# CERTIFICATIONS

## **Evergreen Certified Wound Care Professional (CWCP) Certification Standards**

#### **1.0 Professional Standards**

1.1 To be eligible for certification, the applicant must hold a state or national license as listed below (or equivalent if practicing outside of the United States):

- Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Registered Nurse
- Licensed Practical Nurse/Licensed Vocational Nurse
- Certified Nurse Assistant
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing Home Administrator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Podiatrist
- Physician Assistant/Associate
- Physician

1.2 By applying for certification, the applicant agrees to adhere to <u>Evergreen Certifications' Professional</u> <u>Code of Ethics</u>

### 2.0 Educational Standards

2.1 The applicant must complete the following education criteria (minimum of 18 total hours of CE or CME that includes all the following competency areas):

**Skin**: understand the anatomy and physiology of skin, skin functions, age specific changes in skin, phases of wound healing, moisture barriers, skin damage, best practices for prevention and protection against skin tears, and identify common skin conditions/issues

**Types of Wounds**: understand the four main types of wounds (arterial, venous, diabetic, and pressure injuries), the differences in their causes, and approaches to prevention and management

**Assessment and Documentation**: understand different assessment tools used to evaluate wounds, how to do a full head to toe skin assessment, and the steps to assess a wound, including describing wound bed, wound edges, drainage, photography, and wound measurement

**Treatment**: understand aseptic dressing change technique, wound culture, infection control, wound bed preparation, pain management, topical products, and general knowledge of advanced treatment options **Hygiene and Dressings**: understand cleansers, dressing categories, and appropriate use based on wound characteristics

**Nutrition**: understand unique nutritional issues related to wound healing and how to provide nutrition education to patients, family, and/or caregivers

**Palliative Care:** understand common types of palliative care wounds and topical best practice management techniques

**Professional Considerations**: understand ethical and cultural issues related to wound care and considerations for scope of practice

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. A copy of the candidate's professional license
  - b. Copies of completion of training as outline in the Educational Standards
- 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 licensed 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 CWCP certification after your initial 2-year certification, a renewal is required. The steps to apply for renewal are as follows:

- 1. Submit the following documents:
  - a. A copy of your professional license
  - b. Completion certificate for twelve (12) clock hours of CE or CME related to wound care
  - c. Attestation you are currently working in field of wound care
- 2. Payment of renewal fee

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 2 years from your certification end date, you are no longer eligible to renew and instead can reapply for certification.