



THE AMERICAN REGISTRY
OF RADIOLOGIC
TECHNOLOGISTS®

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ARRT CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

The Board of Trustees of The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) announced in 1991 that it would begin phasing in continuing education (CE) requirements for renewal of certification and registration. In 1995, Continuing Education became a mandatory requirement for renewal or reinstatement of certification and registration. This document describes the CE Requirements. The requirements are subject to change as the need arises. **Terminology** used in the text is defined in **Section 21** of this document.

SECTION 2. RATIONALE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

Certification and registration is a method of assuring 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, radiation therapy, and interventional procedures.

The purpose of the CE Requirements is to provide a mechanism for Registered Technologists (R.T.s) to fulfill their responsibility to maintain competence in their categories of certification and registration. Participation in CE demonstrates accountability to peers, physicians, healthcare facilities, and the public. It also reinforces the Code of Ethics jointly endorsed by The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists and The American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT).

All R.T.s are required to comply with the CE Requirements. Registered Radiologist Assistants (R.R.A.s) and Sonographers (R.T.(S)) are held to additional requirements that are identified in **Sections 18 and 19 respectively**.

SECTION 3. RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

When an ARRT credential is first issued, the R.T. is certified and registered through the end of the R.T.'s next birth month, 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. Thereafter, R.T.s must complete the *Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration* on an annual basis corresponding with their birth month.

The renewal process requires that a completed *Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration* be filed with ARRT in an ARRT-determined format and manner. The applicant must supply current information and agree to continue to practice according to the *Standards of Ethics*. In addition, every other year, the R.T. must document participation in CE by listing on the renewal application the CE activities completed during the past reporting period.

The R.T. has until the end of his/her birth month to complete the renewal process.

SECTION 4. BIENNIUM REPORTING PERIOD

The CE Requirements are linked to a two-year period (biennium) that is defined in relation to the R.T.'s birth month. The biennium begins on the first day of the R.T.'s birth month. The biennium extends for two years to the end of the month prior to the birth month. Biennium dates are identified on the annual *Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration*, are printed on the pocket credential card, and listed on the R.T.'s online dashboard after renewal of certification and registration is complete. Biennium dates may also be verified by accessing the Verify Credentials tab on the ARRT website or through the interactive telephone system by selecting option 1, Continuing Registration Information. 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 end of one biennium will mark the beginning of the next biennium. **Credits earned in one biennium cannot be carried forward into the next biennium.**

Example of Biennium Reporting Period

Example 4.1: An R.T. who has a February birth month earns their radiography credential in January 2019. Their assigned biennium is from February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2021. To comply with the CE Requirements, 24 CE credits must be reported with the Application for Renewal of Certification and Registration in February 2021. The next biennium starts February 1, 2021 and extends to January 31, 2023. While certification and registration renewal is required every year, reporting of CE compliance is only required every other year.

SECTION 5. CE REQUIREMENTS FOR NEWLY CERTIFIED AND REGISTERED TECHNOLOGISTS

R.T.s who have recently earned their first ARRT certification and registration will begin the CE Requirements on the first day of their next birth month after the examination administration.

Example for New R.T.s

Example 5.1: New R.T.s who earn initial certification and registration in 2019 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 2019. His/her biennium will begin on October 1, 2019 and continue to September 30, 2021.

R.T.s who become certified and registered in additional disciplines will maintain the biennium reporting period established with their initial certification and registration.

SECTION 6. OPTIONS FOR SATISFYING CE REQUIREMENTS DURING A BIENNIUM

There are three options for meeting the CE Requirements. Only one option must be met to satisfy the requirements. The options are:

- (1) earn 24 CE credits that meet the criteria set forth by ARRT;
- (2) earn certification and registration in a primary discipline not previously held and for which the individual is eligible and which ARRT recognizes for this purpose;
- (3) earn postprimary certification and registration not previously held and for which the individual is eligible and which the ARRT recognizes for this purpose.

Each of these options is described in further detail in **Section 7 and Section 8.**

Options two and three above are time-limited. Earning an additional certification will no longer receive CE credit effective for CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

SECTION 7. SATISFACTION OF CE REQUIREMENTS BY EARNING CE CREDITS

Options for satisfying the CE Requirements include earning 24 Category A or A+ credits of continuing education evaluated by a Recognized Continuing Education Evaluation Mechanism (RCEEM) or RCEEM+ or completing approved academic courses during the biennium as defined in **Section 21.**

CE activities (as defined in this document) that contain content relevant to the radiologist extender and have been approved by a RCEEM+ are awarded Category A+ credit. **The ARRT approved RCEEMs+ are identified in Section 21.**

R.T.s should select CE topics that are related to their area of practice and that will maintain their competence and help them keep current with industry best practices. R.R.A.s and R.T.(S)s have mandatory requirements regarding the types of CE topics they must select (see Sections 18 or 19 respectively). See Section 20 for restrictions on CE activities and reporting.

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 ARRT. The credits do not have to be specific to radiography or mammography but must be relevant to the radiologic sciences and/or patient care as it relates to the radiologic sciences. 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 Hotline at (800) 838-7715 or www.fda.gov.

SECTION 8. SATISFACTION OF CE REQUIREMENTS BY EARNING AN ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION

Earning an additional certification will no longer receive CE credit effective for CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

Within a biennium, R.T.s who become certified and registered in an additional primary or postprimary discipline have met the CE Requirement for the current reporting period. In order to use an additional primary or postprimary certification and registration, R.T.s must first receive official notification from ARRT that they have successfully passed the examination and have become certified and registered in the new discipline. On-site scores are not considered official notification.

Examples of primary certifications and/or registrations that have been recognized by the ARRT for CE compliance are:

- (1) Radiography through ARRT,
- (2) Nuclear Medicine Technology through ARRT or NMTCB,
- (3) Radiation Therapy through ARRT,
- (4) Sonography through ARRT,
- (5) Magnetic Resonance Imaging through ARRT,
- (6) Dosimetry through MDCB, and
- (7) Diagnostic Medical Sonography (AB, BR, OB/GYN, PS), Vascular Technology (VT), Diagnostic Cardiac Sonography (AE, FE, PE), or Musculoskeletal (MSKS) through the ARDMS (initial certification - that is passing both SPI and a specialty exam) is awarded 24 CE credits; exams in additional specialty areas, will qualify for 16 ARRT CE credits with CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2013.

Examples of recognized postprimary certifications and/or registrations for CE compliance are:

- (1) Mammography through ARRT,
- (2) Computed Tomography through ARRT,
- (3) Magnetic Resonance Imaging through ARRT,
- (4) Quality Management through ARRT,
- (5) Sonography through ARRT,
- (6) Vascular Sonography through ARRT,
- (7) Bone Densitometry through ARRT,
- (8) Vascular-Interventional Radiography through ARRT,
- (9) Cardiac-Interventional Radiography through ARRT,
- (10) Breast Sonography through ARRT,
- (11) Radiologist Assistant through ARRT,
- (12) Nuclear Cardiology through NMTCB,
- (13) Positron Emission Tomography through NMTCB,
- (14) Certified Imaging Informatics Professional through ABII,
- (15) The Certified Radiology Administrator (CRA) certification program is sponsored by the AHRA and independently managed by the Radiology Administration Certification Commission (RACC), and
- (16) Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI) certification (i.e., RCES, RCIS, RCS, or RVS) earned on or after January 1, 2016.

CE credits will not be awarded for an initial ARRT primary certification and registration or re-examination for reinstatement of certification and registration.

NOTE: Earning an additional certification will no longer receive CE credit effective for CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

SECTION 9. CE PROBATION STATUS: APPLICANTS FOR RENEWAL WHO FAIL TO MEET THE CE REQUIREMENTS

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 submitted CE compliance documentation is incomplete will be assigned to the CE Probation status. R.T.s or R.R.A.s who have been assigned to probation due to failure to meet the CE Requirements will receive a credential card indicating "CE Probation." This status will be reported in response to any inquiries regarding the R.T.'s or R.R.A.'s standing with the ARRT.

The CE probation period will begin on the first day of the birth month and extend until the last day of the following sixth month. During the CE probation period, R.T.s will be allowed to complete the credits that they were lacking during the biennium with no additional penalty credits. When the CE probation credits are completed, the R.T. must submit a CE Probation Report Form along with a \$50 fee. When CE compliance is confirmed, the CE Probation status will be removed and a new credential card issued. **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 the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*.

R.T.s or R.R.A.s who have annually renewed, but are classified as being on CE probation due to not meeting the CE Requirements, may be removed from CE probation status by successfully completing **one** of the following options **during the first 6 months of the next biennium**:

- (1) a primary certification and registration in a different discipline for which they are eligible (**see Section 8 for additional information**);
- (2) a postprimary certification and registration for which they are eligible (**see Section 8 for additional information**);
- (3) completion of CE credits.

If the CE option is used, the R.T. will be required to complete the number of credits lacking from the 24 credits required during the previous biennium. All CE probation credits must meet 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 probation status, **an additional 24 CE credits (50 for 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 probation requirements cannot be used for the biennium requirements.**

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). This also applies to credit awarded for earning a new credential.

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

Example 9.1:

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

Example of CE Probation Status for a Biennium Not in Compliance

Example 9.2:

24 credits required between 6/1/2019 and 5/31/2021.

– In June of 2021, 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 renewal fee. The R.T. is placed on CE probation status.

– In November of 2021, the R.T. completed and reported a total of 5 CE probation credits and paid the CE probation fee. The R.T. is removed from CE probation status.

– During the reporting period in 2023, the R.T. must report an additional 24 credits of CE earned during the 2021-2023 biennium (this is in addition to the probation CE credits reported in November 2021) and pay the annual renewal fee to remain certified and registered.

SECTION 10. FAILURE TO RENEW CERTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

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. Reinstatement of certification and registration will be allowed only after successful completion of the reinstatement requirements as noted in the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*.

SECTION 11. RETIRED AND DISABLED

R.T.s who are permanently retired from active practice in medical imaging, interventional procedures, and/or radiation therapy who no longer wish to meet the CE Requirements may apply for a certificate of recognition in accordance with the provisions of **the ARRT Rules and Regulations**.

R.T.s who are permanently disabled and who no longer wish to meet the CE Requirements may apply for a

certificate of recognition in accordance with the provisions of the **ARRT Rules and Regulations**.

SECTION 12. REQUIREMENTS FOR CE ACTIVITIES

All activities applied toward the CE Requirements must meet ARRT's definition of a CE activity. The definition states it is a learning activity that is planned, organized, and administered to maintain and enhance the professional knowledge and skills underlying the professional performance that an R.T. uses to provide services to patients, the public, or the medical profession. Activities meeting this definition may qualify as either Category A or A+ credit, depending upon whether they have been submitted, reviewed, and approved by a RCEEM or a RCEEM+.

The R.T. participating in a CE activity does not submit the activity to a RCEEM or RCEEM+ for approval. Instead, the R.T. is responsible for selecting activities that the CE sponsor has already submitted to a RCEEM or RCEEM+ and received approval for Category A or A+ credit.

Activities meeting ARRT's definition of an Approved Academic Course are not required to be submitted to a RCEEM or RCEEM+ to qualify for Category A credit. (**See Section 21 for Approved Academic Course**).

Advanced level CPR certification (such as ACLS and PALS) through the American Heart Association or the American Safety & Health Institute are not required to be submitted to a RCEEM or RCEEM+ for Category A credit (See Section 21 for Advanced Level CPR). **CPR Instructor or Instructor Trainer for BLS, ACLS or PALS no longer receives CE credit with CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2015.**

All other CE activities must be approved by a RCEEM or RCEEM+ in order to be assigned Category A or A+ credits.

The ARRT recognizes that some states have legislation requiring CE credits in order to maintain a state license to practice in that state. An R.T. who completes CE activities in the state in which he or she is licensed as part of his or her state's licensing requirements may count the CE credit as Category A if the R.T. is licensed by that state at the time the credit 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. **The state licensing agencies currently approved as meeting ARRT criteria are Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, and Texas.**

Activities that have been approved by the American Medical Association (AMA Category 1) will not be accepted for CE credit except for the R.R.A. as described in **Section 18. Hospital accreditation (The Joint Commission) and federal government (OSHA) education requirements such as fire safety, lifting procedures, patient restraints, etc., are not recognized by ARRT unless approved by a RCEEM or RCEEM+.**

SECTION 13. AWARDING OF CE CREDITS

Category A and A+ activities as identified in **Section 12** are awarded the number of CE credits assigned by the evaluation mechanism (i.e., RCEEM, RCEEM+, state licensing agency) or as specified in this section. A contact hour is defined as

being equal to 50 to 60 minutes. Activities longer than one hour shall be assigned whole or partial CE credit based on the 50-minute hour. Educational activities of 30 to 49 minutes in duration will be awarded one-half CE credit. CE activities (completed on or after January 1, 2016) that last 15 to 29 minutes will receive one-quarter credit. Activities lasting less than 15 minutes receive no CE credit.

Effective January 1, 2016 a CE activity shall not be reported more than one time during the biennium in which it is earned. (See Section 20 for further information on the ability to use a CE activity to satisfy more than one requirement in the same biennium.) 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 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.

Activities meeting the definition of an Approved Academic Course (**See Section 21**) will be awarded credit at the rate of 12 Category A CE credits for each academic **quarter** credit or 16 Category A CE credits for each academic **semester** credit.

CPR Instructor or Instructor Trainer for BLS, ACLS or PALS no longer receives CE credit with CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2015.

SECTION 14. DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING PROCEDURES

R.T.s are required to maintain proof of participation in CE activities. At the end of the CE biennium reporting period R.T.s must submit information in compliance with the CE requirements in an ARRT-determined format and manner. The R.T. will be required to review or list completed CE activities and attest to the truthfulness of the information. Failure to submit complete information will result in the assignment of CE probation status. Individual CE documentation forms verifying participation should NOT be submitted unless specified by ARRT.

When the documented CE compliance information is received by ARRT, a sample of R.T.s will be selected and asked to provide copies of documentation of CE participation. (**See Section 21 for participation in a CE Audit**). This documentation will be used to verify the CE activities that were reported. The ARRT reserves the right to make adjustments to CE status after the review is completed. **The 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.** The ARRT reserves the right to request original documentation when in its sole opinion there is any question regarding authenticity. **The R.T. is responsible for keeping the original documents for one full year after the end of the biennium reporting period or eighteen (18) months after the end of the CE probation reporting period.** 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. The ARRT currently recognizes the CE records provided by the **ASRT, SDMS, SNMMI-TS, and SMRT**. The ARRT accepts

the CE records from the Florida state licensing agency only for the R.T.s licensed by Florida.

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.

Documentation of participation in Category A and Category A+ CE activities must be on a certificate or in written form that clearly indicates the information needed to identify the activity as having been approved by a RCEEM or RCEEM+. Documentation must include name of the participant, pre-printed date of completion (MM/DD/YYYY) (**handwritten dates are not accepted**), title of the activity, Category A or A+ designation, number of contact hours, name of the CE sponsor, signature of either the authorized representative of the CE owner, sponsor or presenter, CE reference number provided by a RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA identification of approving RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA and expiration date (MM/DD/YYYY) of CE activity.

NOTE: The Category A and A+ distinction requirement and the expiration date of the CE activity requirement have been suspended until December 31, 2018.

A full copy of a college transcript (official or student) or a transcript from an ARRT recognized educational program (hospital-based program) that includes both the month and year the course was completed is acceptable documentation for a CE audit. 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. For individuals enrolled in an academic course for the sole purpose of gaining CE to meet the educational requirements (i.e., enrolled, but not for academic credit), a certificate of participation that includes all ARRT-designated information for such certificates and stating that the same course requirements as specified for those enrolled for academic credit were met is acceptable documentation. The certificate of participation must be on institutional letterhead.

NOTE: Activities meeting the definition of an Approved Academic Course (See Section 21) 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.

SECTION 15. ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF 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.

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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*.

SECTION 16. REQUIREMENTS FOR CE SPONSORS

CE Sponsors are the owners or authorized representatives of the owners of the CE activity and are responsible for the content, quality, and integrity of the educational activity. CE sponsors plan, organize, support, endorse, subsidize, and/or administer educational activities. CE sponsors are also responsible for documenting attendee participation in the CE activities that they sponsor for possible verification at a later date. CE sponsors may be, but are not limited to national, regional, state, and district professional societies; academic institutions; healthcare agencies; healthcare facilities; federal, state, and local government agencies; or individuals. CE sponsors must submit information on sponsored CE activities for which they wish to offer Category A or Category A+ credit. CE sponsors may not receive credit for completing activities that they developed. CE sponsors/CE presenters may not receive credit for courses that they teach as part of their job responsibilities.

SECTION 17. RESPONSIBILITIES OF R.T.

Compliance with the CE requirements is ultimately the individual R.T.'s responsibility. If an activity is intended for use as Category A or A+ credit, the R.T. is responsible for contacting the CE sponsor of the CE activity if there are questions as to whether the activity has been approved by a RCEEM or RCEEM+ for Category A or A+ credit. If the additional certification and registration option is going to be attempted for CE credit, the R.T. must make sure that sufficient time is available to comply with the CE Requirements in the event that the certification and registration is not achieved.

SECTION 18. CE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE R.R.A.

(1) The R.R.A. is required to complete 50 CE credits within a biennium.

The 50 CE credits must satisfy several criteria as noted below:

- (a) A minimum of 25 of the 50 CE credits must be Category A+; and (2) the remaining 25 CE credits may be any combination of Category A, Category A+, and/or Category P (**see Section 21 for definitions of Category A, Category A+, and Category P credits**).
- (b) 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.
- (c) The individual R.R.A. will monitor this requirement. ARRT will check compliance through the CE audit process. General Requirements:
 - (i) CE sponsor of the CE activity must be able to verify the individual's participation.
 - (ii) The activity must be a minimum of 15 minutes in length.
 - (iii) Category A+ credit must meet the same approval and documentation requirements as Category A credit. Additional requirements may apply only to Category A+ activities.

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 R.R.A. will maintain the same CE reporting period that was assigned when the individual became an R.T. 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 registration.

RCEEMs that wish to review and approve R.R.A. level CE activities must receive approval from ARRT before the evaluated CE activities will be accepted as R.R.A. level CE or Category A+ credit. Interested RCEEMs may request application information by contacting ARRT. If approved, ARRT will designate these RCEEMs as RCEEM+.

(2) CE Probation for the R.R.A. R.R.A.s who are not in compliance with the CE biennium requirements will be placed on CE probation (See Section 9 for CE Probation information).

SECTION 19. CE REQUIREMENTS FOR R.T.(S)

(1) Effective January 1, 2013, those holding certification and registration in Sonography by ARRT (i.e., R.T.(S)(ARRT)), are required to complete a minimum of 16 sonography-specific CE credits as part of the required 24 CE biennial credits.

CE Requirements for R.T.(S) will be integrated into the CE requirements needed to maintain any additional ARRT credentials. That is, the 16 CE credits specific to sonography will count towards the 24 CE credits that are required each biennium. The sonography-specific CE activities must address the knowledge and skills outlined in *ARRT's Sonography Content Outline*. Examples of the types of CE activities that meet this criterion are noted below in the "Sonography RCEEMs" and "Non-Sonography RCEEMs" sections. Sonographers will maintain the same CE reporting period that was assigned when the individual became an R.T. CE activities accepted by other credentialing organizations may not satisfy ARRT's CE requirements (e.g., clinical instructorship, AMA, nursing CE).

- (a) **Sonography RCEEMs (i.e., AIUM, SDMS, SVU)**
CE activities approved by these RCEEMs will be accepted as compliant with the sonography-specific CE requirement.*
- (b) **Non-Sonography RCEEMs (e.g., AHRA, ASRT, SNMMI-TS) and State Licensing Agencies (SLAs)**
CE activities approved by these 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. 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.
- (c) **Earning an Additional Certification and/or Registration (Beginning January 1, 2018, earning an additional certification and/or registration will no longer equate to 24 CE credits. CE credits will be awarded for the structured education completed by the R.T. to meet the eligibility requirements to apply for the additional certification and registration.)**
ARRT Breast Sonography (24 CE credits)
ARRT Vascular Sonography (24 CE credits)
ARDMS initial certification (24 CE credits)
ARDMS specialty certification following initial certification (16 CE credits with CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2013.)

(d) Academic Courses

Courses that meet ARRT's academic criteria and Sonography Content Specifications:
12 CE credits per 1 quarter hour course
16 CE credits per 1 semester hour course.

**Must follow ARRT's Continuing Education Requirements.*

(2) CE Probation for the R.T.(S)

Sonographers who are not in compliance with the CE Requirements by the end of their CE biennium will be placed on CE probation (See Section 9 for CE Probation information).

SECTION 20. RESTRICTIONS ON SATISFYING CE REQUIREMENTS

Advanced Level CPR: ACLS or PALS certification will be awarded a maximum of six CE credits. A valid advanced CPR card from the American Heart Association or the American Safety & Health Institute is acceptable documentation for a CE audit. The advanced CPR certification (ACLS or PALS) can be used only **once** per biennium. The total number of credits from advanced CPR certification is limited to six CE credits per biennium.

Applications Training: *The maximum number of CE credits for applications facility training will be capped at 8.0 Category A credits per biennium.*

Other Credentialing Organizations: CE activities accepted by other credentialing organizations may not satisfy ARRT's CE Requirements (e.g., clinical instructorship, AMA, nursing CE).

Repeating Activities for Credit: Lecture presentations, advanced level CPR, directed readings, home study courses, or internet activities may only be reported once within a given biennium for compliance with the biennial CE requirements (**effective January 1, 2016**). The CE activities may be repeated for compliance with the biennial CE requirements for subsequent 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. **Note: while an activity can be repeated across biennia, if the CE activity is completed in a biennium and is 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.**

Clinical Instructorship: A clinical instructor is responsible for teaching students the art and science of medical imaging and therapy. The clinical instructor will not be awarded CE credit for an activity that is considered a job responsibility.

SECTION 21. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Terminology used within this document is defined as follows:

AAFP: American Academy of Family Physicians, Contact information: (913) 906-6000 or (800) 274-2237, www.aafp.org.

AAMD: American Association of Medical Dosimetrists, Contact information: (703) 677-8071, www.medicaldosimetry.org. CE activities approved by AAMD and completed on or after January 1, 2016 will be accepted for CE compliance.

AAPA: American Academy of Physician Assistants, Contact information: (703) 836-2272, website: www.aapa.org.

ABII: American Board of Imaging Informatics, Contact information: (651) 994-6410, www.abii.org.

ACCME: Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, Contact information: (312) 527-9200, www.accme.org.

ACR: American College of Radiology, Contact information: (800) 227-5463, www.acr.org.

Advanced Level CPR: Category A credit will be awarded for valid advanced level CPR certification. Advanced level CPR certification is limited to the following: Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), or Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). Only one certification may be claimed per biennium. Six Category A credits will be awarded on the date of certification or re-certification. A copy of a valid certification card issued by the American Heart Association or the American Safety & Health Institute will serve as documentation. **CPR Instructor or Instructor Trainer no longer receives CE credit with CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2015.**

AHRA: The Association for Medical Imaging Management, Contact information: (978) 443-7591 or (800) 334-2472, www.ahraonline.org.

AIUM: American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine, Contact information: (301) 498-4100 or (800) 638-5352, www.aium.org.

AMA: Activities approved by the American Medical Association (AMA Category 1) may not be used by R.T.s to satisfy CE requirements unless also approved by a RCEEM or a RCEEM+. They may be used by R.R.A.s as described in **Section 18**.

ANA: Activities approved by the American Nurses Association **may not be used** by R.T.s or R.R.A.s to satisfy CE requirements unless also approved by a RCEEM or a RCEEM+.

ANCC: Activities approved by the American Nurses Credentialing Center **may not be used** by R.T.s or R.R.A.s to satisfy CE requirements unless also approved by a RCEEM or a RCEEM+.

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 our website. An

indication that the course was passed (pass/fail) or a grade of "C" or better is required and academic credits must be earned to receive Category A CE credit for an academic course.

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.

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, computers, management, cultural competency and ethics related to medical professionals, or post-secondary adult education methodology will be accepted. Some subject areas that will **NOT** be applicable include, but are not limited to, clinicals, independent study, courses in archeology, astronomy, fine arts, geology, geography, history, music, philosophy, and religion. CE is awarded for dissertations and theses when published in a peer-reviewed journal or is listed in MEDLINE.

ARDMS: American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Contact information: (800) 541-9754, or (301) 738-8401, www.ardms.org.

ARRT: The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, Contact information: (651) 687-0048, www.rrt.org.

ASNC: American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, Contact information: (301) 215-7575, www.asnc.org.

ASRT: American Society of Radiologic Technologists, Contact information: (505) 298-4500 or (800) 444-2778, www.asrt.org.

AVIR: Association of Vascular and Interventional Radiographers, Contact information: (571) 252-7174, www.avir.org.

Biennium: A period of time spanning two years. As used in the ARRT renewal process, the start of the R.T.'s birth month every other year marks the beginning of a biennium. Because the ARRT's renewal process is linked to the R.T.'s birth month, the biennial period is likewise linked to an R.T.'s birth month.

CAMRT: Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists, Contact information: (613) 234-0012 or (800) 463-9729 (Canada only), www.camrt.ca.

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

- (1) *Activities approved by a RCEEM. (See listing of RCEEMs in this section).*
- (2) *Approved Academic Courses (See references to an approved academic course in this section and in **Section 13**).*
- (3) *Advanced level CPR Certification in ACLS or PALS, through the American Heart Association, or the American Safety and Health Institute. **CPR Instructor or Instructor Trainer no longer receives CE credit with CE bienniums beginning on or after January 1, 2015.***

- (4) *State Licensing Agency: R.T.s who are licensed by and have completed CE requirements to maintain their license in the following states may designate the CE activities that are evaluated and approved by their state licensing agency as Category A credit (see Section 12): Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas*

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.

Category P Credit: CE activities (as defined in this document) that contain content relevant to the radiologist extender and have been awarded Category I credit by the AMA/ACCME, AAPA, or the AAFP. 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.

CCI: Cardiovascular Credentialing International, Contact information: (800) 326-0268, www.cci-online.org. CCI certification (i.e., RCES, RCIS, RCS, or RVS) earned on or after January 1, 2016 will be accepted for CE compliance.

CE Audit: An official verification of CE credits reported to ARRT. The ARRT can request individual CE records and/or certificates of participation that are used to validate the CE credits reported to the ARRT. As of January 1, 2006, ARRT will discontinue the certification and registration of an individual who does not respond to a CE audit by submitting documentation of CE participation. Reinstatement will be required. (See Section 14)

CE Probation Status: Failure to comply with the CE Requirements will result in CE probation being assigned as described in **Section 9**.

CE Sponsor: The owner or authorized representative of the owner of the CE activity. The CE sponsor is an individual or an organization responsible for the content, quality, and integrity of the educational activity. A CE sponsor plans, organizes supports, endorses, subsidizes, and/or administers educational activities as described in **Section 16**.

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 *Continuing Education Requirements*.

CIIP: Certified Imaging Informatics Professional. Credential awarded by the ABII in Imaging Informatics.

Contact Hour: Equal to 50-60 minutes and awarded one CE credit.

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. Activities meeting this definition may qualify as either Category A or A+ credit depending upon whether they have been submitted to review and approval by a Recognized Continuing Education Evaluation Mechanism (RCEEM or RCEEM+).

Continuing Education (CE) 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 to 49 minutes duration will be awarded one-half of one CE credit. CE activities (completed on or after January 1, 2016) that last 15 to 29 minutes will receive one-quarter credit. Activities lasting less than 15 minutes receive no CE credit.

Documentation: Proof of participation in a particular educational activity; may be submitted in the form of a certificate of participation or an itemized list from the CE sponsor. (See **Section 14** for documentation requirements.)

In-service Presentation: 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 20.1: A course on universal precautions would be applicable for any technologist.

Example 20.2: A course on how radiographic procedures are finalized is specific to that facility and does not meet the definition of a CE activity.

MDCB: Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board, Contact information: (856) 439-1631 or (866) 813-6322, www.mdcb.org. NOTE: Re-examination in Dosimetry by the MDCB does not count for additional CE credits.

NMTCB: Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board, Contact information: (404) 315-1739, www.nmtcb.org.

Presentation: An educational activity in which the presenter develops and orally presents a topic. With proper documentation, a presenter may receive CE credits for developing a presentation that has been evaluated and approved by a RCEEM or a RCEEM+. Although the developer of the activity must present the activity in order to receive CE credit, no credit is awarded for actual presentation. Two CE credits are awarded for the development of each contact-hour of lecture. Presenters do not earn credit for courses that have been developed by another individual. Multiple presenters are awarded credit based upon the portion of the lecture they develop. Each presentation can be used only once for credit. This total must not exceed 12 credits per biennium.

RACC: The Radiology Administration Certification Commission, Contact information: (978) 443-7591, www.crainfo.org.

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.

RCEEM and RCEEM + (Recognized Continuing Education Evaluation Mechanism): A mechanism for evaluating the content, quality, and integrity of an educational activity. The evaluation must include a review of educational objectives, content selection, faculty qualifications, and educational methods and materials. Among the requirements for qualification as a RCEEM, an organization must be national in scope, non-profit, radiology based, and willing to evaluate CE activities developed by any technologist within a given discipline. The organization must demonstrate the need for an additional RCEEM and supply evidence of sufficient experience and resources to provide for the valid and reliable evaluation of CE activities. The **RCEEM+** has all of the responsibilities of a RCEEM in addition to the evaluation and approval of radiologist extender level (R.R.A.) CE activities. The RCEEM+ is authorized to award both Categories A and A+ credit depending on the content level of the activity.

Organizations with current **RCEEM** status include:

- American Association of Medical Dosimetrists*
- American College of Radiology*
- American Healthcare Radiology Administrators*
- American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine*
- American Society of Nuclear Cardiology*
- ** *American Society of Radiologic Technologists*
- ** *Association of Vascular and Interventional Radiographers*
- Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists*
- Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board*
- ** *Radiological Society of North America*
- Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*
- Section for Magnetic Resonance Technologists*
- ** *Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging-Technologist Section*
- Society for Vascular Ultrasound*

(** Identifies organizations with **RCEEM+** status)

Reinstatement: An individual who fails to renew certification and registration or fails to comply with the CE Requirements for renewal will be discontinued and is no longer certified and registered by the ARRT. In order to become certified and registered again, the individual must apply for reinstatement of certification and registration and meet other requirements as described in the *ARRT Rules and Regulations*.

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*.

RSNA: Radiological Society of North America, Contact information: (630) 571-2670 or (800) 381-6660 (US and Canada), www.rsna.org.

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*.

SDMS: Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Contact information: (214) 473-8057 or (800) 229-9506, www.sdms.org.

SLA: State Licensing Agency, the following states may designate the CE activities that are evaluated and approved by their state licensing agency as Category A credit (see *Section 12*): *Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas*

SMRT: Society for MR Radiographers & Technologists, Contact information: (925) 825-7678, www.smrt.org.

SNMMI-TS: Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging-Technologist Section, Contact information: (703) 708-9000, www.snmmi.org.

Structured Education: Education requirements that must be met by candidates pursuing a credential via a postprimary eligibility pathway. Requires 16 hours of structured education earned within the 24-month period immediately prior to submission of an application for certification and registration. Structured education must include at least one CE credit or its equivalent in each discipline content category as described in the respective discipline Structure Education Requirements documents.

SVU: Society for Vascular Ultrasound, Contact information: (301) 459-7550, www.svunet.org.

Tumor Boards: Sometimes referred to as chart rounds or cancer conferences, tumor boards must be RCEEM, RCEEM+, or SLA approved. Tumor boards are typically a general review of a specific tumor to include anatomy, physiology, pathology, symptoms, and treatment options.

