



**Excellence
Defines Us – An
Update from the
NBRC**

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CCP

Chief Executive Officer

Objectives

- Learn the role and function of the NBRC
- Understand the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP)
- Discuss updates to the credentialing system

NBRC Sponsoring Organizations



NBRC Board of Trustees

	Current	Future
AARC	15 Respiratory Therapist	9 Respiratory Therapists
CHEST	5 Physicians	3 Physicians
ATS	5 Physicians	3 Physicians
ASA	5 Physicians	3 Physicians

The NBRC elects one public member to complete the governing body.

Judicial and Ethics Committee:

Violate testing rules

Misuse credentials

Commit practice related offense

License revoked or denied

Violate copyright/trademark laws

The NBRC and Other Respiratory Care Organizations

Respiratory Care Organizations: Who We Are

An important part of our mission at the NBRC involves working collaboratively with other national organizations that share the universal goal of protecting and enhancing patient lives through excellence in respiratory care. We're proud of our long-standing relationships with the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) and the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). Together, with these organizations, we come together to promote and serve the respiratory care profession.

NBRC

- Credentialing body for respiratory care profession
- Assesses minimum competency for entry into practice
- **MISSION:** Promote excellence in respiratory care by awarding credentials based on high competency standards

nbrc.org

AARC

- Professional membership organization for students and practitioners that provides education, advocacy, clinical practice guidelines and more
- Provides a voice for practitioners at a state and national level
- **MISSION:** Advance professional excellence and science in the practice of respiratory therapy, serving the profession, patients, caregivers and the public

aarc.org

CoARC

- Accrediting agency that supports education programs
- Enforces standards for education in respiratory care
- **MISSION:** Ensure that high-quality educational programs prepare graduates to be competent respiratory therapists with proficiency in practice, education, research and service

coarc.com

NCCA Accreditation

In 1977, NBRC became one of the first four groups to receive accreditation from the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and remains the only one of those four groups to be continuously accredited.

Mission of the NCCA:

Help ensure health, welfare, and safety of the public

Establish standards

Evaluate compliance with standards

Recognize programs demonstrating compliance

Be a resource on quality certification



All NBRC credentialing examinations are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and reviewed every five years as part of the accreditation renewal process.

Recognition of NBRC Credentials

State Licensure Agencies

The practice of respiratory care is regulated in 49 states. Several states require the RRT credential for initial licensure.

Employers

NBRC credentials are required by employers.

NBRC Credentials of Excellence

- Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT)
- Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT)
- Certified Pulmonary Function Technologist (CPFT)
- Registered Pulmonary Function Technologist (RPFT)
- Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care Specialist (RRT-NPS)
- Sleep Disorders Specialist (CRT-SDS or RRT-SDS)
- Adult Critical Care Specialist (RRT-ACCS)
- Asthma Educator Specialist (AE-C) **◀◀◀ NEW!**

As of September 1, 2022, the NBRC assumed the Certified Asthma Educator (AE-C) program and all assets of the National Asthma Educator Certification Board (NAECB).

This multidisciplinary program is a great addition to our current offerings and will continue to be provided by us without disruption.

AE-C Examination FAQs



As of September 1, 2022, the NBRC assumed the Certified Asthma Educator (AE-C) examination and all assets of the National Asthma Educator Certification Board (NAECB). This multidisciplinary program is a great addition to our current offerings and will continue to be offered by us without disruption.

Q: What is the application process, and how long does it take?

A: You may apply online or submit a paper application and fee once you have met the admission requirements. If applying and paying by credit card online, your application is processed immediately. If mailing your application and fee, your application will be processed within approximately five to seven business days.

Q: What are the examination fees?

A: The AE-C Examination costs \$350 for new applicants and \$250 for reapplicants.

Q: Do I have to wait between attempts of the examination?

A: Yes, you may attempt the exam two times, after which you will be required to wait at least 180 days before sitting for the exam again.

Q: Is a free practice examination available?

A: A free AE-C practice examination is available so you may familiarize yourself with the content and types of questions that will be included on the credentialing exam.

Q: Is a Self-Assessment Examination available?

A: If you are assessing your preparedness for the AE-C Examination and feel you need more guidance than the free practice exam, there is a Self-Assessment Examination (SAE) available for purchase.

Q: Is live remote online proctoring available for the AE-C Examination?

A: Yes. Live remote online proctoring is available as a test delivery option.

Q: Why should I earn the AE-C credential?

A: This specialty examination is unique to the daily tasks you'll perform as an asthma educator care specialist. It goes above and beyond general activities, so you can demonstrate your acquired skill level in this specialty of respiratory care.

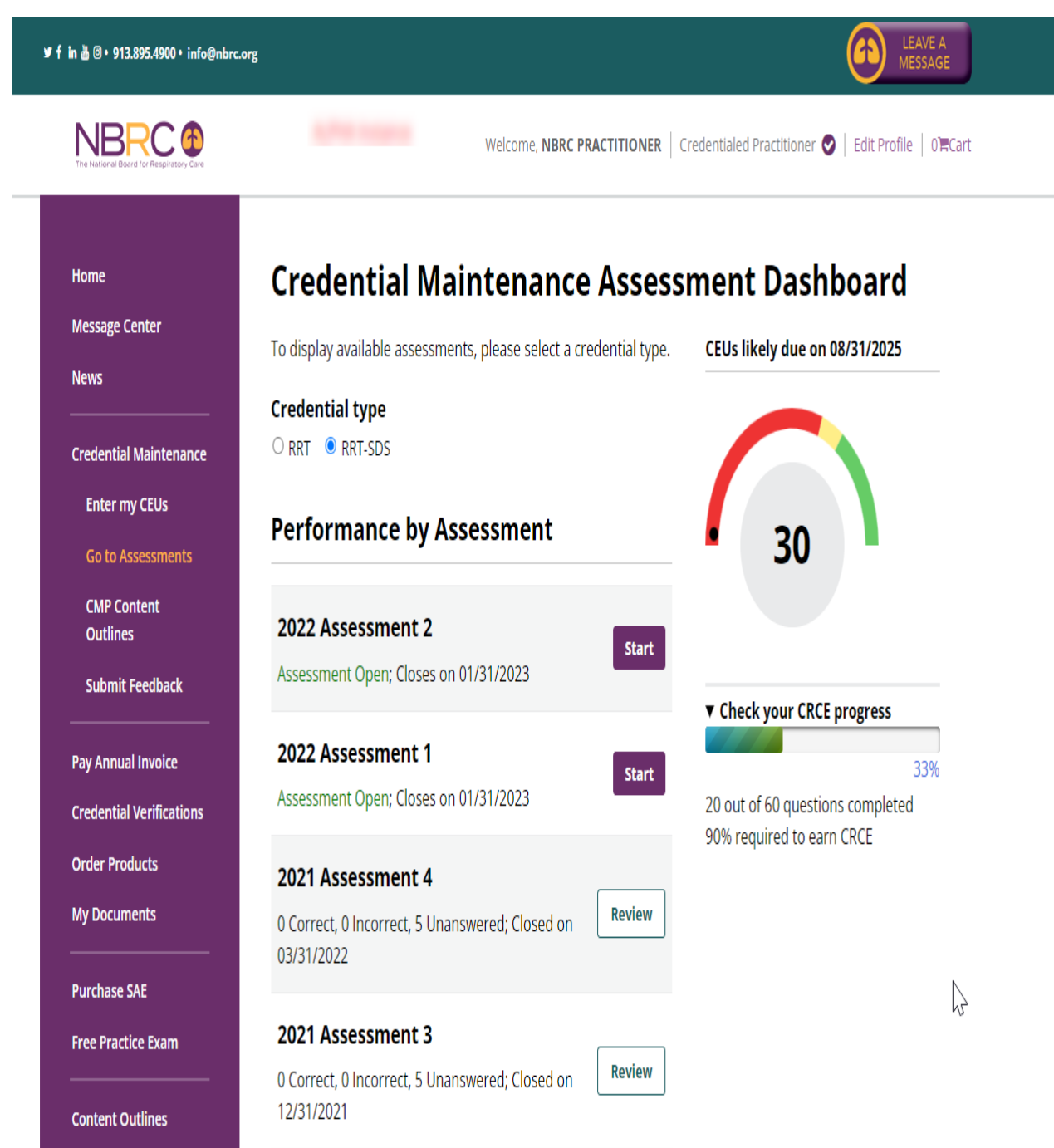
Certified Asthma Educator (AE-C) Credential Holders -

Welcome to the NBRC! We are so excited to bring this program under our umbrella of specialty credentials.

- Your credential is now valid through the last day of the month and year noted on your certificate.
- The Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) is the pathway to recertify your NBRC credential. The CMP fee is \$125 collected annually in \$25 increments over the 5-year credential term.
- Recertification must be completed online. Only individuals selected for audit are required to submit documentation of continuing education credits.
- After you complete the recertification process, you will receive an NBRC electronic certificate and wallet card with the option to purchase a hard copy of each if you choose.
- You have two options to maintain your AE-C credential every five years. Option 1 is to document 30 CEUs over your 5-year credential term. Option 2 is to retake the examination before your credential expires. Either option updates your credential for 5 years. More information can be found on our website.
- If your credential expires and you are within six months of credential expiration, you may enter your CEUs online and pay a \$250 reinstatement fee. Your CEUs must have been earned during your five-year credential term. CEUs obtained after your credential expiration are not accepted. If your credential is expired more than six months, you must retest to reinstate your credential.
- The Practitioner Portal at nbrc.org is where you access the CMP, pay the annual invoice, apply for examinations, order credential verification letters and other products, and find important information in the Message Center. Create an online Practitioner Portal account at nbrc.org.

Credential Maintenance Program (CMP)

- Three ways to participate
- Assessments are included for each credential.
- Content focuses on competencies that put the public at risk and practices that change rapidly.
- References to learning resources for each assessment item are provided.
- Practitioners access a dashboard to check progress.



The screenshot shows the NBRC Credential Maintenance Assessment Dashboard. At the top, there is a dark green header with social media icons, the phone number 913.895.4900, the email info@nbrc.org, and a 'LEAVE A MESSAGE' button. Below the header is the NBRC logo and the text 'The National Board for Respiratory Care'. The main navigation bar includes 'Welcome, NBRC PRACTITIONER', 'Credentialed Practitioner', 'Edit Profile', and 'Cart'. A left sidebar contains navigation links: Home, Message Center, News, Credential Maintenance (highlighted), Enter my CEUs, Go to Assessments, CMP Content Outlines, Submit Feedback, Pay Annual Invoice, Credential Verifications, Order Products, My Documents, Purchase SAE, Free Practice Exam, and Content Outlines. The main content area is titled 'Credential Maintenance Assessment Dashboard' and includes a message: 'To display available assessments, please select a credential type.' Below this, there are radio buttons for 'RRT' and 'RRT-SDS'. A circular progress indicator shows '30' and 'CEUs likely due on 08/31/2025'. A section titled 'Performance by Assessment' lists three assessments: '2022 Assessment 2' (Assessment Open; Closes on 01/31/2023) with a 'Start' button, '2022 Assessment 1' (Assessment Open; Closes on 01/31/2023) with a 'Start' button, and '2021 Assessment 4' (0 Correct, 0 Incorrect, 5 Unanswered; Closed on 03/31/2022) with a 'Review' button. A progress bar for 'Check your CRCE progress' shows '33%' completion, with '20 out of 60 questions completed' and '90% required to earn CRCE'. '2021 Assessment 3' (0 Correct, 0 Incorrect, 5 Unanswered; Closed on 12/31/2021) is also listed with a 'Review' button.

Earn CRCE Credit Starting Now!

NEW – complete at least 90% of assessment questions to earn CRCE credits!



NBRC has been approved to award CRCE credits to credentialed practitioners who participate in our Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) by completing at least 90% of assessment questions available in a calendar year. Credential holders who complete 90% of RT assessments in the calendar year will earn 6 CRCE credits and those who complete 90% of specialty credential assessments will earn 3 CRCE credits.

To facilitate this new CRCE opportunity, credential holders will have access to all assessments January 1 through December 31 (assessments no longer expire 6 months after release) and assessments will be available in the fifth year of the credentialing cycle (previously excluded for CEUs to be earned).

These CMP assessment details remain the same:

- Assessments will be released quarterly.
- Assessments for CRTs and RRTs contain 10 questions (40 total questions per year).
- Assessments for specialty credentials contain 5 questions (20 total questions per year).
- The cost to participate in the CMP is \$125 total, collected annually in \$25 increments over the 5-year credential cycle.

CMP Details

- Items are developed by a panel of RTs and physicians.
- Assessments are released quarterly and available for the entire calendar year, plus one month.
- CRT/RRT = 10 items Specialty Credentials = 5 items
- Mobile friendly platform allows for access on a phone, tablet or computer.
- Items can be answered all at once or return later to complete.
- Able to use resources (journal articles, books, internet searches, etc.).
- Must work independently, cannot share information, system captures copy and print attempts.

Accessing the Assessments

Home

Message Center

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Credential Maintenance

Enter my CEUs

[Go to Assessments](#)

CMP Content
Outlines

Submit Feedback

Pay Annual Invoice

Credential Verifications

Order Products

My Documents

Purchase SAE

Free Practice Exam

Content Outlines

Credential Maintenance Assessment Dashboard

To display available assessments, please select a credential type.

Credential type

RRT RRT-SDS

Performance by Assessment

2022 Assessment 2

Assessment Open; Closes on 01/31/2023

Start

2022 Assessment 1

Assessment Open; Closes on 01/31/2023

Start

2021 Assessment 4

0 Correct, 0 Incorrect, 5 Unanswered; Closed on 03/31/2022

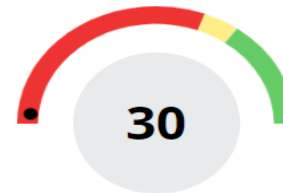
Review

2021 Assessment 3

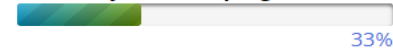
0 Correct, 0 Incorrect, 5 Unanswered; Closed on 12/31/2021

Review

CEUs likely due on 08/31/2025



▼ Check your CRCE progress



20 out of 60 questions completed
90% required to earn CRCE

Before you start an assessment item...

Terms and Conditions

I will

- submit answers that are mine alone.
- access content when needed to help me choose an answer.

I will not

- accept help from any other person.
- copy, disclose, or distribute any part or portion of the assessment.
- violate these terms because doing so could initiate an investigation into potential misconduct by the Judicial and Ethics Committee.

[Back to Dashboard](#)

[I Agree](#)

RRT Year 2020

Welcome to RRT Assessment 1

You have **5 minutes to answer each question.**

There are a total of **10 questions** in this assessment to be completed by **06/30/2020.**

You may leave the assessment between questions.

Once you start the timer, you cannot pause the question and loss of internet connection will cause the question to be marked as unanswered.

[Exit](#)

[Let's go, start the timer](#)

Sample Item



05:00 Time Left

Question 1 of 5

While performing blood gas analysis on a capillary blood sample, a respiratory therapist determines the sample is clotted. Which of the following should the therapist do?

- A Instill an anticoagulant into the analyzer.
- B Flush the sample line and recalibrate the analyzer.
- C Remembrane the electrodes.
- D Run a control sample through the analyzer.

Submit

We want your feedback...



Question 1 Complete

How confident are you about your response?

High

Low

How relevant is the item to the credential?

High

Low

Submit

We'll give you feedback...



RRT-NPS - 2019 - Quarter 1

Question 2 of 5: **Correct**

A physician orders an $F_{I}O_2$ of 0.40 for a premature infant in an isolette. Which of the following delivery devices should a respiratory therapist select?

air-entrainment mask

A. The $F_{I}O_2$ delivered with an air-entrainment mask will be adequate, but the higher flow may decrease the patient's body temperature.

oxygen hood

B. The oxygen hood will deliver a precise $F_{I}O_2$. It will allow maintenance of a neutral thermal environment and access for nursing care.

nasal cannula

C. The $F_{I}O_2$ of a nasal cannula is variable based on minute ventilation and liter flow.


simple mask

D. The $F_{I}O_2$ delivered by a simple mask is variable and may exceed the amount necessary for the premature infant.

Exit

Next Question

Review questions and answers...

 The National Board for Respiratory Care

[← Back to Dashboard](#)

RRT-NPS Assessment 1

1 out of 5 Correct

✘ Question 1
While performing blood gas analysis on a capillary blood sample, a respiratory therapist

✔ Question 2
A physician orders an F_{iO_2} of 0.40 for a premature infant in an isolette.

✘ Question 3
While performing blood gas analysis on a capillary blood sample, a respiratory therapist

✘ Question 4
While performing blood gas analysis on a capillary blood sample, a respiratory therapist

✘ Question 5
While performing blood gas analysis on a capillary blood sample, a respiratory therapist

Question 2 of 5: **Correct**

Check back next quarter to see how your performance compares to your peers.

A physician orders an F_{iO_2} of 0.40 for a premature infant in an isolette. Which of the following delivery devices should a respiratory therapist select?

✘ air-entrainment mask

(n) A. The F_{iO_2} delivered with an air-entrainment mask will be adequate, but the higher flow may decrease the patient's body temperature.

✔ oxygen hood

(c) B. The oxygen hood will deliver a precise F_{iO_2} . It will allow maintenance of a neutral thermal environment and access for nursing care.

✘ nasal cannula

(u) C. The F_{iO_2} of a nasal cannula is variable based on minute ventilation and liter flow.


✘ simple mask

(n) D. The F_{iO_2} delivered by a simple mask is variable and may exceed the amount necessary for the premature infant.

References

Kacmarek RM, Stoller JK, Heuer AJ. Egan's Fundamentals of Respiratory Care, 12th edition. St. Louis: Elsevier; 2021:755.

[Email Reference](#) [Copy Reference](#)



Peer Performance

Statistics are calculated at the end of each quarter to give feedback to participants in the dashboard.

Question 3 of 5: **Correct**

56% of your peers got this correct

An 8-month-old infant receiving invasive mechanical ventilation in the home for chronic lung disease is evaluated in the ED for a fever of 39.0° C (102.2° F) and

Practitioner Portal Home Screen

913.895.4900 • info@nbrc.org

CHAT NOW!

NBRC
The National Board for Respiratory Care

Welcome, **NBRC PRACTITIONER** | Credentialed Practitioner ✓ | [Edit Profile](#) | [0 Cart](#)


- Home
- Message Center
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- Credential Maintenance
 - Enter my CEUs
 - Go to Assessments
 - CMP Content Outlines
 - Submit Feedback
- Pay Annual Invoice
- Credential Verifications
- Order Products
- My Documents
- Purchase SAE
- Purchase SAE (AE-C)
- Free Practice Exam
- Content Outlines
- Candidate Handbook
- FAQ's
- Interested in Volunteering
- Change Password
- Sign Out

NBRC PRACTITIONER

Earned Credentials

[View Purchase History](#)

✓	CRT Earned:06/01/2020	Expires:08/31/2025	
✓	RRT Earned:08/01/2020	Expires:08/31/2025	Registry #:99999999
✓	RRT-SDS Earned:08/05/2020	Expires:08/31/2025	



[Manage Digital Badge](#)

Eligible Exam(s)

According to our records, you are eligible to apply for the examination(s) listed below. To begin the application process, click on the examination you wish to apply for. To apply for an examination not listed below, please submit a paper [application](#) to our office for processing.

- ✓ **TMC**
[Pay & Schedule Exam](#)
- ✓ **PFT**
[Pay & Schedule Exam](#)
- ✓ **NPS**
[Pay & Schedule Exam](#)

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Purchase SAE

Purchase SAE (AE-C)

Free Practice Exam

Content Outlines

Candidate Handbook

FAQ's

Interested in
Volunteering

Change Password

Sign Out

Credential Maintenance

Options for maintaining credentials are below:

Option 1: Completion of Category 1 Continuing Education (CE) hours. You may use credits from the American Association for Respiratory Care Continuing Respiratory Care Education Program (AARC-CRCE®) to fulfill the NBRC Credential Maintenance Program requirements as well as any CE hours accepted by your state licensure board (if applicable).

CE course activity may be entered at any time prior to your credential expiration, but you must click on the [Recertify Now] button to complete your recertification. Use the Add Course or Import AARC Courses options below to document your CEUs.

Go to Assessments

Please note, if you have not completed your final assessment the number of CEUs indicated below will not be confirmed until 6 months prior to your expiration date.

0 of 15 General Hours	N/A Neonatal/Pediatric	N/A Pulmonary Function	0 of 15 Sleep Disorder	N/A Adult Critical Care
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Recertify Now

Add Course

Import AARC Courses

List of Courses

The [Recertify Now] button will become active after you have entered the required number of CE hours and you are within 6 months of your credential expiration date.

Your continuing education hours must be within the dates of September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2025.

You have not added or imported courses yet

Go

Option 2: Pass an NBRC credentialing examination not previously completed.

Go

Option 3: Retake and pass the respective examination for the highest credential held that is subject to the CMP.

Enter CE Courses

Add courses at any time.

Recertify up to 6 months before expiration.

Add Course

Courses must be completed in your 5-year credential cycle.

The screenshot shows the 'Add Course' page on the NBRC website. At the top, there is a dark teal header with social media icons, the phone number 913.895.4900, the email info@nbrc.org, and a 'LEAVE A MESSAGE' button. Below the header, the NBRC logo is on the left, and the user's name 'Welcome, NBRC PRACTITIONER' is on the right, along with links for 'Credentialed Practitioner', 'Edit Profile', and 'Cart'. A purple sidebar on the left contains a navigation menu with items like Home, Message Center, News, Credential Maintenance, Enter my CEUs, Go to Assessments, CMP Content Outlines, Submit Feedback, Pay Annual Invoice, Credential Verifications, Order Products, My Documents, Purchase SAE, Purchase SAE (AE-C), Free Practice Exam, Content Outlines, Candidate Handbook, FAQ's, and Interested in Volunteering. The main content area is titled 'Add Course' and contains the following form fields: 'Course Name' (text input with 'SAMPLE COURSE'), 'Course Type' (dropdown menu with 'General Respiratory Care'), 'Course Category' (radio buttons for Lecture, Panel, Workshop, Seminar, Symposium, and Online Education, with 'Panel' selected), 'Hours' (text input with '1.5'), and 'Completion Date' (calendar input with '05/25/2021'). At the bottom of the form are 'Add' and 'Cancel' buttons.

CE Total and List Updated

System updates number of hours documented

List of courses entered available

Import CRCE courses available for AARC members

The screenshot shows the NBRC Practitioner portal. At the top, there is a navigation bar with social media icons, contact information (913.895.4900, info@nbrc.org), and a 'LEAVE A MESSAGE' button. Below this is the NBRC logo and the text 'The National Board for Respiratory Care'. The main header area includes a welcome message for a practitioner, along with links for 'Credentialed Practitioner', 'Edit Profile', and '0 Cart'.

The left sidebar contains a menu with the following items: Home, Message Center, News, Credential Maintenance (highlighted), Enter my CEUs, Go to Assessments, CMP Content Outlines, Submit Feedback, Pay Annual Invoice, Credential Verifications, Order Products, My Documents, Purchase SAE, Purchase SAE (AE-C), Free Practice Exam, Content Outlines, Candidate Handbook, FAQ's, Interested in Volunteering, Change Password, and Sign Out.

The main content area is titled 'Credential Maintenance'. It lists 'Options for maintaining credentials are below:' and provides 'Option 1: Completion of Category 1 Continuing Education (CE) hours. You may use credits from the American Association for Respiratory Care Continuing Respiratory Care Education Program (AARC-CRCE®) to fulfill the NBRC Credential Maintenance Program requirements as well as any CE hours accepted by your state licensure board (if applicable).'

Below this, it states: 'CE course activity may be entered at any time prior to your credential expiration, but you must click on the [Recertify Now] button to complete your recertification. Use the Add Course or Import AARC Courses options below to document your CEUs.'

A 'Go to Assessments' button is visible. A note follows: 'Please note, if you have not completed your final assessment the number of CEUs indicated below will not be confirmed until 6 months prior to your expiration date.'



1.5 of 15 General Hours	N/A Neonatal/Pediatric	N/A Pulmonary Function	0 of 15 Sleep Disorder	N/A Adult Critical Care
-----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Below the table are four buttons: 'Recertify Now', 'Add Course', 'Import AARC Courses', and 'List of Courses'.

The text continues: 'The [Recertify Now] button will become active after you have entered the required number of CE hours and you are within 6 months of your credential expiration date.'

It also states: 'Your continuing education hours must be within the dates of September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2025.'

The section 'Courses you added or imported' includes instructions: 'Use the 'pencil' icon to edit the Course Type. For example, use the edit feature to change a course listed in the Adult Critical Care category to the General Respiratory Care category.'

SAMPLE COURSE	1.5 Hours	
GRES P Panel Completed: May 25, 2021		 

EXCELLENCE

defines us

Supporting you and the respiratory community

CHOOSE to GIVE

The 2022 CHOOSE TO GIVE Campaign supports the long-term recruitment, retention and advancement of respiratory therapists – and it costs credentialed practitioners nothing extra to participate. That’s because we’ve built the entire program into our annual credential maintenance fee. Through this give-back initiative, the NBRC Board of Trustees invites you to join us in making a collective difference by designating a portion of your annual fee to fund scholarships, grants and awards for current and future practitioners.

Let your credentials
change the world for the better



NBRC - Funding Scholarships for RT Education

As part of its 2022 Choose to Give initiative, the NBRC will give more than \$2 million in scholarship funds to accredited respiratory care education programs. Each of 400-plus programs accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) will receive \$5,000 to use toward scholarships for current and future practitioners.

NBRC supported the Coalition for Baccalaureate and Graduate Respiratory Therapy Education (CoBGRTE) with two post-graduate scholarships.

Lambda Beta Society Scholarships and Awards

Any student currently enrolled in a respiratory care program at a Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) accredited school may apply. These awards also include \$750 in travel expenses and full registration to the current year's AARC International Congress.

Frederic Helmholtz, MD Scholarship – Up to \$2,500

Presented on the merit of an independent, original narrative review of literature related to respiratory care practice.

CoARC Stephen P. Mikles, EdD, RRT, FAARC Media Award – \$2,000

Presented on the merit of an original presentation relevant to respiratory care. Acceptable formats include PowerPoint or other digital presentation platforms, video presentations, or a CDROM/DVDROM.

NBRC/Hill Leadership Award – Up to \$2,000

Presented to a student who has shown exemplary leadership in their educational career and volunteer and community service.

Visit lambdabeta.org for award rubrics, checklists, and applications. Candidates must meet application requirements.

American Respiratory Care Foundation Awards

The following are awards endowed by the NBRC. These awards also include airfare, lodging and registration for AARC Congress.

Frederic Helmholtz, MD Educational Research Fund – Up to \$5,000

Awarded to qualified investigators in the field of respiratory care for educational or credentialing research.

NBRC Gareth B. Gish, MS, RRT, Memorial Postgraduate Education Recognition Award – Up to \$5,000

Presented to a respiratory therapist pursuing postgraduate education leading to an advanced degree.

NBRC William W. Burgin, Jr., MD & Robert M. Lawrence, MD Education Recognition Award – Up to \$7,500

Presented to a third- or fourth-year student enrolled in a CoARC-accredited respiratory therapy program leading to a baccalaureate degree.

NBRC Gary A. Smith Educational Award for Innovation in Education Achievement – \$2,500

Presented to an individual who uses innovative educational methods in formal respiratory care education programs, clinical education training programs and patient education programs that address current challenges in respiratory care education.

Visit arcfoundation.org for more information and applications.

MoreRTs.com

Through our collaborative website, [MoreRTs.com](https://www.moreRTs.com), the **NBRC** has joined forces with the **AARC** and **CoARC** to increase recognition of the difference you make in patients' lives – and the growing need for more respiratory therapists.

We invite your support in making others aware of the need for more RTs. By sharing your own experiences as part of our national campaign, you can help bolster our power to make a difference as one collective voice.

We are all working toward the same goal – choosing to give hope and making life better for people with respiratory illnesses.

OUR EFFORTS TO DELIVER SOLUTIONS

- As part of our goal to bring more respiratory therapists into the profession and advance specialization, the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC), the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) and the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) have jointly launched a multi-year, national campaign to:
- Raise public awareness of the value of the respiratory care profession
- Recruit and retain more respiratory therapists
- Identify, shape and inspire new leadership in the profession

Answering the Call

We are celebrating the specialized skills of respiratory therapists and spotlighting the vital role you play every day. Together, we continue to overcome the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis, but the need for more respiratory therapists will keep rising for years to come. Powerful stories from respiratory therapists, physicians, patients and others will inspire more people to join the profession, fulfilling the demand for high-quality respiratory care for all who need it now and in the future.

—The National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC), the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) and the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)

[SHARE YOUR STORY](#)

See and Share Our Featured Patient Story

RTs save and impact lives every single day. Sometimes, though, the impact a respiratory therapist has on a patient's life is so dramatic or life-altering, it becomes especially memorable – and deserves to be told and retold. The shortage of RTs is even more poignant when we consider how the story might have ended differently – if not for that special person who decided to become an RT. Please share these stories far and wide so we can build awareness and further the reach of our MoreRTs movement.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Join Our TikTok Contest Today

Let's inspire a new generation of respiratory therapists by spreading our message on TikTok. To enter this contest, create your own video illustrating why you #ChooseRT. Through videos that resonate with young people considering their career options, we will grow the profession and address the RT shortage together. Plus, you might even win a prize!

[LEARN MORE](#)

A Message from the 20th U.S. Surgeon General

Former U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams, MD, MPH, FASA, joins our #WorldNeedsMoreRTs campaign to share the importance of respiratory care and encourage more people to join this rewarding profession that provides critical care for so many.



Answering the Call

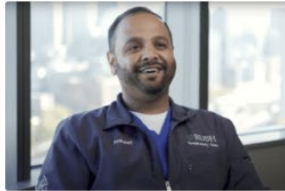
We are celebrating the specialized skills of respiratory therapists and spotlighting the vital role you play every day. Together, we continue to overcome the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis, but the need for more respiratory therapists will keep rising for years to come. Powerful stories from respiratory therapists, physicians, patients and others will inspire more people to join the profession, fulfilling the demand for high-quality respiratory care for all who need it now and in the future.

—The National Board for Respiratory (NBRC), the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC), and the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC)

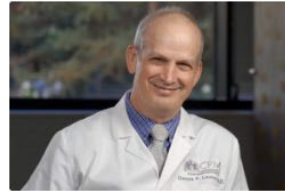
SHARE YOUR STORY

Your Voices

Watch the videos below to hear voices from the front lines about the critically important work of respiratory therapy.



Ankeet Patel, RRT, RRT-ACCS
Chicago, IL



Dennis Lawlor, MD, FCCP
Olathe, KS



**David Vines, Ph.D., MHS, RRT, FAARC,
FCCP**
Chicago, IL



Christopher Booras, RRT
Jacksonville, FL



Desi McKinney, Student
Rancho Cordova, CA



Angelia Dye, RRT
Fort Worth, TX

Advance Your Career: Become a Respiratory Care Educator

Three reasons you should join the higher education team in the field of respiratory care:



Be an Inspiration

You have survived this pandemic and gained extraordinary skill sets and knowledge to share with a new generation of respiratory therapists.



Shape the Future

Be a leader in respiratory care and make a lasting impact on the quality and accessibility of respiratory therapy for many years to come.



Advance Your Career

When you transform your advanced degree into a leadership position as an educator, opportunities to propel your career forward abound.

The opportunities – and the rewards – are limitless. The world needs more RTs, and you can help meet rising demand in more ways than one. Learn more by visiting [Educators at MoreRTs.com](https://www.moreRTs.com) – watch videos, view educator qualifications, visit job boards and more!

MoreRTs.com



SHARE YOUR STORY

CONTACT US

How You Can Help

Each of us has something unique to offer this effort to raise awareness and overcome the RT shortage, and we welcome all types of support:

Are you thinking about entering the respiratory care field?

Check out our resources on Becoming an RT to learn more and get started.

Are you an experienced respiratory therapist who wants to help educate new generations of RTs?

Explore more about how you can start that path today.

Do you have a story about the impact of respiratory therapy?

If you are a respiratory therapist, a physician or clinical colleague, a respiratory care educator or student, a patient, or anyone else whose life is affected by the work of RTs, tell us that story to join our collective voice and bolster our power to make a difference.

Do you know an organization that may be interested in funding our effort?

Contact us to introduce potential financial contributors so we can make the most of our campaign.

If we are united in this shared purpose of growing interest, awareness and numbers in the profession, we will strengthen the future by ensuring access to high-quality respiratory care for everyone who needs it. Join us!

Things you should know...

Examination Changes Coming in 2027

At its April 9, 2022, meeting, the NBRC Board of Trustees voted to make a significant change to the examination system for the CRT and RRT credentials. This change aligns with the Board's long-range goals to streamline the transition from graduation to entry into practice.

A single multiple-choice examination designed to cover the breadth of knowledge and depth of clinical judgement needed to document the competencies of respiratory therapists who achieve CRT and RRT credentials will be implemented in 2027, eliminating the Clinical Simulation Examination. The new test will be called the Respiratory Therapy Examination.

The Respiratory Therapy Examination will be assembled in two sections, one to assess candidates' breadth of knowledge and one to assess their depth of clinical judgment. The breadth of knowledge section will be organized around the same content domains and cognitive levels that have guided development of the Therapist Multiple-Choice Examination. The depth of clinical judgment section will be organized around the following elements of the current simulation examination:

- Patient types (e.g., chronic airways disease, trauma, cardiac)
- Settings (in-hospital, out-of-hospital)
- Patient ages (neonate, pediatric, adult)
- Clinical activities (information gathering, decision making)

Single Exam FAQs

Q: How will the CRT and RRT credentials be awarded to passing candidates?

A: The examination will have two cut scores that determine whether passing candidates receive credentials as a CRT or as an RRT. Individuals achieving the low-cut score earn the CRT credential and those who achieve the high-cut score earn the RRT credential.

Q: What if I pass the Therapist Multiple-Choice Examination at the high cut score and don't successfully complete the Clinical Simulation Examination before December 31, 2026?

A: The CSE will be available through December 31, 2027, for those individuals who pass the TMC at the high cut score prior to December 31, 2026. Alternatively, individuals may also take the new exam and pass at the high cut score to earn the RRT credential after January 1, 2027.

Q: How much will the Respiratory Therapy Examination cost?

A: The cost for the first attempt will be \$325 and the cost for each repeat attempt will be \$225.

Q: How many questions are on the Respiratory Therapy Examination?

A: The examination will have 160 scored multiple-choice questions.

Q: What is the time limit for the examination?

A: The examination time limit will be 4 hours; administered in 2-hour sessions with a 10-minute break between sessions. Candidates who finish the first session in less than two hours may begin the second session when they are ready. Candidates may also choose not to take the 10-minute break.

As we work towards implementation in 2027, we will post new information on our website and social media outlets.

Credentialing Examination Content Updates

- **PFT Examination**

In 2021, we completed a Pulmonary Function Technologist (PFT) job analysis study to identify critical tasks performed by PFTs who practice in the United States. Candidates for the entry level (CPFT) and advanced level (RPFT) credentials will see new content on examinations starting in October of this year.

- **SDS Examination**

A job analysis was conducted in 2021 and new content is expected to be implemented in September 2023. The results of the job analysis study will be shared later this year.

Digital Badges

- Launched in 2021 to serve as a quick and reliable way to share and verify credentials.
- Displays all credentials that a practitioner has earned, including specialty credentials. Can easily be added to an email signature, resume, or social media profiles.
- Awarded upon earning a new credential and may be used through December 31.
- Available as soon as a credentialed practitioner submits their annual payment and valid thru December 31 of that year. Digital badges will then need to be reactivated on a yearly basis which is done by submitting annual payment or support payment.



Message Center

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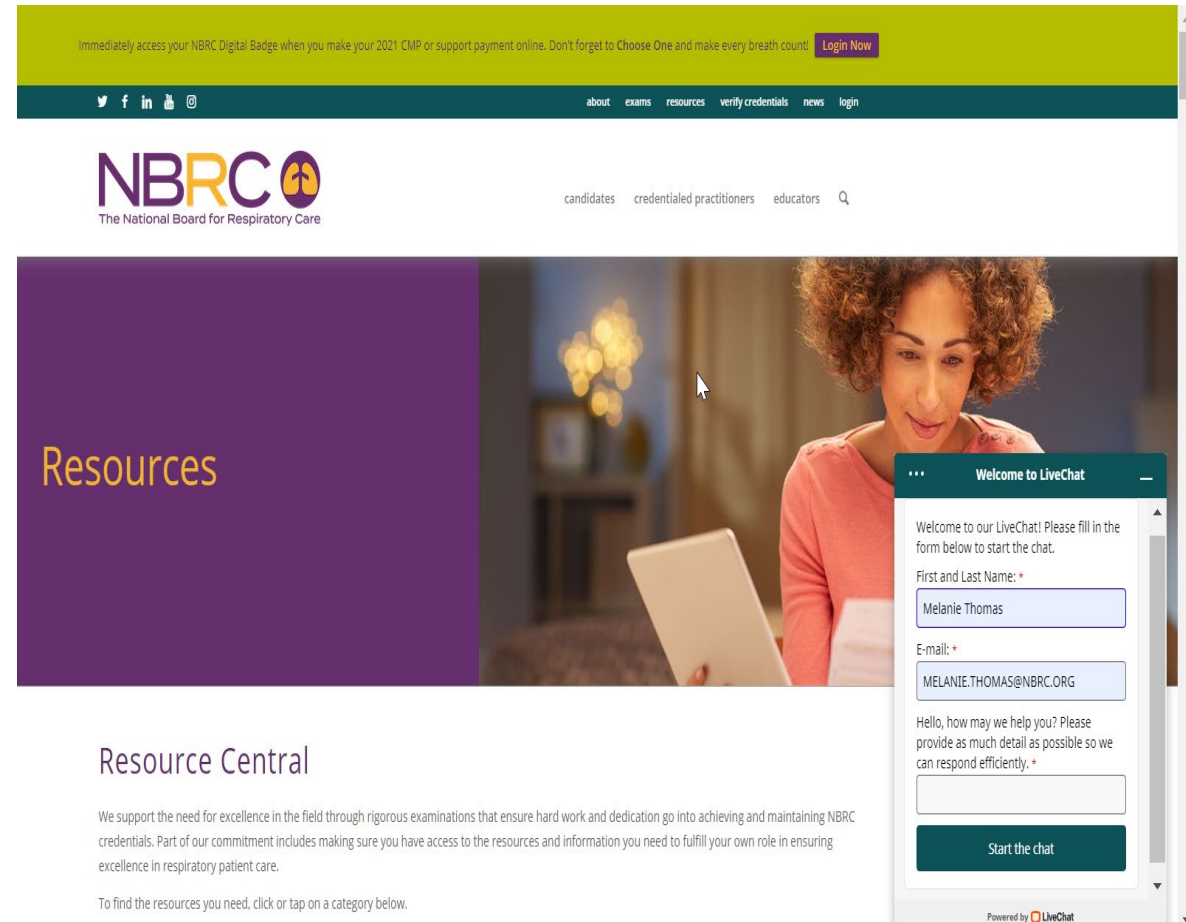
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LiveChat Available!

- Candidates and credentialed practitioners can get real time help at nbrc.org by starting a LiveChat.
- Customer Care representatives are available to assist Monday – Friday during business hours.
- Option to email for assistance is available during off hours.



The screenshot displays the NBRC website's 'Resource Central' page. At the top, a green banner contains the text: 'Immediately access your NBRC Digital Badge when you make your 2021 CMP or support payment online. Don't forget to Choose One and make every breath count! Login Now'. Below this is a dark blue navigation bar with social media icons and links for 'about', 'exams', 'resources', 'verify credentials', 'news', and 'login'. The main header features the NBRC logo and the tagline 'The National Board for Respiratory Care', along with navigation links for 'candidates', 'credentialed practitioners', and 'educators'. The 'Resources' section is highlighted in purple. A live chat window is open in the bottom right corner, titled 'Welcome to LiveChat'. It contains a welcome message, a form for 'First and Last Name' (filled with 'Melanie Thomas') and 'E-mail' (filled with 'MELANIE.THOMAS@NBRC.ORG'), a question 'Hello, how may we help you? Please provide as much detail as possible so we can respond efficiently.', and a 'Start the chat' button. The chat window is powered by LiveChat.

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How to contact us:

By Mail:

- 10801 Mastin Street, Suite 300
- Overland Park, KS 66210

By Phone:

- 913.895.4900

By Email:

- info@nbrc.org

Online:

- nbrc.org



Thank you for your time!

Visit nbrtc.org for more information about:

- Specialty credentials
- Examination application and scheduling process
- Videos to guide you through the rules, tools and processes involved in achieving and maintaining NBRC credentials

EXCELLENCE
defines us