

EXAM DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) thanks you for your interest in participating in the development of the *Canadian Registered Nurse Examination (CRNE)*. The success of the CRNE development process relies heavily on the participation of registered nurses from across the country who represent all domains of nursing.

This is a unique opportunity for you to help advance the nursing profession, network with nurses from across the country, and both develop and share your knowledge, expertise and skills.

CNA develops and maintains the CRNE through its testing company, Assessment Strategies Inc. (ASI), in collaboration with the provincial and territorial regulatory authorities.

These information pages provide a brief overview on the nomination selection process, the selection of participants for the item-writing sessions, the CRNE examination, and the item-writing process. This information will assist you in understanding the role of item writers in the CRNE development process and what is involved in becoming an item writer.

NOMINATION SELECTION PROCESS

Participants use the exam development participation form to apply to their jurisdictions. Jurisdictions then select nominees using the [Terms of Reference for Item Writing](#) and several other criteria, including the participant's knowledge of current practice for entry-level registered nurses.

Participants must have:

- a current RN registration/license;
- basic computer knowledge; and
- an active e-mail address.

Participants must also:

- be working in the field during their term of commitment to the CRNE development process, and
- have read the Terms of Reference for Item Writing before submitting their name to their jurisdiction.

The term of commitment for participants is **three years**, at the end of which a new application must be submitted to ensure accurate contact information as well as up-to-date information about employment and previous exam development participation.

Participants who are nominated will be notified by their jurisdiction that their name has been forwarded to CNA or ASI and that they may be contacted about future participation.

SELECTING PARTICIPANTS FOR ITEM DEVELOPMENT

When participants are selected from the national list of over 300 nominees, several important factors are taken into consideration. These factors include jurisdictional representation and the area of responsibility, preferred working language and availability of the participants. Overall, the intent is to obtain a balance between these factors to ensure that each item-writing session includes the best possible blend of participants to yield high-quality items for the CRNE test bank.

THE CRNE

Completed nomination forms are accessible only by CNA, Assessment Strategies, the authorizing jurisdictional official and individuals appointing nominees to committees and groups.

The CRNE contains several hundred test items that were written, reviewed and revised by registered nurses from across Canada. Every item on the examination is selected from a large body of test items (which is referred to as the test bank) that must be continually updated and replenished to reflect the entry-level competencies required of registered nurses beginning to practise. In a typical year, five to seven item-writing sessions are necessary to maintain the test bank.

ITEM WRITING

An item-writing session is usually conducted over a five-day period and involves five participants and a test consultant from ASI to guide the process. The first day is dedicated to developing the skills and expertise necessary to become a proficient and efficient writer of test items. This includes learning about tips and hints for writing effective test items as well as becoming familiar with the software designed for the item-writing sessions. With practice and guidance, participants progressively improve their skills and become efficient at developing test items.

Should you have any questions about upcoming item-writing sessions, please do not hesitate to contact ASI (**1-888-900-0005 ext. 231**). We look forward to your participation and thank everyone for their interest in the CRNE development process.

Revised May 2008



EXAM DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATION FORM

Information will be kept confidential.

We are pleased that you are interested in offering your time, skills and expertise to assist with the Canadian Registered Nurse Examination (CRNE). This is a unique opportunity for you to help advance the nursing profession, network with nurses from across the country, and both develop and share your expertise and skills.

If you haven't already done so, please read the Terms of Reference for Item Writing (available from the CNA website) before completing both pages of this form. Once the form is completed, send it with a **copy of your resumé** to your regulatory authority for review. Should you be nominated, your name will be forwarded to CNA, and a representative from CNA or its testing company, Assessment Strategies Inc. (ASI), may contact you regarding your future participation. The term of commitment for participants is three years, at the end of which a new application must be submitted to ensure accurate contact information as well as up-to-date information about your employer and previous exam development participation.

Please **PRINT** or **TYPE** all requested information.

Note: Although the CRNE is not offered in Quebec, Quebec nurses who are CNA members may apply.

This section to be completed by the PARTICIPANT

1. First name _____ Last name _____

Registration no _____ Regulatory authority _____

Home address: _____
(Street address) (City) (Province / Territory) (Postal code)

Work address: _____
(Street address) (City) (Province / Territory) (Postal code)

E-mail address (*Essential): _____
(E-mail is the primary mode of communication used to contact participants)

Telephone: () _____ () _____ () _____
(Home) (Work) (Fax)

Years of experience as a registered nurse: _____

Area of interest: Item writing Item revision Translation review
Preferred working language: English French Either
Preferred mailing address: Home Work

2. I give consent for my name or photograph to be used (e.g., in the journal *Canadian Nurse / infirmière canadienne*) in acknowledgment of my volunteer work on the CRNE.

Signature _____ Yes No



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3. Current employment information

Employer _____

Employment setting _____

Current position _____ From _____ To _____
MM/YY MM/YY

Area of responsibility _____

(Additional information can be submitted on separate sheet)

4. List your previous participation on exam development committees/groups

Year	Committee / Group	Year	Committee / Group

5. Participants must have all of the following to participate in exam development for the CRNE

- A current RN license/registration
- Basic computer knowledge
- An active e-mail address

6. Participant Signature _____ Date _____

Send the completed form to your regulatory authority.

(Mailing addresses can be found on the CNA website at www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/about/members/provincial/default_e.aspx.)

Ontario Participants: Please send your form to the College of Nurses of Ontario, 101 Davenport Rd., Toronto, ON M5P 3P1

This section to be completed by the REGULATORY AUTHORITY

SIGNATURE OF JURISDICTIONAL OFFICIAL _____	
TITLE _____	
ORGANIZATION _____	DATE _____

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