

**You've learned the skills. You have the knowledge. NOW GO FOR THE INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION . . .**



## **Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)**

**Ozarka's programs that provide C.N.A. training and testing:**

*Certificate of Proficiency Certified Nursing Assistant-* [https://www.ozarka.edu/program\\_details.cfm?prg\\_cod=4750](https://www.ozarka.edu/program_details.cfm?prg_cod=4750)

*Certificate of Proficiency Pre-health Sciences-* [https://www.ozarka.edu/program\\_details.cfm?prg\\_cod=1270](https://www.ozarka.edu/program_details.cfm?prg_cod=1270)

**ABOUT C.N.A. employment in Arkansas (per bls.gov):**

- **Mean wages: \$20, 500 annually in rural areas, \$23,000 in urban areas**
- **Job outlook: BRIGHT (660 projected annual job openings)**

**ABOUT the CNA credential and licensure in the state of Arkansas:**

"The Arkansas Department of Human Services oversees the rules regarding CNA certification. According to the department, aspiring CNAs must attend at least 90 hours of training that has been approved by the state. After completing the required training, they must then complete a CNA competency exam offered by Prometric Registry. This is a two-part test that consists of a computerized exam and a practical skills evaluation. Acceptable scores are required on both parts to obtain certification.

"In the state of Arkansas, Prometric Registry manages both the testing of prospective CNAs and the managing of the state's Nurse Aide Registry. What this means is that so long as you pass both parts of the CNA competency exam, Prometric Registry will automatically place your name on Arkansas's Nurse Aide Registry. This will allow you to apply for and obtain employment as a CNA in the state." (<http://www.cnalicense.org/states/arkansas/>)

**Why should I get certified?**

- It is a recognized credential that will strengthen your resume
- Without a valid C.N.A. license, you will not be able to work as a C.N.A.
- It is a pre-requisite to some L.P.N. and R.N. training programs

**When, how, and where can I be certified?**

Upon successful completion of the Basic Health Skills course (a 7 credit-hour, 9-week, hands-on skills class) and passing a criminal background check you may take the Prometric certification exam. The certification exam consists of a skills test as well as a written test. The test is provided on the Melbourne campus following the 9-week Basic Health Skills Course given each fall and spring semester on one or more Ozarka campuses.

**How much does the test cost?** \$90

**How can I pay for the test?**

Suggestions:

- If you are receiving federal or state financial aid, plan in advance to reserve some of your Pell refund, student government loan disbursement, or other financial aid disbursement so that you have the funds available at the end of the semester. (Consider the cost of the test as part of the cost of your education—save money to COMPLETE your education.)

**How can I best prepare for the test?**

Learn all you can during your Basic Health Skills class time. Then, find practice questions at: <https://www.prometric.com/en-us/clients/nurseaide/pages/nurse-aide-practice-exam.aspx>