
ATS/ATP CREDENTIALING EXAM

CREDENTIALING FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE PROVIDERS

- AT Practitioners (ATP)
- AT Suppliers (ATS)

Credentialing is the process by which a nongovernmental agency or association validates an individual's qualifications and knowledge of a field of study. The credentialing process is voluntary and does not result in a license. RESNA's credentialing program is based on predetermined standards of practice in the field of assistive technology. Persons who meet the application criteria, pass an exam, and agree to abide by the RESNA Standards of Practice will be awarded a certificate and the right to refer to themselves as "RESNA certified".

Why should I become a credentialed service provider?

The credentialing program for Assistive Technology Service Providers promotes an entry level of expertise in the field of assistive technology. It further provides a standard for recognizing qualifications and validating broad based knowledge to enhance service provision to people with disabilities seeking technology applications to maximize their function. Earning a RESNA credential instills pride and provides recognition for attaining the necessary knowledge to provide safe and effective service to persons with a disability.

Which credential is for me?

ATP: for service providers primarily involved in analysis of a consumer's needs and training in the use of a particular device.

ATS: for service providers primarily involved in the sale and service of commercially available devices.

Am I qualified to take a RESNA exam?

Please refer to the eligibility requirements below.

How much do the credentialing exams cost?

The fee is \$500 for each exam and is payable, with a completed application, due six weeks prior to the examination administration.

Rehabilitation Engineering

Service providers who have, or are eligible for their state or provincial Professional Engineer's license (PE), are encouraged to sit for the ATP credential exam as a preliminary step toward becoming a RESNA certified Rehabilitation Engineer (RE). Further requirements are currently under development by RESNA's RE-Professional Specialty Group and the Professional Standards Board for certified engineers and technologists.

What are my next steps?

Further information is included in the Candidate's Information Bulletin. To receive a Bulletin, mail/fax a request to RESNA or, if you have access to the world wide web, visit RESNA's homepage for complete, detailed information and a schedule of exam dates and locations.

Eligibility Requirements:†

You are eligible to register for the Assistive Technology Practitioner or the Assistive Technology Supplier credential if you can demonstrate proof of attaining at least one of the following: FTE = full time equivalent.

- a. Bachelor's Degree (or higher) in a Rehabilitation Science* plus .25 FTE in AT client services for a minimum of 2 years.
- b. Associate Degree in a Rehabilitation Science* plus .50 FTE in AT client services for a minimum of 2 years.
- c. Bachelor's Degree (or higher) in a non-Rehabilitation Science* plus .50 FTE in AT services for a minimum of 4 years.
- d. Associate's Degree in non-Rehab. Science plus 1 FTE in Assistive Technology services for a minimum of 4 years.
- e. High School Degree plus 1 FTE in Assistive Technology client services for a minimum of 4 years.

FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIER CANDIDATES ONLY:

- f. High School degree plus 1 FTE in AT client services for a minimum of 2 years.

† IMPORTANT: Eligibility requirements are scheduled to change in 2001. For more information, see the Candidate's Information Bulletin, 5th edition.

* For the purposes of this program, Rehabilitation Science degree is defined as one of the following: Audiology, Medicine, Nursing, Low Vision Rehabilitation, OT, PT, SLP, Special Ed., Voc. Rehab. Counselor, Voc. Rehab. Evaluator, Rehabilitation Engineering**, Rehabilitation Technology**, Prosthetics & Orthotics.

** Rehabilitation Engineering and Rehabilitation Technology defined in Bulletin.

2000 EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	CONFERENCE	APPLICATION DEADLINE
February 26, 2000 1:30-5:30pm	Vancouver, BC	ISS	January 14, 2000
March 20, 2000 9:00am-1:00pm	Los Angeles, CA	CSUN	February 7, 2000
March 30, 2000* 1:00-5:00pm	Seattle, WA	AOTA	February 17, 2000
July 3, 2000 9:00am-1:00pm	Orlando, FL	RESNA 2000	May 22, 2000
October 2, 2000 1:00-5:00pm	Orlando, FL	MEDTRADE	August 21, 2000
October 18, 2000* 1:00-5:00pm	Minneapolis, MN	Closing the Gap	September 6, 2000

*Tentative date. Please contact RESNA office for further information.

Additional dates will be added as they are confirmed. Contact the RESNA office for other dates and locations.

Custom Administration Offer

If you are part of a group, a company or in a geographic area where a number of persons are interested in sitting for either the ATS or the ATP credential, RESNA is prepared to come to you. For no extra cost, the exam will be administered at any location where twenty-five (25) or more eligible candidates can be assembled. A "custom administration" of the exam can save travel time and costs for candidates, and has the added convenience of being scheduled to meet your requirements.

The host for such a custom administration will need to provide a secure testing room and individuals willing to be trained as proctors. The candidates will need to go through the same application process and all applications will need to be submitted to the RESNA central office six weeks prior to the exam date. A representative of RESNA will travel to the site, train the proctors, manage the exam administration and bring back the results. Anyone interested in arranging a custom administration should contact Jody Chavez, ext 300, Email: <jbenford@resna.org>.

Offered by: RESNA, The Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America, 1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1540, Arlington, VA 22209-1903. Phone: 703/524-6686, Fax: 703/524-6630, TTY: 703/524-6639, Email: cert@resna.org, Webpage: www.resna.org/resna/reshome.htm

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD (PSB)

The Professional Standards Board establishes and monitors professional standards for certification.

Chairman – Jean Minkel, MA PT

First Vice-Chair – Anjali Weber, MS ATP

Second Vice-Chair – Elaine Treffer, OTR, MEd, FAOTA, ATP

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