

# ASATT REFRESHER/ADVANCEMENT/PROVISIONAL RECERTIFICATION PROGRAM STANDARDS

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## General Information

### Purpose

**There are three methods by which certification can be re-established or advanced:**

The **Refresher Program** is offered to certified anesthesia technologists who have not been substantially engaged in the practice of anesthesia technology for more than 2 years and must update their skills and knowledge of current clinical and theoretical practice in anesthesia technology in order to meet the established standards of practice and to apply for recertification through examination.

The **Advancement Program** is designed for the certified anesthesia technician who requires additional knowledge and skills in clinical practice in order to meet the established standards of practice of a certified anesthesia technologist.

**Provisional Recertification** may be granted for the previously certified anesthesia technologist/technician whose certification was allowed to lapse due to late or insufficient CE credits beyond the December 31<sup>st</sup> re-certification deadline.

## Refresher Program Objectives

The objective of the [Refresher Program](#) is to promote attainment of the current knowledge and clinical skills necessary for safe anesthesia technology practice required for the technologist National Certification Exam (NCE).

## Refresher Program Overview

The [Refresher Program](#) consists of a continuing education (CE) component and a clinical component, both of which must be completed within a 24-month period. If the anesthesia technologist has not been actively engaged for more than 2 years but less than 5 years, the individual must retake and pass the National Certification Examination (NCE).

For the CE component of the [Refresher Program](#), credits may be earned through completion of CE programs that have obtained prior approval by ASATT or a recognized approval organization.

The clinical component of the [Refresher Program](#) must be completed by the anesthesia technologist in an accredited medical facility located within the United States or its territories. The [Refresher Program](#) participant is responsible for locating a clinical site and selecting a certified anesthesia technician/technologist, nurse anesthetist, anesthesiologist assistant or anesthesiologist to act as a clinical site sponsor.

## Refresher Program Requirements

The two part [Refresher](#) process must occur as follows:

1. The Continuing Education Refresher Application for Approval and a \$325 non-refundable fee must be submitted to the ASATT. The application must be approved **before** the anesthesia technologist begins the CE component of the Refresher Program.
2. Once the minimum of 20 CE credits has been earned, the Program participant may submit the Clinical Anesthesia Refresher Application for Approval. The application must be approved by the ASATT before the participant begins the clinical component of the Refresher Program.

Both the CE and Clinical Anesthesia Refresher applications may be accessed on the Refresher/Advancement page of the ASATT website, at [www.ASATT.ORG](http://www.ASATT.ORG) or by contacting ASATT Headquarters at (414)908-4942.

The [Refresher Program](#) is sequenced so that a minimum of 20 CE credits must be completed prior to approval for entry into the clinical component. The additional 20 CE credits may be taken prior to or concurrent with the clinical component. The NCE, can be taken only after the anesthesia technologist has completed both the CE component and the clinical component of the [Refresher Program](#).

## Refresher Program Specifics

A previously certified anesthesia technologist must fulfill the following Refresher Program requirements to become eligible for full certification.

Previously certified anesthesia technologists not substantially engaged in clinical anesthesia practice for over 2 years but not more than 5 years or who failed to obtain the required CE's during the allowed re-certification or provisional certification period must meet the following criteria:

1. Documentation of 40 CE credits that have been prior-approved by ASATT:
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Foundational Science to include Anatomy, Pathophysiology, Physics and Pharmacology.
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Advanced Principles of Anesthesia to include specialized surgical procedures and cases including; Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Trauma, Cardiac, Transplant and Regional Anesthesia.
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Professional Aspects; Ethics, Scope of Practice, Regulatory Compliance and Safety.
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Advanced Anesthesia Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology.
2. Documentation of 240 hours of clinical anesthesia time on the Transcript for Completion of the Clinical Anesthesia Refresher Component.
3. Documentation of completion of the number of required clinical anesthesia experiences which include a broad range of general anesthesia, monitored anesthesia care, and regional anesthesia. The required cases are listed on the Transcript for Completion of the Clinical Anesthesia Refresher Component.
4. Documentation of current ACLS and BCLS provider certification.
5. Documentation of having previously passed the Anesthesia Technologist National Certification Exam.
6. The examination may be attempted up to three times within one year from the date of official notification that the didactic and clinical requirements of the Refresher Program have been completed. The anesthesia technologist must successfully pass the exam within that time frame.

## Clinical Anesthesia Component

The Clinical Anesthesia Refresher Component Application for Approval must be approved by the ASATT before the anesthesia technologist/technician begins the clinical anesthesia component, and may be submitted only following completion of 20 credits of the required 40 credits from the CE Refresher Component.

The clinical component must be:

1. Established in conjunction with a clinical site sponsor (i.e., a certified anesthesia technologist/technician, nurse anesthetist, anesthesiologist assistant or an anesthesiologist; and
2. Conducted within a department of anesthesia at a medical facility located within the United States or its territories.

The individual must locate an accredited hospital or other facility that will meet the needs of the applicant and are willing to participate in the Clinical Anesthesia Refresher Component. It is strongly recommended that the anesthesia technologist find a clinical site prior to enrolling in the Refresher Program.

Included in the application process to obtain ASATT approval for the Clinical Anesthesia Refresher Component, the clinical site sponsor must submit the following information:

1. The beginning and projected end dates of the clinical program.
2. A description of the medical facility.
3. A brief outline of the kinds of cases that will be available.
4. The faculty involved in the clinical area.

In addition, the clinical site sponsor must review and agree to provide the type of educational experiences required and document all of the educational experiences identified on the Transcript for Completion of the Clinical Anesthesia Refresher Component.

## Completion of the Refresher Program

Upon completion of the clinical and CE components of the Refresher Program the anesthesia technologist must submit the CE and Clinical Refresher Program Applications, the ASATT will review the documentation submitted in order to determine if all requirements of the Refresher Program have been met within the time frame specified.

The anesthesia technologist refresher participant will be notified in writing of the completion status, as well as how to proceed with applying to take the Technologist NCE.

## Advancement Program Objectives

The objective of the [Advancement Program](#) is to establish minimum education and clinical anesthesia experience needed to enable the certified anesthesia technician to meet the standards and practice of the anesthesia technologist in preparation for the technologist NCE.

## Advancement Program Overview

The [Advancement Program](#) consists of continuing education (CE) which must be completed within a 24-month period. The applicant must be currently employed for a minimum of 3 years, as a certified anesthesia technician in a medical facility located within the United States or its territories.

The [Advancement Program](#) credits may be earned through completion of CE programs that have obtained prior approval by ASATT.

The technologist NCE can be taken only after the certified anesthesia technician has completed the CE credits and provides proof of the employment requirement.

## Advancement Program Requirements

The [Advancement](#) process must occur as follows:

The Continuing Education [Advancement](#) Application for Approval and a \$250 non-refundable fee must be submitted to the ASATT. The application must be approved **before** the certified anesthesia technician begins CE coursework.

## Advancement Program Specifics

A certified anesthesia technician must fulfill the following [Advancement](#) Program requirements to become eligible for the technologist certification NCE.

Previously certified anesthesia technicians must have been employed in clinical anesthesia practice for over 2 years or have graduated from an approved program to be eligible to take the technician NCE. The candidate must show proof of successfully passing the technician exam and is currently employed as a certified anesthesia technician for an additional 3 years for a minimum total of 5 years experience. CE credits must meet the following criteria:

1. Documentation of 40 CE credits that have been prior-approved by ASATT:
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Foundational Science to include Anatomy, Pathophysiology, Physics and Pharmacology.
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Advanced Principles of Anesthesia to include specialized surgical procedures and cases including; Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Trauma, Cardiac, Transplant and Regional Anesthesia.
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Professional Aspects; Ethics, Scope of Practice, Regulatory Compliance and Safety.
  - ♦ 10 CE credits: Advanced Anesthesia Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology.
4. Documentation of current ACLS and BCLS provider certification.
5. Documentation of having previously passed the Anesthesia Technician National Certification Exam.
7. The examination may be attempted up to three times within one year from the date of official notification that the didactic requirements of the [Advancement](#) Program have been completed. The anesthesia technician must successfully pass the exam within that time frame.

### **Completion of the Advancement Program**

Upon completion of the CE components of the [Advancement](#) Program the anesthesia technician must submit the Continuing Education Program Application, the ASATT will review the documentation submitted in order to determine if all requirements of the [Advancement](#) Program have been met within the time frame specified.

The anesthesia technician advancement participant will be notified in writing of the completion status, as well as how to proceed with applying to take the Technologist NCE



## Provisional Recertification Objectives

The objective of **Provisional Recertification** is to provide an opportunity for the certified anesthesia technologist or technician to retain their certification status beyond the 30 day late term by means of conditional recertification.

### Requirements

Before provisional recertification can be granted, the anesthesia technologist/technician must submit a completed application for Provisional Recertification along with a Remediation for Expired Certification Application including all applicable fees. In addition to current re-certification fees for the appropriate certification level ([www.ASATT.ORG](http://www.ASATT.ORG)), there will be a Provision fee of \$200.00 required. The requirements are as follows:

1. 30 CE credits will be required at the **technician level** in order to regain Certified Anesthesia Technician status.
  - a. The applicant must follow the same requirements listed for the technician on the ASATT website, at the Certification tab under Recertification.
2. 40 CE credits will be required at the **technologist level** in order to regain Certified Anesthesia Technologist status.
  - a. The applicant must follow the same requirements listed for the technologist on the ASATT website, at the Certification tab under Recertification.

Accrual of required CE's begins after ASATT approval of the application for Provisional Recertification. Previously earned CE's will not be accepted for remediation purposes.

All applications, documentation and fees must be completed and **approved** within the 12 month deadline (effective December 31<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1 year following) without exception or the individual must complete the Refresher Program to take the Technologist NCE regardless of current certification level.

## Refresher/Advancement Continuing Education Component

### Overview

The Continuing Education Refresher/Advancement Application for Approval must be approved by the ASATT Education Committee before the anesthesia technologist/technician begins the Continuing Education component of the Refresher or Advancement Program.

Continuing education (CE) credits toward fulfillment of the criteria for the Refresher or Advancement Program must be earned in clinical topics; CE credits cannot be earned in stress management, administration, research, education, non-anesthesia topics or solely through home-study programs. **At least 16 CE credits of the required 40 CE credits must be completed through attendance at a program in a classroom or similar lecture setting.**

Earning CE credits may be achieved utilizing **one** of the following methods:

1. The anesthesia technologist/technician earns CE credits through attendance at approved CE programs of their choice. These programs must have obtained prior approval by ASATT or a recognized approval organization. **The anesthesia technologist/technician is responsible for:**
  1. Ensuring that the program he or she attends has content that meets the CE credit requirements; and
  2. Maintaining a record of CE credits and submitting documentation of completed credits to the ASATT as described under the Recordkeeping – CE Credits section below.
2. The anesthesia technologist/technician completes a CE Refresher/Advancement Course that has received prior approval from the ASATT to offer the entire quantity of CEs required. **The Refresher or Advancement Course provider submits the attendance record directly to the ASATT headquarters.**
3. The anesthesia technologist/technician can earn credits for attendance to prior approved CE programs and earn credits while enrolled in an ASATT approved CE Refresher/Advancement Course. **For all credits earned the anesthesia technologist/technician is responsible for maintaining a record of the CE credits and submitting the documentation to the ASATT as described under Recordkeeping – CE Credits section below.**

## Recordkeeping – CE Credits

### Overview

If the anesthesia technologist/technician is responsible for maintaining a record of CE credits and submitting it to the ASATT, documentation of credits must be submitted so the material can be reviewed and evaluated.

The following procedure should be used when submitting a record of CE credits:

### Classroom or Lecture Programs

- ☐ Submit a copy of the certificate of attendance issued by the provider. The certificate must include your name, the provider name, the program title, and the program date, documentation that the program was approved for CE credit by a recognized approval organization\*, and the number of CE credits awarded.
- ☐ Submit a copy of the program, hourly schedule or lecture outline that clearly shows the lectures attended. One CE credit is awarded for every 50 - 60 minutes of participation.
- ☐ Mark each lecture according to the group to which it belongs:
  - Foundational Science
  - Advanced Principles of Anesthesia
  - Professional Aspects
  - Advanced Anesthesia Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology.Lectures should be marked with the appropriate group on the top of the program certificate(s).
- ☐ For ACLS and BCLS programs, submit a copy of the life support card, the certificate of attendance, and an hourly schedule or lecture agenda.

### Provider-Directed or Independent Study Programs

1. If the program was prior-approved by the ASATT, submit the following:
  - ☐ Copy of the certificate(s) of completion.
    - The certificate(s) must include your name, the provider name, the program title, the program date(s), the ASATT program code number and the number of CE credits awarded.
  - ☐ Mark the certificate according to the group to which it belongs:
    - Foundational Science
    - Advanced Principles
    - Professional Aspects
    - Advanced Anesthesia Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology.

2. If the program was approved by a recognized organization other than the ASATT\*, submit the following:
- ☐ Copy of the certificate of completion.
    - The certificate must include your name, the provider name, the program title, the program date (s), documentation that the program was approved for CE credit by a recognized approval organization, and the number of CE credits awarded.
  - ☐ Course objective and a minimum of 10 test questions are required for every credit requested or an approval code by issuing organization.
  - ☐ Mark the certificate according to the group to which it belongs:
    - Foundational Science
    - Advanced Principles
    - Professional Aspects
    - Advanced Anesthesia Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology.

*\*i.e., ASA, AANA, etc.*