



Certified Functional Nutrition Informed Professional (CFNIP) Certification Standards

1.0 Professional Standards

1.1 To be eligible for certification, the applicant must be a state or nationally licensed professional as listed below, with all training hours and supervision requirements completed to be licensed for independent practice in the state they are licensed in (or equivalent if practicing outside of the United States):

- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Registered Nurse
- Nurse Practitioner
- Chiropractor
- Athletic Trainer (must be BOC certified)
- Registered Dietitian
- Naturopathic Doctor (ND)
- Physician Assistant (PA)
- Massage Therapist (LMT or BCTMB)
- Acupuncturist

Canadian Applicants: Professionals who have met the licensure or registration requirements for provincial and territorial regulatory bodies are welcome to apply. If you are unsure whether your professional background meets the standards for certification, please email us a copy of your educational background and CV to info@evergreencertifications.com

International Applicants: Please check for a link to standards specific to your country of practice. If no link is available, please email us a copy of your educational background and CV to info@evergreencertifications.com

1.2 By applying for certification, the applicant agrees to adhere to Evergreen Certifications' Professional Code of Ethics, available at www.evergreencertifications.com/codeofethics

2.0 Educational Standards

2.1 The applicant must meet the following education criteria (total minimum of 18 hours of continuing education):

- The foundational principles of functional nutrition
- Assessment of a patient's nutritional status and when to refer out to a nutrition professional
- The 6 core hormone systems and how they are inter-related – cortisol, insulin, thyroid, estrogen, progesterone, and testosterone
- Assessment of the general function of the gut via digestion, intestinal permeability, and microbiome and its impact on hormones, metabolism/energy, immunity, and weight
- Understand nutritional challenges of specific diseases and how to address them, including foods to avoid in chronic diseases such as autoimmunity, hypertension, or diabetes
- The 5R gut repair protocol
- Strategies to naturally improve energy, nutrient absorption, and metabolism

- How nutrition and lifestyle habits impact overall health and wellness, including inflammation and oxidative stress

2.2 Suitable education sources are approved continuing education as documented by certificates of completion from the accredited training organization.

Evergreen Certifications will accept courses that have been completed within 3 years of initial application for certification.

3.0 Certification Application Process

1. Submit the following documents:
 - a. Copies of completion of training as outlined in the Educational Standards
 - b. A copy of your professional license
2. Payment of certification application fee

Evergreen Certifications will certify applicants who meet the above requirements.

Please note: Certification does not imply endorsement of clinical competency. As a professional, you are responsible for reviewing the scope of practice, including activities that are defined in law as beyond the boundaries of practice in accordance with and in compliance with your profession's standards.

4.0 Renewal of Certification

To maintain certification, a renewal is required. The steps to apply for a 1-year renewal are as follows:

1. Submit the following documents:
 - a. A copy of the candidate's professional license
 - b. Completion certificate for six (6) hours of continuing education related to Functional Nutrition
2. Payment of renewal fee

You can also apply for renewal for 2 or 3 years. Follow the process above, submitting twelve (12) clock hours of training for a 2-year renewal, and eighteen (18) clock hours of training for a 3-year renewal.

Renewal training hours need to have been taken in the time since you were certified or last renewed. Renewals are calculated from the date that your certification was issued.

If you allow your certification to lapse for more than 3 years from your certification end date, you are no longer eligible to renew and instead can reapply for certification.