



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This Student Internship Resource Guide is designed to assist students in preparing for their internship experience. The academic internship is a valuable learning opportunity for students, and it is important to make certain that all NCTRC requirements are met during the experience. NCTRC has several resources that may be of assistance to students during their internship and application for certification.

Visit nctrc.org to obtain copies of these resources.

NCTRC CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

Internship requirements can be found starting on page 10 in the Certification Standards. The standards contain important information regarding certification, exam information, and application forms. Students will need to complete a minimum 560-hour, fourteen (14) week internship in therapeutic recreation services that uses the therapeutic recreation process as defined by the current NCTRC Job Analysis.

STUDENT INTERNSHIP GUIDE

This guide contains a list of important criteria necessary to be compliant with NCTRC Internship Standards. The Student Internship Guide contains important information for applicants regarding the academic internship requirements to apply for CTRS® certification. The Student Internship Guide is designed to assist applicants with the NCTRC professional eligibility process.

NCTRC JOB ANALYSIS

This is a helpful resource to ensure that the internship experience covers all aspects of the Job Analysis. The purpose of the job analysis study was to identify the knowledge and tasks that are important for the necessary level of competence for entry into the profession as a qualified provider of recreational therapy services. The findings of the job analysis study serve as the basis of the NCTRC Certification Exam and inform the CTRS about content required for recertification.

EXAM CONTENT OUTLINE

Review of this tool will help your student become familiar with the exam content. The intended use of the NCTRC Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) certification exam is to ensure that applicants demonstrate the necessary level of competence for entry into the profession as a qualified provider of recreational therapy services.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW AS THE INTERNSHIP STUDENT

The format and structure of the internship should be determined by the agency CTRS supervisor, academic CTRS supervisor and the student, and is not under the purview of NCTRC. The agency CTRS internship supervisor must possess active certification status at the CTRS level on the first day of the student's internship and have been certified for at least one year prior to supervising interns. The academic internship supervisor must be an active CTRS at the start of the internship experience and must be employed at the college/university. The CTRS cannot serve in the capacity of both the academic supervisor and agency supervisor during a given internship experience.

The academic internship is a valuable part of the professional preparation process; we hope that your internship proves to be an extremely rewarding and enjoyable experience.

Thank you for your support of NCTRC and the CTRS credentialing program.

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