What is Certification?

The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) certification is the formal recognition of clinical research professionals who have met the professional eligibility requirements and demonstrated a basic level of job-related knowledge and skills. Certification is granted in recognition of documented and verified work experience and after successful performance on a multiple-choice exam.

Are You Qualified?

Clinical Research Coordinator (CRC) Definition
A CRC, regardless of job title, works at a clinical research site under the immediate direction of a principal investigator, whose research activities are conducted under Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Guidelines. CRCs and other professionals referred to as research nurses, trial nurses, site coordinators, etc., perform tasks such as:

- Document adverse events;
- Prepare or review documents submitted to the IRB;
- Protocol review or study procedures planning;
- Participate in conducting study visits;
- Maintain source documents;
- Prepare for and participate in study visits with monitor, sponsor, auditors, etc.;
- Participate in consent process.

The CRC Certification Exam is a measure of the candidate's knowledge of the information needed for CRCs to perform effectively. Candidates who meet the eligibility requirements and pass the exam will be certified as having met the ACRP standards for becoming a Certified Clinical Research Coordinator (CCRC®).

Qualifications
Employees of NU, NMFF, NMH, RIC, and the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago are eligible to apply for the scholarship provided they meet the ACRP CRC Certification Exam requirements.

To be eligible for the CRC Certification Exam, a candidate must fulfill one of the following combinations of education and working experience as a CRC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Working Experience as a CRC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1 Assoc/Bachelor’s degree or RN</td>
<td>At least 3000 hours performing the essential duties of a CRC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 2 Other (e.g., LPN, LVN, Medical Assistant, Lab Technician, H.S. diploma)</td>
<td>At least 4500 hours performing the essential duties of a CRC</td>
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*Note: Up to 1500 hours may be substituted by the completion of an accepted education program
How Do You Apply For The Scholarship?

Provide the following information by **November 1, 2013**:

1. Complete the attached ACCR Scholarship Application Form
2. Submit a copy of your current resume
3. Submit a copy of your current job description
4. Provide a letter of support from your immediate supervisor or PI
5. Submit a one page personal statement
   - Explain why you want to take the exam
   - Describe how being certified can help you in your current position
   - Outline your future career goals

Submit complete application package to:

   Email:  acr@northwestern.edu
   Attention:  ACCR Scholarship Committee

**Please note – The selected applicant must also apply to ACRP for the CRC Certification Exam at:**

**Timeline for March 2014 Exam Dates**

- The **deadline** for submitting ACCR scholarship application is **November 1, 2013**.
- One qualified applicant will be notified in December 2013.
- ACRP applications are due to ACRP on January 21, 2014 (subject to change).
- Exam dates are February 27 – March 22, 2014.
- Preliminary results are provided immediately upon completion of the test with confirmation results following within 30 days after the exam.
- ACCR will require that a copy of the test results be provided to the committee.
- Upon receipt of passing results, ACCR will provide reimbursement for the cost of the exam and a one-year membership in ACRP. Please allow two-four weeks for payment.

**Candidates must either already be an ACRP member, or must join ACRP at the time of applying for the test. Candidates must also be able to sit for the exam during the February - March 2014 exam dates; deferring the test to a later date will forfeit the scholarship.**

**Application materials are available at:**
http://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/research/services/accr/index.html

**For Additional Information (including information on exam preparation):**
http://www.acrpnet.org/MainMenuCategory/Certification/CRCCertification.aspx