



NCTRC & the CTRS® Credential

National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification® (NCTRC) is a non-profit, international organization dedicated to professional excellence for the protection of consumers through the certification of recreational therapists.

NCTRC acts as the credentialing organization within the therapeutic recreation profession.

What is Recreational Therapy?

Recreational therapy (RT), also known as therapeutic recreation (TR), is a systematic process that utilizes recreation and other activity-based interventions to address the assessed needs of individuals with illnesses and/or disabling conditions, as a means to psychological and physical health, recovery and well-being.*

What is the CTRS Credential?

The Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist® (CTRS) credential offered through NCTRC represents the benchmark of quality recreational therapy services and is the indicator of the most qualified provider within the field of recreational therapy.



FACTS ABOUT NCTRC CERTIFICATION AND THE CTRS CREDENTIAL

- The eligibility process to become a CTRS includes completion of the required academic coursework, professional experience, and a passing score on the NCTRC certification exam.
- NCTRC certification standards are based on the knowledge and skills necessary for practice within a wide range of service sectors, as verified by national job analysis research.
- Only individuals who have met the specific qualifications to become certified by NCTRC can use the CTRS designation.
- Federal agencies, national and international regulatory and accreditation organizations recognize the CTRS as the benchmark credential for recreational therapists.
- The CTRS credential indicates to employers and the public that the individual has met the requirements necessary to be certified through NCTRC as a qualified provider of recreational therapy services.
- **Scan the below QR code** for immediate access to NCTRC resources and assets—including all Publications & Forms, Certification Standards, Videos, plus information on Digital Badges and our Research Grant Program.

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