

CTRS® Guide to Micro-Credentials and Associated Digital Badges



National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification® (NCTRC®) welcomes a new way to share professional skills, knowledge, and accomplishments through micro-credentials and associated digital badges! NCTRC is the premier credentialing organization for the profession of Therapeutic Recreation. NCTRC provides a wide range of professional services to ensure both the quality of the CTRS credential and protection of the consumer.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: CTRSs, now you can learn in confidence knowing that NCTRC has pre-approved continuing education session content that is transformed into verifiable micro-credentials and associated digital badges.

CTRSs can earn micro-credentials, and its associated digital badge, from continuing education providers and organizations who work with NCTRC to maintain dedication to professional excellence for the protection of consumers of recreational therapy services.

Continuing education providers, or therapeutic recreation professional organizations at the national, regional, state/provincial, or local level who receive NCTRC Continuing Education session content pre-approval may apply for a micro-credential, and its associated digital badge, to reflect the knowledge, skills, and abilities into a tangible, verifiable tool for CTRSs to earn and apply towards recertification. To learn more, review the [CTRS Guide to NCTRC Pre-approved Continuing Education](#).

HOW IT WORKS

What a CTRS should know regarding NCTRC issued micro-credentials and associated digital badges:

- NCTRC is committed to providing CTRSs with the resources necessary for recertification, including pre-approved continuing education opportunities, micro-credentials, and its associated digital badge.
- A micro-credential, and its associated digital badge, are a quality credential that clearly explains what an individual can do, what the individual did to earn this, and who says the individual earned it.
- A digital badge is a way to spotlight an individual's accomplishments – a graphical representation of a person's knowledge and skills. Digital badges are secure, web-enabled credentials containing verified information about each earner's professional achievements.
- Continuing education providers or therapeutic recreation professional organizations will notify individuals that they are eligible to receive a micro-credential, and its associated digital badge upon completion of select NCTRC pre-approved continuing education.
- Once a CTRS earns a micro-credential through NCTRC pre-approved continuing education opportunities, the CTRS will have the opportunity to apply for and claim the associated digital badge through their [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) account.

How does a CTRS apply for and claim a digital badge associated with the earned micro-credential?

Go to [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) to complete the NCTRC Application for Digital Badge Associated with a Micro-Credential. Submit the completed application to NCTRC in order to receive issuance of your micro-credential and associated digital badge. The application process includes submission of the earned Certificate of Completion and payment to NCTRC for the issuance of the digital badge. Please allow 2–3 weeks from the date of application for your digital badge to be issued.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Digital badges are issued by NCTRC via [Credly \(admin@credly.com\)](mailto:admin@credly.com) to the email address you have on file in your [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#).

Please make sure your email address is up to date on your [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) account to receive these emails.

How to claim your digital badge:

If you already have an account with [Credly](#), login to view and claim new digital badge.

If you do not have a Credly account, you will receive an email from Credly inviting you to claim your digital badge.

What happens next?

- Watch for the email issued by NCTRC via [Credly \(admin@credly.com\)](mailto:admin@credly.com).
- Click the button in the email.
- Create and confirm your Credly account.
- Accept your badge and start sharing!

Need help? Find a [step-by-step tutorial video at this link](#).

Please view the [NCTRC Badge Earner Guide](#) for instructions on how to claim a badge, suggestions on how to share a badge on social media, and more!

What are the benefits of a digital badge?

- The digital badge will contain information describing your micro-credential and will allow you to easily share your achievement to LinkedIn and other platforms.
- Easily manage, share, and verify your learning achievements.
- Secure verification adds credibility to your achievement.
- Digital badges can be used in email signatures or digital resumes, and on social media sites such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.
- This digital image contains verified metadata that describes your qualifications (what an individual can do, what the individual did to earn this, and who says the individual earned it) and the process required to earn them.

Learn it. Earn it. Share it.

We believe the NCTRC Digital Badges will further enhance your professional standing and achievements. So, start using them today to develop your career and expand your professional network.

For more information, please review the [NCTRC Badge Earner Guide](#).

We hope you take advantage of this benefit and enjoy the professional recognition afforded by the NCTRC badging program. Find more information here: [NCTRC Digital Badges](#).

Questions? Feel free to contact us via email nctrc@nctrc.org, or give us a call at 845-639-1439.

National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification®

Protecting and Promoting Since 1981

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