



ARRT® EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING CERTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

Last Revised: September 1, 2022

Published: September 1, 2022

Purpose:

This document serves as the ARRT governing document for Education Requirements which includes ARRT policies related to obtaining and maintaining ARRT certification and registration. In addition to education requirements, ARRT has ethics requirements and examination requirements, and these are addressed in the *ARRT Standards of Ethics* and the *ARRT Examination Requirements for Obtaining Certification and Registration*. The *ARRT Rules and Regulations* provides additional information for the education, ethics, and examination requirements.

Scope:

This document includes policies and processes that address the responsibilities to comply with education requirements by individuals seeking to obtain and/or maintain ARRT certification and registration.

Intended Audience:

ARRT certified and registered technologists (R.T.s) and individuals seeking to obtain ARRT certification and registration (e.g., students, individuals reinstating certification and registration). External entities that support ARRT in its mission to recognize qualified individuals in medical imaging, interventional procedures, and radiation therapy may find this document useful to supplement the information available in the [ARRT Stakeholder Document](#).

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INTRODUCTION

The mission of The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) is to promote high standards of patient care by recognizing qualified individuals in medical imaging, interventional procedures, and radiation therapy. Individuals must meet three types of requirements to be deemed qualified to perform roles in medical imaging, interventional procedures, and/or radiation therapy. The three types are education requirements, ethics requirements, and examination requirements. This document covers education requirements for obtaining and maintaining certification and registration. In addition to education requirements, ARRT has ethics requirements and examination requirements, and these are addressed in the *ARRT Standards of Ethics* and the *ARRT Examination Requirements for Obtaining Certification and Registration*. The *ARRT Rules and Regulations* provides additional information for the education, ethics, and examination requirements.

ARRT's education requirements serve to document that candidates for obtaining and/or maintaining certification and registration have had the opportunity to learn the requisite knowledge and skills needed to perform the role in which they are seeking to become or to remain credentialed. There are various, specific education-related requirements that fall under the general category of education requirements and each is described in this document. While the nature of these requirements and the way in which compliance is documented differ somewhat depending upon whether a credential is being initially obtained or an existing credential is being maintained, the purpose of all the requirements relate back to the general purpose of education requirements as stated above.

1.0 OBTAINING ARRT CERTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

There are two types of eligibility pathways for obtaining ARRT certification and registration. Some of ARRT's credentialing programs only have one or the other eligibility pathway available and some have both pathways. The two are called the primary eligibility pathway and the postprimary eligibility pathway. There are several differences between the two types of eligibility pathways, but the main difference is that the primary eligibility pathway requires completion of an educational program in the professional discipline and the postprimary eligibility pathway requires that the candidate is already credentialed in a related professional discipline. Additional details are provided under the relevant sections of this document.

1.1 Primary Eligibility Pathway Requirements

Candidates for certification and registration under the primary eligibility pathway must successfully complete a formal educational program in the discipline for which credentialing is being pursued and the program must be accredited by a mechanism acceptable to the ARRT. In the process of completing the program the candidate must complete the ARRT's education requirements as described below.

1.1.1 Didactic Competency Requirements

The purpose of the didactic competency requirements is to verify that individuals have had the opportunity to develop fundamental knowledge, integrate theory into practice and hone affective and critical thinking skills required to demonstrate professional competency.

Candidates must successfully complete coursework addressing the topics listed in the ARRT Content Specifications for the <Discipline Name> Examination. These topics would typically be covered in a nationally-recognized educational program. The didactic competency requirements are specific to each discipline.

Additional information can be found in the [ARRT Reference Documents - Didactic/Clinical Competency Requirements](#).

1.1.2 Clinical Competency Requirements

The purpose of the clinical competency requirements is to verify that individuals certified and registered by the ARRT have demonstrated competency performing the clinical activities fundamental to a particular discipline. Competent performance of these fundamental activities, in conjunction with mastery of the cognitive knowledge and skills covered by the radiography examination, provides the basis for the acquisition of the full range of procedures typically required in a variety of settings. Demonstration of clinical competence means that the candidate has performed the procedure independently, consistently, and effectively during the course of his or her formal education.

Additional information can be found in the [ARRT Reference Documents - Didactic/Clinical Competency Requirements](#).

I.1.3 Academic Degree Requirement

Candidates graduating on or after January 1, 2015, must have earned an associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or a graduate degree from an institution accredited by a mechanism acceptable to the ARRT. The degree does not need to be in radiologic sciences. The degree may be earned before entering the educational program or after graduation from the program, or may be awarded upon completion of the program, but must be awarded prior to being granted eligibility to sit for the ARRT examination and within the timeframe noted in Section 2.03 of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#).

I.1.4 Time Limit for Applying for Certification and Registration

For information on discipline-specific requirements to submit an application to establish eligibility for participation in an ARRT certification exam, review Section 2.03 of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#).

I.2 Postprimary Eligibility Pathway Requirements

Candidates for certification and registration under the postprimary eligibility pathway must already be credentialed in a relevant discipline (called the supporting category), must document relevant clinical experience in the discipline being pursued, must document completion of specified education, and must do so within a specified time limits, all of which are described below.

I.2.1 Supporting Category/Credential

Candidates must be credentialed in a related professional discipline (called the supporting category). Candidates must maintain certification and registration in the supporting category at all times to be eligible for certification and registration in the discipline being pursued under the postprimary eligibility pathway.

The following American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) credentials are suitable for the postprimary eligibility pathways that require sonography credentials as a supporting category: Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS), Registered Vascular Technologist (RVT), Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer (RDCS) or Registered Musculoskeletal Sonographer (RMSKS).

I.2.2 Clinical Experience Requirements

Candidates must complete the provisions listed in the [ARRT Clinical Experience Requirements](#) document in that discipline. The list of procedures and the number of repetitions of procedures that must be documented differs by discipline.

I.2.3 Structured Education Requirement

Candidates must complete the provisions listed in the [ARRT Structured Education Requirements](#) document in that discipline. Sixteen, discipline-specific structured education credits must be documented, and these may be earned by completing academic courses or approved continuing education (CE) activities as described in the document.

I.2.4. Time Limit for Applying for Certification and Registration

The clinical experience requirements and the structured education requirements must be completed during the 24-month period immediately preceding the submission of an application for certification and registration.

I.3 Document evaluation of academic courses, degrees, and professional education provided by institutions outside the U.S.

For information on the requirements to report academic courses obtained through institutions out the U.S. to meet educational requirements, see [Academic Courses](#) documentation section and [Foreign Academic Courses](#) section.

2.0 MAINTAINING ARRT CERTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

Once an ARRT credential is obtained, there are annual, biennial, and decennial requirements for maintaining it. An annual application for renewal of certification and registration must be completed and attestation of continued compliance with ethics requirements must be made. Every other year, compliance with the biennial CE requirements must be completed. And every ten years for those credentials earned in 2011 or thereafter and for all R.R.A.¹ credentials the continuing qualifications requirements must be completed.

See **Article V. of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#)** for information on renewal of Certification and Registration

2.1 Verification of Certification and Registration

Certification and registration status can be verified by accessing the “Verify Credentials” option on the ARRT website. This site is updated hourly to reflect technologist information. The valid through date, credentials held, the biennium/CE probation status, and the CQR compliance period if applicable are noted along with the name, city, state, and zip code.

An individual who fails to apply for renewal of certification and registration or who does not pay the annual fee or who does not meet the CE probation requirements is no longer certified and registered by ARRT. Present or prospective employers or state licensing agencies inquiring about the status of such a person will be told that the individual is not certified and registered by ARRT. Since information for those who do not annually renew can quickly become outdated, and since providing such information is a service reserved only for R.T.s, no information on the person (other than that they are not certified and registered by the ARRT) will be provided.

2.2 Application to Discontinue Certification and Registration

R.T.s that hold multiple ARRT credentials may request to [discontinue](#) one or more disciplines in which they are certified and registered as long as there are no active ethics investigations pending.

Discontinuing credentials that support other credentials also require that you discontinue any credentials that are supported. See the [ARRT website](#) for more information.

If you later wish to reinstate, you can find the requirements for reinstating in the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#) governing document.

If the credential(s) you are discontinuing were subject to Continuing Qualifications Requirements (CQR) when you earned it, that 10-year timetable never changes. Therefore, if you reinstate a credential that was subject to CQR, your CQR deadline will remain the same as it was when you discontinued the credential.

2.3 Discontinued Certification and Registration

For information on discontinued certification and registration due to failure to meet requirements for maintaining certification and registration, or by request, see Article VI. of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#).

2.3.1 Discontinued Certification and Registration and CE Documentation

Any technologist who has had their certification and registration discontinued will be required to comply with the Education and/or Examination Requirements for Reinstatement explained in Section 6.03 of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#) regardless of whether participation in continuing education can be documented for the period of discontinued certification and registration.

2.3.2 No Documentation of CE Compliance After Re-examination Application

Once the application for re-examination has been received and processed by ARRT, no further attempts to document compliance with the past CE reporting requirements will be allowed.

2.3.3 American Registry of Clinical Radiography Technologists (ARCRT) Transfer Registrants

ARCRT transfer registrants who have had their registration discontinued are required to take the ARRT examination in Radiography in order to reinstate. Registration would be through the ARRT and certification would remain through the ARCRT.

2.4 Retired or Disabled Designation

For information on Retired or Disabled designations, see Sections 5.07 and 5.08 of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#).

2.5 CE Biennium

The CE requirements are linked to a two-year period (biennium) that is defined in relation to the R.T.'s birth month. Implemented on January 1, 2002, the biennium start date begins with the first day of the next birth month after earning certification and registration for all new registrants. The biennium extends for two years to the end of the month prior to the birth month.

R.T.s who have recently earned their first ARRT certification and registration will begin the mandatory CE Requirements on the first day of their next birth month after the examination administration, except if the period between examination administration and birth month is two months or less, in which case certification and registration shall be in effect through the R.T.'s birth month the following year.

R.T.s who become certified and registered in additional disciplines will maintain the CE biennium reporting period established with their initial certification and registration. The R.R.A. will maintain the same CE reporting period that was assigned when the individual became an R.T.(R).

Biennium dates are identified on the annual Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration and listed on the R.T.s online dashboard. Biennium dates may also be verified by accessing the Verify Credentials tab on the ARRT website.

All CE credits must be completed between these dates. The renewal of certification and registration will continue on an annual basis, with the CE requirements being reported every other year. The two-year CE period was selected to allow flexibility in fulfilling the requirements (i.e., if no CE can be earned in the first year, the second year is still available to complete the credits). The completion of one biennium will mark the beginning of the next biennium. **Credits earned in one biennium cannot be carried forward into the next biennium.**

2.5.1 Adjustment to Biennium Start Dates

A registrant may request a one-time change of the biennium. A [written request](#) for a biennium change must be made during the first year of the current biennium. Documentation of 12 category A or A+ CE credits completed within the first year of the assigned biennium must accompany this request.

Requests may be made for any reason but are frequently to align the year with another credentialing agency or a state license. Compliance with the CE requirements for the first half of the biennium must be documented before the dates will be adjusted. For the request to be honored, the registrant must be in CE compliance with the previous biennium and not on CE probation. A change to the month assigned will not be made.

2.5.2 Biennial CE Report

At the end of the reporting period, R.T.s must submit information on compliance with the CE requirements in an ARRT-determined format and manner. All registrants will be required to review or list completed CE, and attest to the truthfulness of the information, on a biennial CE Report as part of the renewal process. The CE Report will only be provided at the end of a biennium. Failure to submit complete information will result in the assignment of [CE probation](#).

CE Report forms are ARRT property. When a renewal, reinstatement, or CE probation process is completed online, a copy of the CE Report form is automatically emailed to the email on file and the individual has the opportunity to print the confirmation page, which includes the CE Report.

MQSA inspectors do not accept ARRT CE Reports for documentation. MQSA inspectors request to see the certificates or the ASRT CE report form.

New R.T.s who earn initial certification and registration in 2021 begin their first CE biennium on the first day of their next birth month and will be required to report CE compliance with their renewal two years later. For example: A new R.T. has an October birth date and earns initial certification and registration in June 2021. Their biennium will begin on October 1, 2021 and continue to September 30, 2023. The next biennium starts October 1, 2023 and extends to September 30, 2025. While certification and registration renewal is required every year, reporting of CE compliance is only required every other year.

2.5.3 Electronic Transfer of Biennial CE Records

The ARRT will accept electronic transfer of CE credits from record-keeping organizations that have been approved by ARRT to track and transfer CE credits in this manner:

- If you completed your required CE credits at least two months prior to the end of your biennium and your records were successfully transferred, you will not be required to submit additional CE information unless specified by ARRT to do so. The Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration will indicate that your CE information was transferred.
- If less than 24 credits were transferred, the transferred CE credits will appear on your Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration. You can add other CE credits that you completed to demonstrate compliance. Do not assume that CE credits you completed were transferred if you do not see them on the Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration.

2.5.4 Biennial CE Audit

A random sample of CE reports will be requested to provide documentation of CE participation through the CE Audit process. R.T.s will be required to provide supporting documentation for all CE activities reported to comply with the biennial CE requirements. This documentation will be used to verify the CE activities that were reported. CE documentation forms verifying participation should NOT be submitted unless specified by ARRT. There is no limit on the number of times an R.T. may be audited. The ARRT may flag a CE Report for an audit outside of the random sample if there have been problems with the CE reported in the past or if the report is questionable.

The ARRT reserves the right to request original documentation when in its sole opinion there is any question regarding authenticity.

CE certificates with white-out or any other changes may not be accepted by ARRT. The CE participant should request new certificates of participation from the CE sponsor. R.T.s may not alter the date of completion on a CE certificate and doing so is prohibited by the *ARRT Rules of Ethics*.

The ARRT reserves the right to make necessary adjustments to CE status after the review is completed. **ARRT will discontinue the certification and registration of an individual who does not respond to a request for a CE audit by submitting documentation of CE participation. Reinstatement will be required. See Article VII. of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#) for information on reinstatement.**

2.6 CE Documentation

R.T.s are required to maintain proof of participation in CE activities for five years. An R.T. may decide to have documentation maintained by an ARRT-approved record-keeping mechanism. Several such mechanisms exist and are provided by various national societies either as a service to their members or at a fee to non-members.

It remains the responsibility of the R.T. to see that records are maintained properly. Errors made by a record-keeping mechanism are not acceptable reasons for failure to provide appropriate documentation.

2.6.1 CE Certificate Requirements

A certificate of participation must include:

- Name of the participant
- Pre-printed date(s) of completion (MM/DD/YYYY) (*handwritten dates are not accepted*)
- Title of the CE activity
- Pre-printed number of contact hours (credits)
- Name of the CE sponsor
- Signature of either the authorized representative of the CE owner, sponsor or presenter
- Pre-printed CE reference number provided by a RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA
- Identification of the approving RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA
- Category A or A+ designation
- Expiration date (MM/DD/YYYY) of CE activity

2.6.2 Authorship CE Certificate Requirements

A certificate of participation must include:

- Name of the participant
- Pre-printed date(s) of completion (MM/DD/YYYY) (*handwritten dates are not accepted*)
- Title of the CE activity
- Pre-printed number of contact hours (credits)
- Pre-printed CE reference number provided by a RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA
- Identification of the approving RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA
- Category A or A+ designation
- Expiration date (MM/DD/YYYY) of CE activity

See more information on reporting [authorship](#) for CE credit.

2.6.3 Academic Course

Documentation must be include:

- A full copy of college transcript (official or student) or a transcript from an ARRT recognized educational program (hospital-based program)
- Student name
- Education institution awarding the credit, that includes:
 - Both the month or term and year the course was completed
 - An indication that the class was passed (pass/fail) or a grade of “C” or better is required to receive CE credit for an academic course. A grade of “C-” minus will not be accepted

Note: Activities meeting the definition of an Approved Academic Course that are reported on a transcript in competency credits (units) will be accepted if the educational institution provides the necessary information to convert competency credit (units) into academic quarter or semester credits.

For individuals enrolled in an academic course for the sole purpose of gaining CE to meet the education requirements (i.e., enrolled, but not for academic credit), a certificate of participation or course completion documentation must be on institutional letterhead and include the following:

- Name of participant
- Pre-printed date of completion (MM/DD/YYYY)
- Title of course
- Pre-printed number of contact hours (credits)
- Name of academic institution
- Signature of course instructor or academic faculty
- A statement that the same course requirements as specified for individuals enrolled in the course for academic credit were met

If the ARRT is not able to determine content of a course from the title, a course description from a college catalog or the course syllabus may be necessary.

Academic courses, degrees, and professional education provided by institutions outside the U.S

The following criteria will be used for document evaluation of academic courses, degrees, and professional education provided by institutions outside the U.S. that are accredited by a mechanism recognized by ARRT and will be the same for each educational institution transcript that is submitted regardless of the ARRT education requirement the submitting individual is attempting to comply with.

Obtaining certification and registration criteria

- Transcripts in foreign languages will need to have an English language translation submitted for acceptance.
- All academic transcripts awarded by institutions based outside of the U.S. that are submitted to satisfy educational requirements to obtain certification and registration require an evaluation by an academic credential evaluation service that is a member of AICE, NACES, and/or CED unless the transcript is issued by an educational program recognized by ARRT for the primary eligibility pathway.
- The academic credential evaluation must provide ARRT with an evaluation showing equivalency to education provided in the U.S. This will require that the transcript and/or evaluation provide the necessary information to convert the academic credits earned to semester or quarter credits for entry into ARRT's system.
- The evaluation criteria will be the same for all academic transcripts awarded by institutions based outside of the U.S. that are submitted to satisfy educational requirements to obtain certification and registration using either the primary eligibility pathway or the postprimary eligibility pathway.
- The evaluation criteria also apply to all academic transcripts awarded by institutions based in Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Maintaining certification and registration criteria

- Transcripts in foreign languages will need to have an English language translation submitted for acceptance.
- Academic transcripts awarded by institutions based outside of the U.S. that are submitted to satisfy educational requirements to maintain certification and registration will not require an evaluation by an academic credential evaluation service that is a member of AICE, NACES, and/or CED provided that staff is able to extract the required information to clearly determine compliance with applicable ARRT education requirements. This will require that the transcript and/or evaluation provide the necessary information to convert the academic credits earned to semester or quarter credits for entry into ARRT's system.
- The criteria also apply to all academic transcripts awarded by institutions based in Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

See [additional information](#) on reporting foreign academic courses for continuing education.

2.6.4 Advanced CPR Certification Document Requirements

A copy of a valid certification card issued by the American Heart Association, or the American Safety and Health Institute, or the American Red Cross will serve as documentation.

2.7 Biennial CE Probation

Compliance with the CE requirements is ultimately the individual R.T.'s responsibility.

An R.T. or R.R.A. who applies for renewal of certification and registration, but who fails to meet the CE requirements within the previous biennium or is non-compliant at the time of renewal, will automatically be assigned to a "CE probation" status. Additionally, R.T.s or R.R.A.s whose CE Report forms are incomplete will be assigned to the CE probation designation. R.T.s who have been assigned to CE probation due to failure to meet the CE requirements will be notified of their "CE Probation" status and their individual dashboard on their ARRT account will display this status. This status will be reported in response to any inquiries regarding the R.T.s or R.R.A.s standing with the ARRT.

2.7.1 CE Probation Period

The CE probation period will begin on the first day of the birth month and extend until the last day of the sixth month. During the CE probation period, R.T.s or R.R.A.s will be allowed to complete the CE credits that they were lacking during the biennium with no additional penalty credits. When the CE probation credits are completed, the R.T. or R.R.A. must report CE activities to ARRT with a \$50 fee. When compliance is confirmed, the CE probation designation will be removed. **If the individual is not in compliance with the CE Probation Requirements by the end of the probation period, certification and registration will be discontinued.** Eligibility to reinstate will follow the existing policies as noted in Article VII. of the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#).

All CE probation credits must meet the ARRT's definition of Category A or A+ credit. In addition to the CE credits that are required during the **first 6 months** of the next biennium for removal from CE probation status, an additional 24 CE credits for R.T.s, (see additional requirements for sonographers and R.R.A.s) must be completed by the end of the biennium to meet the CE requirements for the new biennium. CE credits used to satisfy the CE probation requirements cannot be used for the biennium requirements.

Example of CE Probation Status for an R.T.:

24 credits required between 6/1/2021 and 5/31/2023.

In June 1, 2023 an R.T. with a June birth month completed and reported 19 CE credits of the 24 required for the past biennium (lacking 5 credits) and paid the annual certification and registration fee. The R.T. is placed on CE probation status.

In November 30, 2023 the R.T. completed and reported a total of 5 CE probation credits and paid the probation fee. The R.T. is removed from CE probation status.

During the reporting period in 2025, the R.T. must report an additional 24 credits of CE earned during the 2023-2025 Biennium (this is in addition to the probation CE credits reported in November 2023) and pay the annual renewal fee to remain certified and registered.

Example of the Number of CE Credits Required for Removal from CE Probation Status:

CE Credits Reported in the Biennium	CE Probation Credits Required
22	2
15	9
12	12
5	19

Note: CE credit for an approved activity that has one reference number cannot be split for any reason (e.g., to comply with the CE probation requirement and the new biennium.)

2.7.2 CE Probation Credits for the Sonographer: R.T.(S)

The total number of CE credits completed during the 30 months prior to the end of the CE probation period (that is, 24-month CE biennium period plus 6-month CE probation period) must be 24 with at least 16 of the total specific to sonography.

2.7.3 CE Probation for the Registered Radiologist Assistant: R.R.A.

The total number of CE credits completed during the 30 months prior to the end of the CE probation period (that is, 24-month CE biennium period plus 6-month CE probation period) must be 50 with at least 25 Category A+ credits.

2.7.4 Biennium Schedule After CE Probation

There will be no adjustments to the biennium dates after a registrant is put on CE probation.

2.7.5 Limit to the Number of Times on CE Probation

There is no limit to the number of times a person can be placed on CE probation. Additional CE credits will always be required of individuals in order to be removed from CE probation.

2.7.6 Review of CE Probation Report

The CE activities reported for CE probation will be reviewed. If compliance is confirmed, CE probation status will be removed. If compliance cannot be determined, CE documentation may be requested and/or completion of additional CE activities may be required for the removal of CE probation status.

3.0 CONTINUING QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS (CQR)

3.1 Statement of Purpose

The Continuing Qualifications Requirements assist Registered Technologists (R.T.s) and Registered Radiologist Assistants (R.R.A.s) to document their continued qualifications in the categories of certification and registration held.

3.2 10-Year Period

All credentials subject to CQR are awarded for a maximum of a 10-year period. The 10-year CQR period for a discipline begins the first day of the individual's next birth month after the certification and registration is awarded and ends on the last day of the month preceding the birth month 10 years later. Once the 10-year period is established for a discipline it remains permanently anchored to that date for that discipline and is not re-set if certification and registration in the discipline is discontinued and later reinstated.

3.2.1 Credentials Awarded Prior to January 1, 2011

Credentials awarded prior to January 1, 2011 are not subject to CQR except: (A) if such certification and registration is revoked and is reinstated on or after January 1, 2011 and in such cases, the certification and registration will be subject to CQR; or (B) the R.T. decides to voluntarily comply with the CQR (see Section 3.11); or (C) the credential is the R.R.A. (see Section 3.2.3); or (D) Certification and registration regained following discontinuation under the retired or disabled recognition provisions are subject to CQR.

3.2.2 Credentials Awarded Since January 1, 2011

Certifications and registrations awarded on or after January 1, 2011 are subject to CQR. Any certification and registration programs introduced in the future will be subject to CQR unless expressly stated otherwise in this document.

3.2.3 Registered Radiologist Assistant Credentials

All radiologist assistant credentials are subject to CQR regardless of when they were earned.

3.2.4 Exceptions

Credentials in disciplines that are no longer being issued by ARRT will not be subject to CQR. Individuals who obtained certification and registration in Quality Management (QM) since January 1, 2011 will not be required to satisfy CQR for QM nor will those who earned the QM credential before January 1, 2011 be allowed to voluntarily participate in CQR for QM. Individuals who earned the CV credential will not be allowed to voluntarily participate in CQR for CV.

3.2.5 Multiple Credentials

If certification and registration is held in multiple disciplines, CQR must be completed for each one earned on or after January 1, 2011. Each credential will have a separate 10-year period.

3.2.6 Annual Renewal of Certification and Registration

All requirements for annual renewal of certification and registration will remain in effect during the 10-year period.

3.2.7 Biennial CE

All requirements for biennial CE will remain in effect during the 10-year period.

3.3 CQR Compliance Period

The CQR Compliance Period for a discipline is the last three years of the 10-year period as assigned upon being initially awarded certification and registration for that discipline and for each subsequent 10-year period. The CQR Compliance Period begins on the first day of the birth month at the beginning of the eighth year of the 10-year period and ends on the last day of the month preceding the birth month three years later. Continuing Qualifications Requirements compliance must be documented prior to the end of the 10-year period to be eligible to continue certification and registration in the discipline for an additional 10-year period.

3.4 CQR Participant Agreement

CQR participants must sign and abide by the agreement as reproduced in [Section 3.24](#) of this document.

3.5 CQR Disclaimer

CQR participants must sign and abide by the CQR Disclaimer as reproduced in [Section 3.25](#) of this document.

3.6 Professional Profile

The Professional Profile assists in gaining an awareness of the clinical expectations for newly certified and registered professionals in a given discipline and to provide opportunities to learn more about those clinical procedures not in the R.T.'s current practice. The subcomponents of the Professional Profile include a Reflective Exercise, a Profile Summary, and Clinical Refreshers.

The clinical activities in the profile are identified from the practice analysis. CQR participants indicate how often they have performed the various clinical activities during the last two years by completing a brief online survey. The exercise encourages participants to reflect on their current practice as well as become aware of the types of clinical activities that entry-level professionals in the same discipline are performing.

The profile summary provides a graphical representation of a participant's responses to the reflective exercise, allowing participants to evaluate the depth and breadth of their own practices relative to that of other R.T.s practicing in that discipline.

The clinical refreshers are short educational activities intended to remind participants about the basics of conducting a given clinical procedure. The refreshers are not meant to be comprehensive training resources. The refreshers are also not necessarily intended to meet the requirements ARRT has for Continuing Education (CE). Completion of the suggested refreshers is voluntary.

3.7 Structured Self-Assessment (SSA)

The Structured Self-Assessment assists individuals to identify gaps in the knowledge underlying the intelligent performance of the tasks typically required for practice within the discipline of certification and registration held and help direct their professional development efforts. The ARRT's SSA Content Outline for the discipline defines the body of knowledge that must be mastered and maintained to meet ARRT's definition of what it means to be qualified.

Individuals that are required to complete CQR may elect to self-select and complete a full CE prescription in lieu of completing the SSA.

3.8 Results Report

Performance on the SSA is reported as standards met. The SSA may not be repeated. Content areas in which the standard was not met indicate the number of CE credits that must be completed to satisfy CQR.

3.9 Education for CQR

Educational activities assist individuals in addressing gaps in the knowledge that underlies the intelligent performance of the tasks typically required for practice within the disciplines of certification and registration held. Educational activities must meet the same quality standards as ARRT's biennial CE requirements. CE identified in the results report must be completed by the end of the CQR Compliance Period.

3.9.1 CE Completed for CQR

CE credits used for CQR compliance must be completed after the SSA and must have an assigned credit distribution at the time of reporting. A list of CE activities is available for participants to choose from, however, if an activity is not on the list, and the participant wishes to use it for compliance, ARRT must first review the activity to determine if it is appropriate to meet the individual's CE needs.

3.10 Loss of Certification and Registration

If CQR is not completed by the end of the CQR Compliance Period, the individual's certification and registration will be discontinued in that discipline.

If the individual is discontinued for some reason other than not completing CQR, and they are in their CQR 11th year, they cannot complete the reinstatement process before completing CQR.

3.10.1 Year 11

Individuals who have a discontinued discipline for failing to comply with CQR may complete the components of CQR by the end of the 11th year to meet CQR and become eligible for reinstatement. CE required for CQR must be reported before the end of the 11th year. Once the individual documents completion of all requirements the individual must follow existing reinstatement procedures and pay applicable fees to regain certification and registration in the CQR discipline.

3.10.2 Beyond Year 11

Individuals who have not completed CQR, including reporting any CE required for CQR by the end of the 11th year, must reinstate to regain certification and registration. Completion of CQR is not required at this point. If the individual fails to comply with CQR in a discipline that supports another discipline, this discipline will also be discontinued at the end of the 10th year. To regain certification and registration in a discipline, existing reinstatement procedures as noted in the [ARRT Rules and Regulations](#) will apply.

Successful completion of the reinstatement process does not change the CQR 10-year period established when certification and registration was earned (see [Section 3.2](#)).

3.11 Voluntary CQR, Credentials Earned Before 2011

Individuals earning certification and registration prior to January 1, 2011 may participate in CQR. These individuals will be referred to as voluntary participants in CQR.

3.12 Voluntary Participation Agreement

Voluntary participants must complete and sign an agreement which notifies ARRT of their intent.

3.13 Compliance Period

Voluntary participants will start their Three-Year Compliance Period the first day of their next birth month following receipt by ARRT of the voluntary participation agreement. That is, the first 10-year period will be abbreviated by starting at the beginning of the eighth year.

3.14 Eligibility for Voluntary Participation

Voluntary participants must be currently certified and registered in the discipline in which they intend to pursue CQR at the time the voluntary participant agreement is signed.

3.15 Irreversibility

Voluntary participants, once they have signed an agreement to voluntarily participate in CQR, will be subject to CQR permanently and must complete the CQR process the same as those who earned certification and registration on or after January 1, 2011. Once the initial Three-Year Compliance Period ends, a new 10-year CQR period will be assigned.

3.16 Discipline Selection

Voluntary participants may participate in CQR by discipline since CQR is specific to disciplines and not to the person. For example, an individual certified and registered in radiography in 2008 and radiation therapy in 2010 may choose to participate in CQR for radiation therapy but decline to voluntarily participate for radiography.

3.17 Non-Compliance

Voluntary participants who do not complete CQR are held to the same non-compliance policies as other CQR participants (See [section 3.10](#)).

3.18 ARCRT

Individuals originally certified in radiography through ARCRT are allowed to voluntarily participate in CQR for radiography even though they were not originally certified and registered by ARRT in radiography. Participation in CQR does not result in ARRT certification and registration for those who are registered by ARRT by virtue of their ARCRT certification. Their certificate will continue to state that they were originally certified through ARCRT.

3.19 CQR Online Tool Fees

Generally, individuals participating in CQR will not be charged fees for access to the CQR tools provided by ARRT. Exceptions are addressed in this section.

3.20 SSA Fees

The SSA is provided at no cost to the R.T. provided that the individual is able to comply and complies with certain parameters for the SSA administration. Participants schedule their SSA directly with ARRT's administration vendor. A rescheduling fee may be required through the vendor. If the participant does not attend an appointment, does not agree to the nondisclosure statement, or has an issue with the vendor that prevents the participant from taking the assessment a fee is required to re-administer the SSA.

3.21 Review Fee

Individuals may request a review of the SSA results by submitting an [Eligibility Appeal Request Form](#). Requests must be postmarked within 14 days of the results report having been posted to ARRT's website and must be accompanied by a \$25 fee. ARRT will review the responses to each question, compare those responses to the answer key, and recalculate the results. ARRT will inform the participant of the results within 30 days of receiving the written request.

The participant will be notified of the results and if needed the CE identified on the results report will be adjusted. If the request is received at the end of the three-year compliance period and the individual has not met CQR the individual's certification and registration will be discontinued. The participant will be notified of the results and if needed certification and registration will be reinstated or the CE identified on the results report will be adjusted.

3.22 CE Fees

Participation in CE activities to comply with CQR are subject to fees from CE providers the same as if the activities were completed for any other purpose.

3.23 Violating Assessment Protocols

- If a participant violates assessment protocol, the administration vendor will provide ARRT with a report identifying the participant and incident. ARRT will investigate the incident to determine whether disciplinary action is required. Types of protocol violations include prohibited behaviors during the assessment such as accessing cell phones or lockers, using notes, etc. Participants identified on the incident report will receive notification from the ARRT stating that their assessment is under investigation resulting from an incident, that their "Online" account will indicate their assessment results are under investigation, and that they will not be able to obtain their SSA results report until the investigation is completed.
- In the event the ARRT investigation determines a participant violated an assessment protocol, the ARRT will notify the participant that the participant's results will be cancelled and the participant will be required to complete the total CE identified on the results report to remain certified and registered.
- In the event the ARRT investigation determines a participant violated an assessment protocol and the violation requires an Ethics review, and where the Ethics review requires disciplinary action, the participant will be notified that their results will be cancelled and the participant may be subject to additional remedies beyond completing the total CE identified on the results report to remain certified and registered up to being revoked.
- If a participant completes CE for CQR compliance during an ARRT investigation requiring an Ethics review and the participant's credentials are revoked, the completed CE will not be recognized.

- In the event the ARRT investigation determines a participant did not violate an assessment protocol, the participant will be notified by the ARRT.
- If a participant believes that their assessment was administered in a manner that substantially deviated from normal procedures, the participant may request a review by submitting a completed [Eligibility Appeal Request Form](#) within two days of the administration.

3.24 CQR Structured Self-Assessment Agreement of Participants

"I understand and agree that:

- ARRT will provide certain personally identifiable information such as my name and address to its administration vendor for the sole purpose of arranging to administer and administering the CQR Structured Self-Assessment (SSA) and for reporting the SSA results back to ARRT."

"I also understand and agree that:

- the SSA and related materials utilized in the SSA are copyrighted as the sole property of the ARRT and must not be removed from the SSA administration area or reproduced in any way, and that reproduction of copyrighted material, in whole or in part, is a federal offense and may subject me to the sanctions listed below."

"I also understand and agree that:

- disclosing SSA information using language that is substantially similar to that used in questions and/or answers from an ARRT SSA when such information is gained as a direct result of having been a CQR participant or having communicated with an ARRT CQR participant (this includes, but is not limited to, disclosures to students in educational programs, graduates of educational programs, educators, or anyone else involved in the preparation of candidates to sit for ARRT SSAs); and/or
- receiving SSA information that uses language that is substantially similar to that used in questions and/or answers on the ARRT SSAs from an SSA participant, whether requested or not; and/or
- copying, publishing, reconstructing (whether by memory or otherwise), reproducing or transmitting any portion of SSA materials by any means, verbal or written, electronic or mechanical, without the prior express written permission of the ARRT or using professional, paid, or any other individual for the purpose of reconstructing any portion of SSA materials; and/or
- using or purporting to use any portion of SSA materials that were obtained improperly or without authorization for the purpose of instructing or preparing any participant for the SSAs;
- selling or offering to sell, buying or offering to buy, or distributing or offering to distribute any portion of ARRT's SSA materials without authorization; and/or
- removing or attempting to remove SSA materials from an SSA administration session, or having unauthorized possession of any portion of or information concerning a future, current, or previously administered SSA of ARRT; and/or
- disclosing what purports to be, or what you claim to be, or under all circumstances is likely to be understood by the recipient as, any portion of or 'inside' information concerning any portion of a future, current, or previously administered SSA; and/or
- communicating with another individual during administration of the SSA for the purpose of giving or receiving help in answering SSA questions, copying another SSA participant's answers, permitting another SSA participant to copy one's answers, or possessing unauthorized materials including, but not limited to notes; and/or
- impersonating an SSA participant or permitting an impersonator to take or attempt to take the SSA on one's own behalf; and/or
- using any other means that potentially alters the results of the SSA such that the results may not accurately represent the professional knowledge base of an SSA participant; will be reported to the ARRT and will constitute grounds for the ARRT to:
 - bar me permanently from all future SSAs; and/or
 - terminate my participation in the SSA; and/or
 - invalidate the results of my SSA and/or any prior SSAs; and/or
 - withhold my SSA results; and/or
 - revoke or suspend my certification and registration; and/or
 - deny or reject my application for renewal of registration of a certificate or otherwise refuse to renew the certification and registration; and/or
 - censure me; and/or
 - sue me for damages and civil remedies; and/or

- pursue prosecution of me for any conduct that constitutes a criminal or civil violation; and/or
- take any other appropriate action; and that the ARRT's decision on any such matter is final."

"I also understand and agree that:

- each CQR SSA will be supervised by persons who are responsible to and are empowered by the ARRT to ensure that the SSA is conducted ethically and in accordance with the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*; and
- the ARRT may withhold my SSA results and may require me to retake one or more portions of the SSA if the ARRT is presented with evidence demonstrating to the ARRT, in its sole discretion, that the security of those portions of the SSA has been compromised, notwithstanding the absence of any evidence of my personal involvement in the compromising activities; and
- the decision as to whether my results and other performances on the ARRT's SSA qualify me to remain certified and registered rests solely and exclusively in the ARRT; and that the ARRT's decision on any such matter is final."

"I hereby waive and release, and shall indemnify and hold harmless, the ARRT and its Board of Trustees, members, officers, committee members, employees, and agents from, against, and with respect to any and all claims, losses, costs, expenses, damages, and judgments (including reasonable attorney fees) that arise or are alleged to have arisen, from, out of, with respect to, or in connection with any action that they, or any of them, take or fail to take as a result of or in connection with this agreement, any SSA conducted by the ARRT which I take, the results given me on the SSA, and, if applicable, the failure of the ARRT to issue to me evidence of such continuing certification and registration or to renew the registration of a certificate previously issued to me, the ARRT's revocation of any certificate previously issued to me, or the ARRT's notification of legitimately interested persons of such actions taken by the ARRT. This release does not purport to and does not release the ARRT for any actions arising out of willful, wanton, or intentional misconduct."

"I understand and agree that in the event of my breach of or default in any provision of this CQR Participant Agreement in any respect whatsoever, the ARRT shall have the right, in its absolute discretion, to revoke or suspend any certificate issued to me, refuse to issue to me any evidence of such certification and registration, or renewal of the registration thereof, censure me, and/or cancel my certification and registration with the ARRT, and to provide information regarding such circumstances to all legitimately interested persons without restriction."

"I understand and agree that this Agreement and my entire relationship with ARRT is and shall be governed by the law of the State of Minnesota (except for its choice of law provisions). I hereby agree that any lawsuits between the ARRT and me must be filed in the courts of the State of Minnesota located in Hennepin County or Ramsey County, Minnesota or in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota. I submit to the jurisdiction of said courts for the purposes of any lawsuit with ARRT and agree that jurisdiction and venue are proper in said courts."

3.25 CQR Disclaimer

"I acknowledge that participating in the CQR process, whether or not I successfully complete the requirements, does not imply and cannot be used to claim ARRT certification and registration should I not currently be ARRT certified and registered, or should my ARRT certification and registration be discontinued after the time I begin or complete the CQR process. Only individuals in compliance with all requirements as designated by ARRT may claim to be ARRT certified and registered. The ARRT provides verification of credentials through its website at www.arrt.org and considers the website to be the primary source of verification of ARRT certification and registration status. I understand and agree that purporting to be ARRT certified and/or registered when this is not the case may subject me to ethics sanctions by ARRT and/or legal action."

4.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)

The Board of Trustees of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists announced in 1991 that it would begin phasing in continuing education requirements for renewal of certification and registration. In 1995, continuing education became a mandatory requirement for renewal or reinstatement of certification and registration.

4.1 Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the CE Requirements is to provide a mechanism for Registered Technologists to fulfill their responsibility to maintain competence in their categories of certification and registration.

4.2 Rationale for Continuing Education

Certification and registration is a method of ensuring the medical community and the public that an individual is qualified with the knowledge and skills to practice within the profession. After initial certification and registration, advancing technology and changing job responsibilities may require technologists to update their knowledge and skills consistent with any new developments in medical imaging, interventional procedures and radiation therapy. Participation in CE demonstrates accountability to peers, physicians, healthcare facilities, and the public. Education requirements also reinforces the Code of Ethics endorsed by The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

4.3 CE Definitions

4.3.1 Continuing Education(CE) Activity:

A learning activity that is planned, organized, and administered to maintain and enhance the professional knowledge and skills underlying professional performance that a technologist uses to provide services for patients, the public or the medical profession. In order to qualify as CE, the activity must be planned, organized and provide sufficient depth and scope of a subject area.

4.3.2 Continuing Education Credit:

Unit of measurement for CE activities. One CE credit is awarded for one contact hour (50-60 minutes). Activities longer than one hour are assigned whole or partial credits based on the 50-60 minute hour. Educational activities of 30-49 minutes duration will be awarded one-half of one CE credit. An activity of 15-29 minutes will receive one-quarter CE credit. Activities lasting less than 15 minutes will receive no CE credit. This is applicable for CE activities that do not require a post-test to document participation (e.g., it applies to live lectures, attendance monitored webcast).

No partial credit is to be awarded to individuals who do not attend a CE activity for the entire length of time for which it was approved. See more information on partial CE credit in Policy 3.9 of the [ARRT Stakeholder](#) document.

4.3.3 Category A Credit

An activity that qualifies as a CE Activity as defined in this document and that meets one of the criteria below, is awarded Category A credit.

- **Activities approved by a Recognized Continuing Education Evaluation Mechanism (RCEEMs or RCEEMs+)**

The individual participating in the CE activity does not submit the activity to a [RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA](#) for approval. The individual selects activities that the CE Sponsor has already submitted to a RCEEM or a RCEEM+ for approval.

See more information on ARRT requirements for approval on CE activities in Policy 4.8 the [ARRT Stakeholder](#) document.

- **Activities Approved by State Licensing Agencies**

The ARRT recognizes that [some states](#) have legislation requiring CE credits in order to maintain a state license to practice in that state. If an R.T. holds state licensure and completes CE activities in that state to meet the state's licensing requirements, the R.T. may count the CE Credit as Category A if the following conditions are met: The R.T. is licensed by that state at the time the credits is earned, the state regulatory agency is mandated by law to evaluate CE activities for licensing purposes and has approved the activity for CE credit. Other individuals completing the activity will receive no credit unless the activity is also RCEEM or RCEEM+ approved. The intended audience (licensees) and not the location where the CE activity occurred determines who may claim CE credit for completing the activity.

- **Academic Courses Approved Academic Course:**

A formal course of study that results in awarding of academic credits and that is relevant to medical imaging, interventional procedures, radiation therapy and/or patient care as it relates to these areas and that is offered by an institution accredited by a mechanism recognized by the ARRT. A complete list of ARRT-recognized accreditation mechanisms appears on the [ARRT website](#).

To receive Category A credit for an academic course the [documentation](#) must meet the requirements listed in this document.

Relevant courses in the biologic sciences, physical sciences, medical imaging, interventional procedures, radiation therapy, health and medical sciences, social sciences, verbal communication (oral and written) mathematics, computer use related to medical imaging or radiation therapy, management, cultural competency and ethics related to medical professionals, or post-secondary adult education

methodology will be considered for acceptance. Some subject areas that will not be applicable include, but are not limited to, formal education clinical hours/credits, independent study, courses in archeology, astronomy, fine arts, geology, geography, history, music, philosophy, and religion.

Activities meeting the definition of an approved academic course will be awarded credit at the rate of 12 CE credits for each academic quarter credit or 16 CE credits for each academic semester credit.

- **Challenged Academic Courses**

No CE credit will be allowed for academic credit awarded for challenge examinations or courses (i.e., test credits).

- **Clinical Competency**

CE credits should not be awarded for clinical competency checks.

- **Lab Course or Practicum**

Lab courses or practicums that require additional registration for the lab course or practicum will be granted credit if [documentation](#) for the lab course or practicum meets the requirements listed in this document. The lab or practicum acts to reinforce, demonstrate, or apply learning in various situations. These situations enhance critical thinking, which involves asking questions about subject matter, making informed decisions, and carrying out actions in a controlled environment.

- **Chiropractic Courses**

Category A CE credit may be awarded for course content if the chiropractic school is a post-secondary educational institution accredited by a mechanism recognized by ARRT and if the course meets all other requirements as a CE activity.

- **Computer Courses**

CE credit will not be awarded to computer courses on programming not directly related to medical imaging, interventional procedures, or radiation therapy. CE credit will be awarded to computer courses designed for the “user.” Important content areas for computer courses are PACS, HIS, computed radiology, billing and coding for the user.

- **Continuing Education Classes through Colleges**

Continuing education courses offered through an academic continuing education department may not be awarded Category A credit unless it has been evaluated and approved by a RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA. See more information on approval in Policy 3.17 of the [ARRT Stakeholder](#) document.

- **Foreign Academic Courses**

ARRT will accept Category A CE credit for academic courses completed from non-US academic institutions if the content of the course is relevant to medical imaging, interventional procedures or radiation therapy. Review the [ARRT requirements](#) specific to academic courses provided by institutions located out the of the U.S.

- **Genetics**

A basic or introductory level genetics course is acceptable for CE credit. New technology is allowing DNA to be tagged with a radioactive isotope and be imaged in nuclear medicine. Genomics is a discipline in genetics that applies recombinant DNA, DNA sequencing methods, and bioinformatics to sequence, assemble, and analyze the function and structure of genomes (the complete set of DNA within a single cell of an organism). Therefore, a basic understanding of genetics would be beneficial to the technologist.

- **Thesis, Dissertation, Capstone Project**

Instructor led preparation courses for a thesis, dissertation or a capstone project are awarded academic credit for CE compliance. The academic courses document that research is being conducted and/or continued. The technologist must supply a transcript for course credit. An indication that the course was passed (pass/fail) or a grade of “C” or better is required to receive CE credit for an academic course. For a thesis, dissertation, or a capstone project completed as independent study, CE is awarded for authorship if work is published. See additional information on [authorship](#).

- **Advanced Level CPR Certification**

At ARRT, education is part of our equation for excellence. We rely on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) providers to provide high quality training to staff that later use their CPR certification training to meet ARRT education requirements for obtaining and maintaining ARRT certification and registration.

Individuals using advanced-level CPR (i.e., ACLS, PALS, NALS) to meet ARRT education requirements must document certification from an ARRT recognized CPR provider listed on the ARRT website. Credit is awarded on the date of the certification or re-certification. The total number of credits from the advanced level CPR certification is limited to six CE credits per biennium. The advanced level CPR certification can be used only once per biennium.

Information for CPR/BLS Providers seeking ARRT recognition, see Section 1.3 of the [ARRT Stakeholder](#) document.

4.3.4 Category A+ Credit

CE Activities (as defined in this document) that contain content relevant to the radiologist extender and that have been approved by a RCEEM+ are awarded Category A+ credit.

4.3.5 Sonography Specific CE

Learning activities that are planned, organized, and administered to provide sufficient depth and scope of subject areas addressing the use of high-frequency sound waves to image portions of the human body to assist in making diagnoses. The activities must address the knowledge and skills underlying the intelligent performance of the tasks typically required for practice within sonography outlined in [ARRT's Sonography Content Outline](#) and must follow ARRT's *Education Requirement for Obtaining and Maintaining Certification and Registration*. In addition to the traditional sonography-related content, CE offerings that focus on disease process, anatomy and physiology, patient care, breast sonography and vascular sonography, will be included, as these topics are listed in the [Sonography Examination Content Specifications](#). Further, the activities must qualify for ARRT Category A or A+ credits.

4.3.6 Category P Credit

CE activities that contain content relevant to the radiologist extender and have been awarded Category I credit by the AMA (American Medical Association), AAPA (American Academy of Physician Assistants), or the AAFP (American Academy of Family Physicians). These activities are not Category A+ unless they have been approved by a RCEEM+. Category P credits may only be used for CE compliance by the R.R.A.

NOTE: Category P credits will no longer be accepted by ARRT for any CE activities completed January 1, 2023, or later.

4.4 Biennial CE Requirements

The CE requirements apply to all ARRT Registered Technologists (R.T.s) whether actively practicing in the profession or not currently practicing. All R.T.s will be required to meet CE standards regardless of age and/or number of hours worked. All activities applied toward the CE requirements must meet the ARRT's definition of a continuing education activity. The requirements are subject to change as the need arises.

The Biennial CE Requirements include earning 24 Category A or A+ CE credits for R.T.s. Sonographers, R.T.(S), and Registered Radiologist Assistants (R.R.A.s) are held to additional requirements; 16 of the 24 Category A or A+ credits must be content specific for Sonographers and 50 CE credits for required per biennium for an R.R.A.

The CE Requirement is not dependent on the number of ARRT credentials held by the R.T. For example, an R.T. certified and registered in both radiography and mammography need earn only 24 credits per biennium for the ARRT. The credits do not have to be specific to radiography or mammography but must be relevant to medical imaging, interventional procedures, or radiation therapy and/or patient care as it relates to medical imaging, interventional procedures, or radiation therapy.

R.T.s should select topics that are related to their area of practice and that will maintain their competence and help the R.T. keep current with industry best practices.

This does not address the CE Requirement for the Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). If you have questions regarding the FDA MQSA requirements, please contact the FDA Mammography Helpline at (800) 838-7715 or <https://www.fda.gov>.

See additional information on CE evaluation and approval in Section 3.0 of the [ARRT Stakeholder](#) document.

4.4.I Biennial CE Requirements for Sonographers: R.T.(S)

Effective January 1, 2013, Sonographers holding the R.T.(S)(ARRT) credential are required to complete at minimum of 16 sonography-specific CE credits as a part of the required 24 CE biennial credits.

CE requirements for R.T.(S)s will be integrated into the CE requirements needed to maintain any additional ARRT credentials. That is, the CE credits specific to sonography will count towards the 24 CE credits that are required each biennium.

ARRT will utilize the following criteria for Sonography-specific CE compliance:

Type of CE Activity	CE Activities Recognized as Sonography-Specific
1. RCEEM – approved activities	<p>Sonography RCEEMs (i.e., AIUM, SDMS, SVU): Activities approved by these RCEEMs will be accepted as compliant with the sonography-specific CE requirement.*</p> <p>Non-Sonography RCEEMs or RCEEMs+ (e.g., AHRA, ASRT, SNMMI-TS) and State Licensing Agencies: Activities approved by these RCEEMs, RCEEMs+, and/or SLAs that have the words “Sonography” or “Ultrasound” in the title will be accepted as compliant with the sonography-specific CE requirement.*</p> <p>CE activities with titles that can be clearly linked to the Sonography Examination Content Specifications will be accepted as compliant with the sonography-specific CE Requirement.</p>
2. Academic Courses	<p>Courses that meet ARRT’s academic criteria and Sonography Content Specifications:</p> <p>12 CE credits per 1 quarter hour course;</p> <p>16 CE credits per 1 semester hour course</p>

*Must follow ARRT’s *Education Requirement for Obtaining and Maintaining Certification and Registration*. CE activities accepted by other credentialing organizations may not satisfy ARRT’s CE requirements (e.g., clinical instructorship).

4.5 Biennial CE Requirements for Registered Radiologist Assistants: R.R.A.

The R.R.A. is required to complete 50 CE credits within a biennium. R.R.A. CE requirements will begin on the first day of an individual’s next biennium after obtaining the R.R.A. certification and registrations. CE requirements for the R.R.A will be integrated into the requirements needed to maintain the R.T. designation; that is, earning 50 CE credits that meet the criteria described above will satisfy the requirements to maintain both the R.T. and the R.R.A. The 50 CE credits must satisfy several criteria as noted below:

- A minimum of 25 of the 50 CE credits must be Category A+. The remaining 25 CE credits may be any combination of Category A or Category A+, and/or Category P. NOTE: Category P credits will no longer be accepted by ARRT for any CE activities completed January 1, 2023, or later.
- Activities designated as Category A+ (i.e., activities intended for the radiologist extender and approved by a RCEEM+ authorized by ARRT to evaluate such activities.)
- Activities approved by the AMA for Category I credit. These are not Category A+ credits because AMA is not a RCEEM or RCEEM+.
- Activities approved by the AAPA (American Academy of Physician Assistants) for Category I credit. These are not Category A+ credits because AAPA is not a RCEEM+.
- Activities approved by the AAFP (American Academy of Family Physicians) for Category I credit. These are not Category A+ credits because AAFP is not a [RCEEM+](#).
- A minimum of 35 of the 50 CE credits must be discipline or specialty specific to the R.R.A. area of practice. The area of practice is defined as the role generally performed by R.R.A.s as opposed to the specific role of an individual R.R.A.
 - The individual R.R.A. will monitor this requirement. ARRT will check compliance through the CE audit process.

4.6 Limit on Credit Type

There is no limit on the number of credits that can be earned through directed/journal readings, home study programs, or Internet activities.

Effective January 1, 2011, the maximum number of CE credit for applications facility training is capped at 8.0 Category A credits per CE biennium. CE credit for applications training delivered at a facility cannot be used to satisfy education requirements linked to ARRT content outlines (i.e., [Structured Education](#), [CQR](#)) for CE activities completed January 1, 2024, or later.

Applications training conducted at the corporate office, webinar, and user's meetings or online will not be limited.

4.7 CE Compliance for Dual Certification Agencies

Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the technologist to be aware of the CE requirements and criteria for each agency they are certified with. R.T.s should check with the organization requiring the CE credit for information specific to their professional credential requirements.

4.8 CE Activities Accepted by Other Credentialing Agencies

CE activities accepted by other credentialing organizations may not satisfy ARRT's CE Requirements (e.g., clinical instructorship).

CE activities that are awarded CE credit by entities other than an ARRT recognized RCEEM, RCEEM+ or state licensing agency may not be used by R.T.s to satisfy CE Requirements, such as:

- American Medical Association (AMA)
- American Nursing Association (ANA)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- Hospital accreditation (The Joint Commission) and federal government (OSHA) education requirements (e.g., fire safety, lifting procedures, patient restraints)

In-service presentations that are general in content and apply to a wide audience of technologists would be considered a CE activity. In-service presentations that are specific to a facility will not be awarded CE credit. In-service presentations must be approved for Category A CE credit by a RCEEM, RCEEM+, or recognized state licensing agency.

Examples of CE In-service Presentations

Example: A course on standard precautions would be applicable for any technologist.

Example: A course on how radiographic procedures are finalized is specific to that facility and does not meet the definition of a CE activity.

4.9 Repeating Biennial CE Activities

Any educational activity (e.g., live lecture, directed/journal reading, home studies, Internet activities, academic course, and advanced level CPR) may only be used once in a biennium. CE activities cannot be repeated for satisfying a biennium but may be repeated across different biennia.

An R.T. may use a CE activity more than once within the biennium in order to meet other educational requirements within the biennium. For example, a CE activity may be reported to satisfy the biennial CE requirement and be used towards [structured education](#) as well as for [CQR](#) compliance. In other words, the CE activity could be reported up to three times in a biennium but only once to meet the biennial CE requirement.

While an activity can be repeated across biennia, if the educational activity is completed in a biennium and used to satisfy [CE probation](#) from the last biennium, that repeated activity cannot be claimed again in the current biennium even if the activity is repeated. The ultimate responsibility lies with the R.T. considering participation in a CE activity to determine if a CE activity provided by different CE sponsors are the same or different.

If the CE activity is being reported in a subsequent biennium and the activity included a post-test, the activity is not complete until another post-test has been submitted and the CE sponsor has issued the certificate of completion (participation). The pre-printed date on the certificate is the date of completion; and must be applied by the CE sponsor. R.T.s may not alter this date.

4.10 Date of Completion

The time zone is dependent upon where the CE sponsor is located. It is the responsibility of the technologist to know the time zone of the CE sponsor they are using. Due to time zone differences the R.T. shall be aware that the time zone may adversely impact the "date of completion" for CE activities resulting in a completion date different from that in which the R.T. is located. This may affect whether the activity was completed within the education requirement deadline.

4.11 Authorship Credit for Peer-Reviewed (Scholarly, Refereed) Journal Article

A peer-reviewed journal article is one in which the content is written by experts in a particular field of study - generally for the purpose of sharing original research or analyzing others' findings. Peer-reviewed work will thoroughly cite all source materials used and must be subject to "peer review" prior to publication.

To receive Category A CE credit for authoring a peer-reviewed journal article complete the following:

- Have the peer-reviewed journal article you authored published in a journal listed in MEDLINE® or the [ARRT-accepted journal list](#) located on the ARRT website.
- Submit a request for approval to an ARRT CE Approver (i.e., RCEEM, RCEEM+, SLA) using the CE Approver's process which will include at minimum the following information:
 - Author's name(s)
 - Title of the peer-reviewed journal article
 - Date of publication
 - Copy of publication or link to electronic publication for review in a journal listed in MEDLINE® or the [ARRT-accepted journal list](#) located on the ARRT website
 - Receive a CE certificate with required information. See [CE documentation](#)
 - Report the Category A credits earned to ARRT to comply with the biennial CE requirements. (NOTE: Category A CE credits earned for authorship may not be used to comply with ARRT education requirements that require a credit distribution and are linked to the content outlines (i.e., Structured Education, CQR).

Peer-reviewed journal articles that meet all required criteria will be awarded Category A CE credits as follows:

- 4 Category A CE credits for an article with a single author listed
- 2 Category A CE credits for an article with more than one author listed (each author listed is eligible to receive 2 Category A CE credits for the same article)

A list of ARRT-accepted journals is located on the ARRT website.

5.0 ACCREDITATION MECHANISMS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

At ARRT, education is part of our equation for excellence. We rely on accreditation agencies (sometimes called mechanisms) to determine the quality of educational institutions, their programs, and their courses.

As part of the requirements for ARRT certification and registration, candidates need to complete an ARRT-approved educational program and an academic degree (associate's or higher) that is accredited by one of the mechanisms ARRT recognizes. Candidates only need to earn an academic degree if they complete their professional education on or after Jan. 1, 2015.

Individuals also have the option of taking an academic course to meet ARRT education requirements. The academic institution offering the course must be accredited by one of the agencies listed on the [ARRT website](#).

Information for accreditation mechanisms seeking ARRT recognition, see Section 1.0 of the [ARRT Stakeholder](#) document.

6.0 RA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

ARRT began awarding the R.R.A. credential in 2005, and since then hundreds of qualified technologists nationwide have earned the credential. R.R.A.s complete rigorous educational programs and document their didactic knowledge and clinical competence.

Prospective students interested in finding an ARRT recognized RA educational program will find a list of currently recognized programs by logging into their ARRT online account.

For information for RA educational programs seeking ARRT recognition, see [ARRT website](#).

7.0 OBTAINING AREA OF CONCENTRATION (AOC) RECOGNITION

ARRT Areas of Concentration (AOC) are designed to provide individuals the opportunity to document their cognitive, affective, and/or psychomotor skills in medical imaging, interventional procedures, and radiation therapy in situations not well-suited to traditional certification models.

The AOC model is another way for ARRT to recognize qualified individuals. The first AOC that ARRT will launch will be in Proton Beam Radiation Therapy (PBRT). ARRT's website is the best resource to find out more about the development and launch of AOCs.

8.0 MAINTAINING AREA OF CONCENTRATION (AOC) RECOGNITION

9.0 OBTAINING STATE LICENSING

In some states, you must obtain a state license before you can work as a radiologic technologist there. That differs from ARRT certification and registration. If you want to become certified and registered with ARRT, you must meet our requirements and apply to ARRT. If you want to obtain a state license, you must meet the individual state's requirements and apply directly to that state.

More than 75 percent of states have licensing laws covering the practice of radiologic technology. In those states, you must obtain a state license before you can work as a licensed technologist. In addition, many states use ARRT exam scores and/or credentials when making licensing decisions. In other words, some—but not all—states require you to be certified and registered through ARRT before you can obtain a state license.

Keep in mind that earning an ARRT credential doesn't necessarily mean you're eligible to work in a particular state. You'll need to meet that state's requirements. You will find additional state licensing information available on the [ARRT website](#).

10.0 MAINTAINING STATE LICENSING

You should contact your state directly with questions about maintaining licensure in your state. You may also find the website for the [American Society of Radiologic Technologists \(ASRT\)](#) to be a useful resource for more state licensure information.

11.0 DEFINITION OF TERMS

[Advanced Level CPR](#)

[Approved Academic Course](#)

[Category A Credit](#)

[Category A+ Credit](#)

[Category P Credit](#)

[CE Biennium](#)

[CE Audit](#)

[CE Probation](#)

Certification and Registration: The process of attesting to the demonstration of qualifications in a profession. A technologist receives ARRT certification and registration after successfully passing an ARRT examination and meeting all other educational and ethics requirements for eligibility. The ARRT annually certifies and registers technologists who comply with the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*, the *ARRT Standards of Ethics*, and the *Education Requirement for Obtaining and Maintaining Certification and Registration*.

[Continuing Education \(CE\) Activity](#)

[Continuing Education \(CE\) Credit](#)

[Continuing Qualifications Requirements \(CQR\)](#)

[Documentation](#)

Radiologic Technology: The health profession comprised of certified and registered technologists and radiation therapists who provide services for physicians, patients, and the public. This “umbrella” term encompasses the imaging and therapeutic modalities in medical radiology, including the radiologist assistant.

R.R.A.: The ARRT awards the designation “Registered Radiologist Assistant” or “R.R.A.” to radiologist extenders who meet and continue to meet certification and registration requirements as designated in the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*.

R.T.: The ARRT awards the designation “Registered Technologist” or “R.T.” to those who meet and continue to meet certification and registration requirements as designated in the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*.

[Sonography Specific CE](#)

[Structured Education](#)

