pelvis (e.g., femoral acetabular impingement, pelvic fracture).

14. Upper Extremity

Activities under topic may include content specific to musculoskeletal disorders of the upper extremity, including shoulder (e.g., rotator cuff injury, adhesive capsulitis, congenital dysplasia of the glenoid), hand and wrist ((e.g., Dupuytren's disease, mallet finger, carpal tunnel syndrome, trigger thumb/finger), and elbow (e.g., epicondylitis, olecranon bursitis, biceps tendon rupture, nursemaid's elbow, pitcher's elbow).

15. The Spine

Activities under this topic may include content specific to musculoskeletal spine disorders (e.g., scoliosis, kyphosis, herniated nucleus pulposus, spinal stenosis, spondylolysis/spondylolisthesis, failed back syndrome).

16. Neuromuscular Disorders

Activities under this topic may include content specific to neuromuscular conditions (e.g., multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease).

17. General Nursing Topics (Category B)

These include any activities in non-orthopaedic areas of nursing education.

Learning Needs Self-Assessment

Name _____ Year of Recertification _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

I. Category A topic: _____

Why are you interested in this topic? Circle one option.

- Current trends
- High risk care area
- High volume care area
- Low volume care area
- New technology/equipment knowledge deficit
- Organizational/employer goal
- Patient safety
- Personal interest
- Required for role
- Other: _____

II. Category B topic: _____

Why are you interested in this topic? Circle one option.

- Current trends
- High risk care area
- High volume care area
- Low volume care area
- New technology/equipment knowledge deficit
- Organizational/employer goal
- Patient safety
- Personal interest
- Required for role
- Other: _____

Before submitting the recertification application, please indicate if you achieved education in the identified areas; if so, you should indicate how practice may be impacted by information gained through the CE activity.

How likely will your learning activities change the way you practice? Circle one option.

I. Category A topic
0 – Did no activities
1 – Highly unlikely
2 – Unlikely
3 – Possibly
4 – Likely
5 – Highly likely

II. Category B topic
0 – Did no activities
1 – Highly unlikely
2 – Unlikely
3 – Possibly
4 – Likely
5 – Highly likely

This self-assessment will be used solely as a tool for meeting learning needs. No penalty will be assessed for certificants who were unable to attend their targeted activities.