



# Breaking Down Board Certification Barriers

## **The process is too complicated. Where do I start?**

- Visit [www.nursecredentialing.org/HemostasisNursing](http://www.nursecredentialing.org/HemostasisNursing) for a to-do list and tips on how to apply
- Read the Partners flyer on where to find all the information on the ANCC website
- Use a worksheet ([see example](http://partnersprn.org/certification/) on [partnersprn.org/certification/](http://partnersprn.org/certification/))
- Spread out the process over 6-9 months; there's no time limit on the process!
- Allot small time slots every week to work on this. Do just a few sections at a time, starting with the easiest to document (eg, CEs, work done in the community)
- Organize your continuing education credits and keep your CV updated (including presentations, committees, work within the bleeding disorder community)
- Always keep in mind what will go in the exemplar. Once you start the exemplar, follow the suggested topics closely, giving examples
- Take your time; set it aside for a while if you get stuck, then go back to it
- Ask fellow nurses for ideas or clarification; talk to other nurses who have completed the process
- Your manager, colleagues and nurses at other HTC's can be of help and a source of encouragement

## **Board certification is too expensive**

- *Partners in Bleeding Disorders Education* will reimburse a significant portion of the application fee of successful candidates working with patients with bleeding disorders and employed at a federally recognized hemophilia treatment center
- Visit the [Partners website](http://Partners website) to find out if you are eligible for the generous subsidy

## **I am not experienced enough to apply, so this doesn't concern me**

- You may not be immediately able to apply but you could start now to gather the required information and keep it organized for access later
- Read through what is needed so you can plan now to be on a committee, volunteer in the community, and work towards some of the goals necessary to add to your portfolio
- Start earning free CEs in hemostasis nursing
- Then when you are experienced enough, you will have everything ready for the application!

## **Will this help my professional development? My HTC told me I won't get a raise**

- An instant monetary reward is not guaranteed. Being board certified in hemostasis nursing will, however, give you greater credibility in the field of hemostasis
- You will belong to a small, elite group who have proven they are experts in hemostasis
- Physicians, other team members, and leaders in the bleeding disorders community recognize the commitment and knowledge that this board certification represents

## **My HTC supervisor says the application process distracts me from my duties**

- The application process can be done in small time slots over several months or even at home
- Many managers will be supportive once they understand that having board certified nurses on their staff is a clear indication of the level of professionalism and quality of care at the institution
- Emphasizing the positive aspects and stating that you will not let the application interfere with patient care will go a long way in reassuring most managers