

Attention All Current CDN and CNN Certificants

January 19, 2026

A recent announcement outlined upcoming changes to the CNN and CDN certification programs. **Change for current certificants is not mandatory.** It is your choice. You can keep your existing credential or update to the credential that best aligns with your practice.

The Certified Dialysis Nurse (CDN) examination is primarily focused on the care of the patient undergoing hemodialysis, including AKI, chronic, post-transplant DGF, and unit issues, including emergency/disaster planning, water treatment for dialysis, and patient care planning.

The Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN) examination reflects a broader nephrology scope of practice and includes peritoneal dialysis, home therapy, and patients across the life cycle.

Eligibility criteria, including practice hours, continuing education requirements, and costs, are the same for both certification programs.

As a reminder, the certification will be based on **your role, not on your education.** The BSN degree will no longer be required for either certification. The national survey results showed no significant differences between groups based on education or degree held.

CDN/CNN Programs: Project Timeline for Updates and Changes

