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VisaScreen® renewal application updated

VisaScreen® Certificate holders who have not adjusted their status or obtained a permanent U.S. visa are required to renew their certificates within five years of the date it was issued. Applicants should begin the process six months prior to the expiration of their VisaScreen® Certificate. The cost for renewal

is \$250 USD. The application for VisaScreen® renewal has been updated and is available for download at <http://www.cgfns.org/files/pdf/apps/VisaScreenReApp.pdf>. Applicants may also apply online under the CGFNS Connect tab located on the CGFNS International Web site.

Qualifying Exam™ dates through 2009

Examination date	Deadline for NEW applications*	Deadline for Re-applications*	Location/Test date Change deadline
17 September 2008	DEADLINE PASSED	DEADLINE PASSED	DEADLINE PASSED
12 November 2008	DEADLINE PASSED	10 September 2008 Extended to 24 September 2008	DEADLINE PASSED
11 March 2009	10 December 2008	7 January 2009	31 December 2008
8 July 2009	8 April 2009	6 May 2009	29 April 2009

*Application deadlines are firm unless extended by CGFNS.

New AGNK test project pilot in India

CGFNS International, with its 30 years' experience testing international nurses, and AHed Global Healthcare, Inc. (AGH) (a subsidiary of American Higher Education, Inc.), a global continuing education provider, today announced the rollout of a pilot project in India for the CGFNS Assessment of General Nursing Knowledge (CGFNS-AGNK) examination.

The CGFNS-AGNK test is an internationally validated exam developed to determine nurses' capacity to apply their knowledge in the delivery of effective patient care. The CGFNS-AGNK will be used by schools of nursing and healthcare systems in India as a screening mechanism for measuring fundamental nursing knowledge and predicting work success for pre or post-licensed nurses.

In making this announcement, Barbara L. Nichols, Chief Executive Officer of CGFNS International said, "The CGFNS-AGNK is a new global program that can be customized to meet specific requirements by different user groups. Our pilot rollout in India focuses on enhancing the employability of nurses within India and in other non-US countries. The test does not substitute for the State Nursing Council Examination required for licensure in India, nor is it used for immigration purposes."

"By taking this test," Dr. Nichols continued, "a candidate will be able to offer validated nursing knowledge to potential employers who will then be able to make suitable placement, promotion and training decisions. We will work with leading nursing institutions and hospitals within India to deliver this test. Qualifying institutions and hospitals who accept this program for their nurses will be called CGFNS-AGNK Program Affiliates. We are working closely with AGH to ensure that all participants, whether institutional or individual, benefit from this program."

About the CGFNS-AGNK

The CGFNS International Assessment of General Nursing Knowledge (CGFNS-AGNK) is an assessment of professional and clinical qualifications. Although developed for local use, it also provides additional value as an international standard of assessment. The CGFNS-AGNK can be designed to the specific dimensions of the end user, and thus can be used in a variety of professional, clinical and educational arenas.

The CGFNS-AGNK may be used as a pre-screening tool to assess clinical skill and knowledge for new hires or current clinicians. It provides an employer with critical information that will aid in recruitment of nurses and their placement on appropriate clinical units. It helps the nurse identify key strengths and weaknesses and assists in identifying continuing education needs. It can also be used to validate the nursing knowledge of Indian nursing students upon graduation from colleges and nursing schools.

The CGFNS-AGNK is not designed to be used for migration to the United States. Other CGFNS programs, which are designed to evaluate comparability of education and licensure of foreign educated nurses to US nurses, meet that purpose. CGFNS will employ rigorous testing standards to ensure the integrity of the CGFNS-AGNK. For more information go to: www.ahedglobal.com

About AHed Global Healthcare (AGH)

AHed Global Healthcare, Inc. is a leading continuing education and certification service provider to nurses around the world. AGH programs enhance the employability of nurses in domestic and international markets. AGH works with leaders in the area of nursing.

[American Higher Education, Inc., \(AHed\)](http://www.ahedglobal.com), the parent company, has a global footprint with operations in India, China, South Korea, the Gulf countries, and the USA. AHed works with some of the finest universities in the US and helps them reach out to their user constituencies around the world.

CES pricing adjustments

Effective October 1, 2008, the following changes will be made to the CGFNS International Credentials Evaluation Service (CES): The Reissue of a CES Report Service, where an official copy of a previously issued CES report is sent to an official recipient, will now become a Re-evaluation Report Service with the following pricing:

Re-evaluation of a Full Education Course-by-Course Report	\$238.00
Re-evaluation of a Healthcare Profession and Science Report	\$188.00

Applicants who need to upgrade from a Healthcare Profession and Science Report to a Full Education Course-By-Course Report must apply for a CES Full Education Course-By-Course Report. The pricing for the CES Full Education Course-By-Course Report and Healthcare Profession and Science Report remains unchanged at \$378 and \$328, respectively. CES Reports do not have an expiration date, but additional CES services may be required based on official recipient requirements, or the submission of additional applicant credentials.

CGFNS International

New Call Center hours and email guidelines



The CGFNS Call Center hours of operation currently **Monday through Friday 8am to 12 Noon (US Eastern time).**

The telephone number for the call center remains +1 (215) 349 8767. The automated telephone system is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. That telephone number is +1 (215) 599 6200. Applicants need their CGFNS ID number and birth date to check their status.

Email

Expect email responses from CGFNS International within approximately 7 to 10 business days. Please be patient with us, our policy is to answer every applicant's questions in the order they are received, so you do not have to send more than one email regarding the same question.

To send an email to us, please go to <https://www.cgfns.org/cerpassweb/processContactUs.do>

Appointments

All applicants and authorized agents wishing to visit the CGFNS headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA must call ahead and make an appointment. Appointments are limited to 30 minutes in length and can only be scheduled

on Wednesdays 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (ET). The space in our reception area is limited. Visitors should refrain from bringing more than one additional person with them for their appointment.