

Comparison of Wound Care Certification Programs

Wound Care Certification Organization	National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy® NAWCO®	Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board WOCNCB®	American Board of Wound Management ABWM	
Number of Certificants	15,716	6700	CWS – 3143 CWSP- 201	CWCA - 608
Credential(s) Offered	<p>WCC® Wound Care Certified DWC® Diabetic Wound Certified LLE® Lymphedema Lower Extremity Certified OMS Ostomy Management Specialist™</p> <p>Credentials available to: RNs, LPN/LVNs, NPs, PTs, PTAs, OTs, MDs, DOs, DPMs, PAs with active unrestricted licenses.</p>	<p>CWCN® Certified Wound Care Nurse CWOCN®, COCN®, CCCN® CWON™, plus Advanced Practice credentialing in wound, ostomy or continence nursing CFCN™ Foot care certification offered for RNs at all levels. (CFCN certification is not accredited)</p> <p>All credentials are offered only to RN's with Bachelor's degree minimum</p>	<p>CWS® Certified Wound Specialist A licensed healthcare professional with a Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctoral degree in a life sciences field with 3 or more years of clinical wound care experience. CWSP™ Certified Wound Specialist Physician</p>	<p>CWCA™ Certified Wound Care Associate Healthcare professional with at least 3 years of wound care experience and a minimum of a high school diploma Sales and marketing professional in the wound care industry with at least 3 years of wound care experience and a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent</p>
Eligibility Options	<p>WCC RNs, LPN/LYNs, NPs, PTs, PTAs, OTs, Physicians, or Physician's Assistants with active unrestricted licenses. AND Currently active in the care of wound patients, or in management, education, or research directly related to wound care while actively licensed for at least two years. OR Preceptorship of 120 clinical hours may be substituted for the required work experience above and must be completed within one (1) year of successful course completion. AND Successful completion of one (1) of the following: •NAWCO approved "Skin and Wound Management Course". • Current Wound Care Certification through ABWM as a CWS® or WOCNCB as a CWCN®, CWON®, CWOCN®. • Experiential: Four (4) years of licensed full time wound care experience out of the last five</p>	<p>RN licensure PLUS Bachelors Degree or higher</p> <p>An experiential pathway is available for nurses who cannot attend a WOCN Society-accredited program</p>	<p>CWS - A licensed healthcare professional with a Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctoral degree in a life sciences field with 3 or more years of clinical wound care experience</p> <p>CWSP - MD's, DO's and DPM's who have 3 or more years of clinical wound care experience.</p>	<p>CWCA - At least 3 years of wound care experience and a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent</p>

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<p>(5) years plus 60 contact hours in skin and wound care.</p> <p>DWC Hold a current, unrestricted license as an LPN/LVN, RN, NP, PT, PTA, OT, MD, DPM, DO or PA. Successfully complete an NAWCO approved "Diabetic Skin and Wound Management Course."</p> <p>Must meet ONE of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Currently hold an accredited certification in wound care. (WCC[®], CWS[®], CWCN[®], CWON[®], CWOCN[®]) <p style="text-align: center;"><i>OR</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 two (2) years full-time/four (4) years part-time within the past five (5) years. <p>LLE Active unrestricted license as a Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Physical Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant, Occupational Therapist, Physician or Physician Assistant.</p> <p>Documentation of active involvement in the care of wound care patients or in management, education or research directly related to wound care while actively licensed for at least two (2) years full-time/four (4) years part-time within the past five (5) years.</p> <p>OMS Hold a current, unrestricted license as an LPN/LVN, RN, NP, PT, PTA, OT, MD, DPM, DO or PA and have practiced the equivalent of 1 year full-time.</p> <p>Successful graduate of NAWCO approved "Ostomy Management Specialist Certification Training Course".</p>			
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<i>Certification Fees</i>	<p>5 years:</p> <p>\$330 examination & app. fee <i>(examination & app. fee is included in the tuition of NAWCO approved Certification Training Program).</i></p> <p>No annual maintenance fees</p>	<p>5 years:</p> <p>\$375 examination fee Plus \$100 additional fee for each additional specialty certification. <i>(Additional cost for WOCN society accredited tri or single specialty wound care program AND the cost of a preceptor)</i> No annual maintenance fees</p>	<p>10 years:</p> <p>CWS: \$575 examination fee CWSP: \$995 examination fee Plus \$150 Annual re-registration fee to maintain certification</p>	<p>10 years:</p> <p>\$375 examination fee Plus \$150 annual re-registration fee to maintain certification</p>
<i>Recertification Requirements</i>	<p>\$330 Recertification fee Plus Successful completion of ONE of the following (4) Recertification options: •NAWCO Approved Skin and Wound Management Course only (option for live or online). •Continuing Education- 60 hours. •Continuing Education and Outreach Program- (30) hours Contact hours, plus Community Outreach, plus one of the following: Publication, Research or Leadership. •Recertification by Examination only.</p>	<p>\$375 Recertification fee Plus \$100 additional fee for each additional specialty certification AND Successful completion and passing of examination</p>	<p>CWS: \$275 Recertification fee CWSP: \$995 Recertification fee Plus \$150 annual re-registration fee to maintain certification AND •Minimum of six (6) CEU's in wound management annually</p>	<p>\$150 Recertification fee Plus \$150 annual re-registration fee to maintain certification AND •Minimum of six (6) CEU's in wound management annually</p>
<i>Ten (10) Year Cost Summary Comparison</i>	<p>\$660 total recertification fees</p>	<p>\$750 total recertification fees Plus \$100 additional fee for each additional specialty certification</p>	<p>CWS: \$2200 total exam fee, annual re-registration fee to maintain certification and Recertification fee Plus annual cost of CEUs. CWSP: \$3340 total exam fee, annual re-registration fee to maintain certification and Recertification fee Plus annual cost of CEUs.</p>	<p>\$1875 total exam fees, annual re-registration fee to maintain certification and Recertification fee, Plus annual cost of CEUs.</p>

Content as of February 2014: National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy:

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References: www.nawccb.org; www.wocncb.org; www.aawm.org; www.credentialingexcellence.org; www.nursingcertification.org; www.theccws.org;