

## The Certification

DWC® board certification goes well beyond basic foot care. When you become DWC certified, you will earn a specialized credential that recognizes proficiency in treating and preventing dermatological manifestations of diabetes. DWC board certification assures the patient that you are qualified to deliver the proper care, education, and management of their diabetic wounds.



*"I obtained DWC® certification in addition to WCC® and OMS certifications. I felt this was an important next step in advancing my knowledge of wound care and treatment options."*

**Janie Hollenbach**  
RN, WCC, OMS, DWC, DAPWCA, FACCWS

## NAWCO®

The National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy® (NAWCO) is the leading wound care certification board. For more than 15 years, NAWCO has certified licensed healthcare professionals in wound care. The highly respected DWC® credential is the only multi-disciplinary certification in diabetic wound care.

NAWCO is a nonprofit credentialing organization governed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors which partners with the independent NAWCO Certification Committee has approved the DWC® board certification.



NAWCO is the leading wound care certification organization, certifying licensed healthcare professionals for more than 15 years.



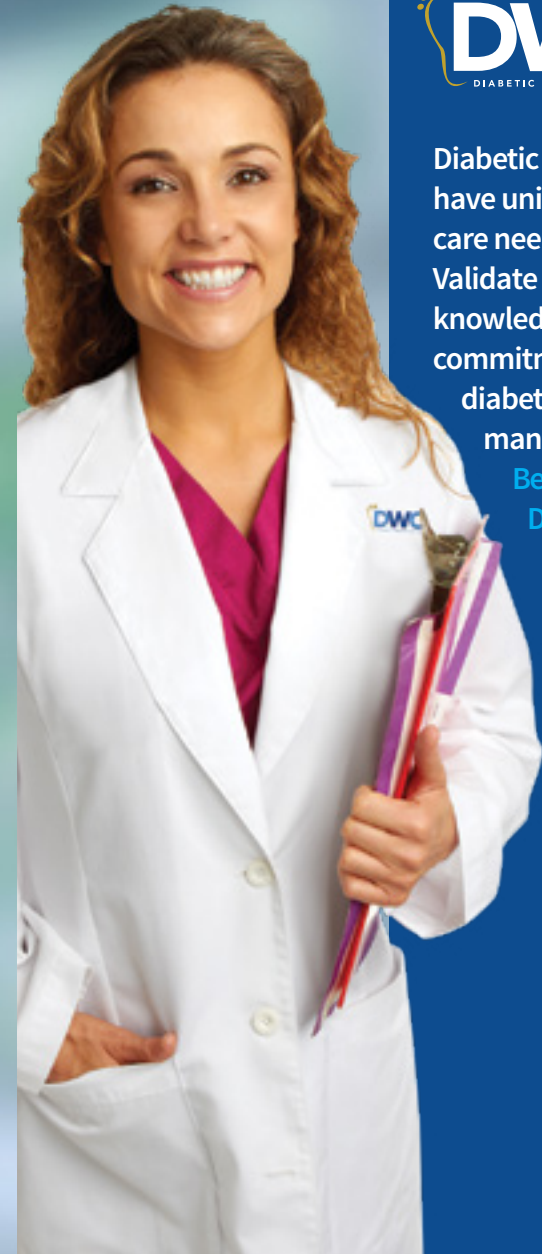
National Alliance of Wound Care  
and Ostomy®

PO Box 235 | Somonauk, IL 60552  
Toll Free: 877-922-6292 | Fax: 800-352-8339  
Email: [admin@nawccb.org](mailto:admin@nawccb.org) | Web: [www.nawccb.org](http://www.nawccb.org)



Diabetic patients have unique wound care needs. Validate your knowledge and commitment to diabetic wound management.

Become  
Diabetic  
Wound  
Certified



## Diabetes is a global epidemic

It's estimated that one in three American adults will have diabetes by 2050. Complications from the disease commonly result in diabetic foot ulcers, which can lead to amputation or death. DWC® board certified clinicians have the tested skills to manage all aspects of their patients' diabetic wounds.

## How to Pursue DWC® Certification

DWC board certification is a voluntary choice made by eligible candidates to demonstrate their expertise in the specialty of diabetic wound care.

The National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy® (NAWCO®) believes board certification should be available to all qualified candidates without requirements that involve months of long distance courses and preceptorships that can take you away from your job and family for extended periods of time. Our pathway options are straightforward (see DWC eligibility chart).

Depending on your individual experience and education, DWC board certification can be attained in as little as five (5) days. The DWC board certification is valid for five (5) years and does not demand expensive annual fees to maintain your status.

As a certified DWC clinician, your tested knowledge will set you apart from those who are not certified and only have minimal experience.



# ELIGIBILITY CHART

DWC Certification	Pathway Options			
	Experiential	Continuing Education	Training Course	Other Certification
<b>#1 Eligible License</b> Current license as RN, LPN/LVN, NP, PA, PT, PTA, OT, OTA, MD, DO, DPM	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>#2 Experience* (In past 5 years)</b> Document active involvement in the care of diabetic patients, or in management, education or research directly related to diabetes while actively licensed for at least 2 years full-time or 4 years part-time in the past 5 years.	✓	✓	✓	✓
OR				
Currently hold one of the following certifications in wound care: WCC®, CWS®, CWCN®, CWON®, CWOCC®				
<small>*EXPERIENCE: Full-time is considered 40 hours per week. Part-time is considered less than 40 hours per week.</small>				
<b>#3 Pathway Requirements</b>	Experiential	Continuing Education	Training Course	Other Certification
<i>Must meet one (1) of the following</i>				
• Recognized author of published works related to the care of diabetic patients (e.g. textbooks, pocketbooks, e-books, guidelines, or peer reviewed journals)	✓			
• Served as officer, committee representative, or volunteer of a nationally known diabetic organization*				
• Nationally known speaker that has presented diabetic related topics				
<small>*ORGANIZATIONS: ADA, AACE, AADE, JDRF</small>				
60 Contact Hours (CH)/Continuing Professional Education Units (CPEU) in diabetic skin and wound care, and nutritional continuing education within the past five (5) years		✓		
Graduation from a diabetic skin and wound management education course that meets certification committee criteria			✓	
Certified Diabetic Educator (CDE) Certified Foot Care Nurse (CFCN) Advanced Diabetes Management Certification (ADM)				✓
<b>#4 Additional Requirements</b>	Necessary for all Applicants			
Applicants must agree to adhere to the NAWCO® Code of Ethics	✓			
Completion of application and required supporting documentation	✓			
Full payment of required fees	✓			
Passing score on DWC Certification exam	✓			
<b>#5 Choose Your Pathway</b>	Experiential Pathway	Continuing Education Pathway	Training Course Pathway	Other Certification Pathway
For more detailed information about each pathway, refer to the DWC Candidate Exam Handbook				

Once eligibility requirements are met, DWC® candidates may sit for the national board certification exam.



## Make the Most of Your DWC® Credential

Upon passing the certification exam, you will earn the credentials, DWC to officially designate you as board certified in diabetic wound care. It is important to include DWC with your professional license and other credentials. After all, you earned it and deserve the recognition that comes along with achieving board certification.



## Tools and Resources

NAWCO® offers resources to support its certificants. One resource is the "Certificants" Support Site. This exclusive site offers career development tools, templates, and educational resources.

## Other Certifications

NAWCO® offers five (5) professional certifications:

- Wound Care Certified, WCC®
- Diabetic Wound Certified, DWC®
- Lymphedema Lower Extremity, LLE®
- Ostomy Management Specialist®, OMS
- Nutrition Wound Care Certified, NWCC™