
Eligibility for inclusion of certification in the Demographic Data Collection Tool (DDCT®) starting January 1, 2023.

In 2015, the ANCC Institute for Credentialing Research®, in collaboration with the Magnet Recognition Program® and New Measurement Product leadership teams, undertook review of the certifications recognized in the DDCT database. The purpose of undertaking the review and subsequent vetting process was to limit the certifications to those that met industry standards for board certification. The guiding principle for limiting the certifications to only those developed using industry standards and representing board certifications was evidence-based, demonstrating a positive relationship between board certification and improvements in nursing practice and patient outcomes.

As Magnet continues to evolve and ‘raise the bar’ for nursing excellence, the inclusion process for the DDCT was re-evaluated. To assure equity in the qualifications of criteria in the constitution of accepting a certification, **beginning January 1, 2023**, ANCC Magnet will limit inclusion **only** to board certifications that are accredited by the [Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification \(ABSNC\)](#), [National Commission Certifying Agencies \(NCCA\)](#), or another recognized accreditor.

NOTE: Certificate programs are not included

ANCC Magnet recognizes this change will directly impact organizations submitting examples for SE3, SE4EOa, and SE4EOb (*2019 Magnet® Application Manual*); and SE3, SE4EO, SE5, and SE6EO (*2023 Magnet® Application Manual*). Organizations will be able to reset their goals based on the change.

1. Identify certifications for inclusion in the **baseline year** (remove all others)
2. Calculate new percentage of **eligible** nurses
3. Establish **Year One** and **Year Two** goals (per source language and criteria)

For questions, please email ddct.certlist@ana.org

For all other questions, the Magnet Senior Program Analysts and Magnet leadership are available. Your region’s key points of contact can be found on the [website](#).