



Dear Candidate:

As you consider the rationale for why you might want to pursue the Certified Wound Specialist® board certification please consider the following: this board certification will enhance your professional standing by providing evidence of a formal recognition of specialty practice and knowledge at a master level. In addition the CWS® credential will demonstrate to employers, consumers and peers validation of a firm dedication to high standards in wound management.

The CWS® credential demonstrates that the certified health professional possesses distinct and specialized knowledge thereby promoting quality of care for persons with wounds. Board certification as a wound specialist is voluntary and is not required by law for employment in the field, although some agencies may use board certification as a basis for employment, job promotions, salary increases and other considerations. It is important to understand that passing the examination verifies a certain level of knowledge in the field of wound management. It does not confer to the CWS® any permission to manage wounds beyond the limitations of the individual's professional practice.

Boundaries of practice are determined by state practice acts, not the certification examination. Job descriptions and job functions are determined by employing agencies, not the CWS® examination.

Certification is a voluntary testing program used to assess qualified health care professionals' knowledge in wound management. The purpose of the AAWM certification program is to conduct certification activities in a manner that upholds standards for competent wound care.

Cordially,



Christopher M. Murphy
Executive Director