

## Certification Comparison Chart

	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b>Credential</b>	Certified <b>Medical-Surgical</b> Registered Nurse (CMSRN)	Registered Nurse-Board Certified (RN-BC)
<b>Certifying Body</b>	Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification Board (MSNCB) msnbc.org	American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) nursecredentialing.org
<b>Endorsement from Specialty Nursing Organization</b>	Yes, by AMSN (Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses)	No
<b>Accreditation by ABSNC (Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification)</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Accepted by ANCC for Magnet Recognition Status</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Certification Duration</b>	5 years	5 years

<b>Certification Eligibility Criteria</b>		
	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b>Practice as an RN</b>	2 Years	2 Years
<b>Type of Practice</b>	Clinical, management, or education	Clinical
<b>Practice Hours in Past 3 Years</b>	2,000 Hours	2,000 Hours
<b>Contact Hours</b>	None	30 CH/3 Years

<b>Certification Exam</b>		
	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b># of Questions</b>	150 (+25 trial questions on PP)	175
<b>Testing Options</b>	Computer-Based Testing (CBT) or Paper & Pencil (PP)	Computer-Based Testing only
<b>Based on Practice Analysis</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Special Test Site at Your Facility</b>	Yes, \$300 per site	No

<b>Certification Pricing and Discounts</b>		
	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b>Application Fees</b>	\$375	\$395
<b>Member Fees</b>	\$255 AMSN Member*	\$270 ANA Member
<b>Facility Registration Program</b>	Yes, FailSafe Certification Program™ which does not charge hospitals for unsuccessful candidates	Yes

<b>Recertification Options</b>		
	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b>By Contact Hours</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>By Exam</b>	Yes	Partially
<b>By Exam Exemption</b>	Yes	No

<b>Recertification Eligibility Criteria</b>		
	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b>Current Certification in Medical-Surgical Nursing</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Type of Practice</b>	Clinical, management, or education	Clinical or direct clinical supervision only
<b>Practice Hours in 5 Years</b>	1,000	1,000
<b>Contact Hours in 5 Years</b>	90 CH (including academic courses, presentations, publications, preceptorship, research)	Mandatory 75 CH + 1 or more of 8 renewal categories

<b>Recertification Pricing and Discounts</b>		
	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b>Recertification Fee</b>	\$275	\$350
<b>Member Fee</b>	\$175 AMSN Member*	\$250 ANA Member

<b>Examination Prep Resources</b>		
	<b>CMSRN</b>	<b>RN-BC</b>
<b>Sample Questions</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Online Practice Exam</b>	Yes, from MSNCB	Yes, through Credentialing Knowledge Center
<b>Publications/Online</b>	Yes, many through AMSN	Yes
<b>2 Day Certification Review Course at your Facility</b>	Yes, through AMSN \$6,000  \$5,000 for FailSafe Facilities  + faculty hotel expenses <b>Unlimited Participants</b>	Yes

\* AMSN Dues = \$84/year