

From: [Christian Einberg](#)
To: [Maryann Ayoade](#)
Cc: [Daniel Shaw](#); [Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez \(She/Her/Hers\)](#)
Subject: RE: Meeting Notes with NMTCB --- RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO
Date: Friday, April 7, 2023 8:50:35 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image007.jpg](#)
[image008.jpg](#)
[image009.jpg](#)
[image010.jpg](#)
[image011.jpg](#)
[image012.jpg](#)
[image013.jpg](#)
[image014.jpg](#)

Thanks for the excellent summary.

From: Maryann Ayoade <maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2023 1:17 AM
To: Daniel Shaw <Daniel.Shaw@nrc.gov>; Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez (She/Her/Hers) <Celimar.Valentin-Rodriguez@nrc.gov>
Cc: Christian Einberg <Christian.Einberg@nrc.gov>
Subject: Meeting Notes with NMTCB --- RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

FYI.

-
**Meeting with Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB)
April 6, 2023**

-
Meeting Objective:

Discuss NMTCB's request regarding NRC would allow for the board to have a process for vetting their Radiation Safety applicants for whether they would be eligible for the NRC's RSO designation without having to apply for NRC recognition of their process. NMTCB recognizes that their current certification/credentialing criteria does not meet the NRC board certification requirements in 10 CFR 35.50(a) because their criteria allow for individuals that do not have a bachelor's or graduate degree from an accredited college or university.

NMCTB is not sure that they are interested in becoming a recognized NRC specialty board, but would like to act in a similar manner as the current NRC-recognized specialty boards.

See email correspondence below for more details on NMTCB's request.

MEETING NOTES:

The Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board, Inc. (NMTCB) was founded in 1977.

- Historical Information. The Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board, Inc. (NMTCB) was founded in 1977 to establish and maintain a voluntary program for certification of nuclear medicine technologists by nuclear medicine technologists. The standards established by the NMTCB include educational requirements, practical experience, and successful completion of an appropriate competency-based examination. The NMTCB certifies

individuals who have developed the requisite body of knowledge to practice nuclear medicine technology and registers those individuals who meet these criteria. The work of the NMTCB is accomplished by technologists, scientists, and physicians. The Board of Directors consists of members of the Technologist Section-Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging; a physician/scientist member-at-large, a public member, and representatives of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging; American Association of Physicists in Medicine and the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties Council on Nuclear Pharmacy.

Working on Radiation Safety credential. Understand that their current Radiation Safety credentialing doesn't lead to getting the RSO designation. Credentialing criteria does not require individuals to have a degree as is the requirement for specialty board recognition. The credential is to highlight their knowledge. Found that their techs were called into situation handling the radiation safety issues...whether they are with the RSO or not.

- NMTCB offers multiple professional certification programs for technologists to enter and advance in the nuclear medicine and molecular imaging profession. Individuals who successfully pass the NMTCB's certification examination and maintain an active certification may use the abbreviations below to indicate their specific credential(s):
 - CNMT - Certified Nuclear Medicine Technologist Certification
 - NMTCB(CT) – Computed Tomography Certification
 - NMTCB(RS) – Radiation Safety Certification
 - NCT – Nuclear Cardiology Technologist Certification
 - PET – Positron Emission Technology Certification
 - NMAA – Nuclear Medicine Advanced Associate Certification

NRC STAFF

Discussed regulations related to specialty boards that are recognized by NRC. The board certification pathway criteria for the RSO requires in part that the individual to have a degree:

- Bachelor's or graduate from an accredited college or university in physical science or engineering or biological science with a minimum of 20 college credits in physical science OR Master's or doctor's degree in physics, medical physics, other physical science, engineering, or applied mathematics from an accredited college or university.

Discussed NRC Procedures for Specialty Board Recognition.

- Discussed T&E criteria and pointed out parts of the procedure related to:
 - Confirm that they are a board – review website and discussion with who is signing (Page 7)
 - Member of American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) – not required. But may be used as evidence of board as an established board.
 - Is development associated with a professional society? Not required
 - Governed by members with professional expertise in the area that the board is seeking recognition.
- Verification of their certification process:
 - How does the board verify that the minimum number of college credits in physical science are met by the candidate?
 - How does the board verify that the candidate has met the professional experience requirements?
 - How does the board verify that the candidate holds an appropriate degree?

- What degrees are acceptable to the board?
- What college accreditations are acceptable to the board?
- How does the board verify that the candidate graduated from an accredited college or university?

Discussed NRC's rulemaking process and the option for a petition for rulemaking.

Maryann A.

From: Maryann Ayoade
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 9:34 AM
To: kneal@nmtcb.org
Subject: RE: RE: RE: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Good morning Katie,

Great! I saw you and the other participants accepted the meeting request. We look forward to speaking with you all.

Regards,

Maryann

Maryann Ayoade
Medical / Health Physicist
Division of Materials Safety, Security,
State, and Tribal Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Maryann.Ayoade@nrc.gov | [Teams Chat](#) |
301-415-0862



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From: kneal@nmtcb.org <kneal@nmtcb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 2:33 PM
To: Maryann Ayoade <maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>
Subject: [External_Sender] RE: RE: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Perfect. That time works for us (3-3:45 PM).

Dr. Fahey's email is Frederic.Fahey@childrens.harvard.edu
Jeremy Slicker's email is Jeremy.Slicker@hcahealthcare.com

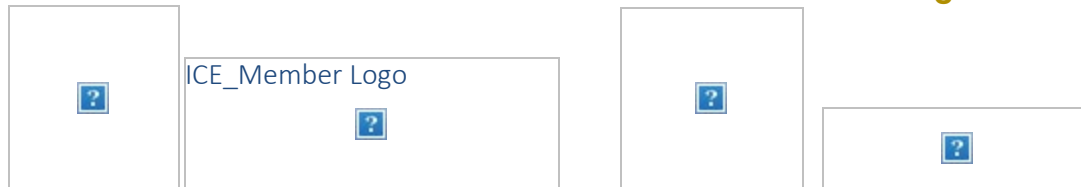
Thank you!

Katie Neal, BS, MS
Executive Director
Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board
3558 Habersham @ Northlake, Bldg. I

Tucker, GA 30084

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From: Maryann Ayoade [<mailto:maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:01 PM

To: kneal@nmtcb.org

Subject: RE: RE: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Hi Katie,

No apologies needed. It happens to me too.

Thursday, April 6th works. Are you all able to meet from 3:00pm – 3:45pm ET? If this works, I can send out a meeting invite (we use Microsoft Teams), and you can share Dr. Fred Fahey and Jeremy Slicker's emails or forward the invitation to them to attend.

Thank you,

Maryann

Maryann Ayoade

Medical / Health Physicist

Division of Materials Safety, Security,
State, and Tribal Programs

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Maryann.Ayoade@nrc.gov | [Teams Chat](#) |
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From: kneal@nmtcb.org <kneal@nmtcb.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:22 PM

To: Maryann Ayoade <maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>

Subject: [External_Sender] RE: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Maryann,

Would anytime between 12 Noon and 5 PM on Thursday, April 6th work for you?

Again, my apologies for misreading your earlier email with available dates.

Thank you.

Katie Neal, BS, MS
Executive Director
Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board
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From: kneal@nmtcb.org [<mailto:kneal@nmtcb.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 11:56 AM
To: 'Maryann Ayoade' <maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>
Cc: 'Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez (She/Her/Hers)' <Celimar.Valentin-Rodriguez@nrc.gov>; 'Daniel Shaw' <Daniel.Shaw@nrc.gov>; 'Christian Einberg' <Christian.Einberg@nrc.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

My sincere apologies! I read that as “are available”.

Would a time on Thursday, April 6th work for you?

Katie Neal, BS, MS
Executive Director
Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board
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From: Maryann Ayoade [<mailto:maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 11:46 AM

To: kneal@nmtcb.org

Cc: Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez (She/Her/Hers) <Celimar.Valentin-Rodriguez@nrc.gov>; Daniel Shaw <Daniel.Shaw@nrc.gov>; Christian Einberg <Christian.Einberg@nrc.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Good morning Katie,

Thank you for following up with me and for providing clarification on NMTCB's request. I look forward to further discussing with you and the other participants regarding your questions.

Unfortunately, we are not available for a meeting on Friday, April 7th. As mentioned in my previous e-mail, we will not be available on Thursday and Friday (March 30th and 31st), as well as on Friday April 7th. Is there any other day of the week next week that works for you? Otherwise, we can do the following week (with the exception of Monday, April 10th, and Friday, April 14th).

Regards,

Maryann

Maryann Ayoade

Medical / Health Physicist
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Maryann.Ayoade@nrc.gov | [Teams Chat](#) |
301-415-0862



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From: kneal@nmtcb.org <kneal@nmtcb.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 10:40 AM

To: Maryann Ayoade <maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>

Cc: Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez (She/Her/Hers) <Celimar.Valentin-Rodriguez@nrc.gov>; Daniel Shaw <Daniel.Shaw@nrc.gov>; Christian Einberg <Christian.Einberg@nrc.gov>

Subject: [External_Sender] RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Ms. Ayoade,

I wanted to follow up on my previous email regarding our request.

I am not entirely sure that NMTCB is interested in becoming a recognized NRC specialty board per se – but that our certification board could vet the applicants for our Radiation Safety credential and

confirm whether those applicants also meet the requirements for the NRC to be recognized as an RSO.

Our specialty certification exam will certainly not say the person is an RSO, only that NMTCB has confirmed that the person has met the training and experience (T & E) requirements established by the NRC. The NMTCB applicant will need to qualify AND of they pass the NMTCB's Radiation Safety exam, then we would add the designation of "RSO Eligible" to their NMTCB certificate. The person would still need to fill out the NRC forms, but the designation may make things easier at the institutional level.

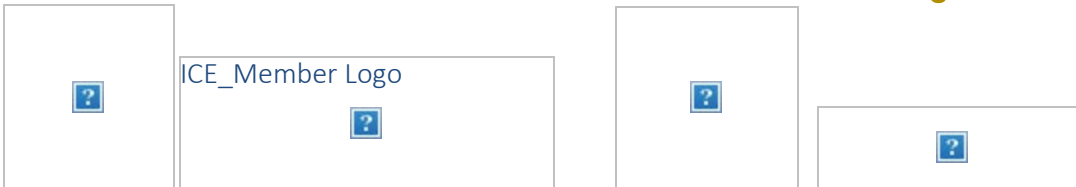
As I mentioned, we do have availability on **Friday, April 7th** and look forward to discussing this possibility with you.

Please feel free to reply or call with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Katie Neal, BS, MS
Executive Director
Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board
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From: kneal@nmtcb.org [<mailto:kneal@nmtcb.org>]

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 4:55 PM

To: 'Maryann Ayoade' <maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>

Cc: 'Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez (She/Her/Hers)' <Celimar.Valentin-Rodriguez@nrc.gov>; 'Daniel Shaw' <Daniel.Shaw@nrc.gov>; 'Christian Einberg' <Christian.Einberg@nrc.gov>

Subject: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Hello Ms. Ayoade-

Thank you very much for responding to my email.

We'd be happy to talk on Friday, April 7th if you have availability then. What time would work best for you?

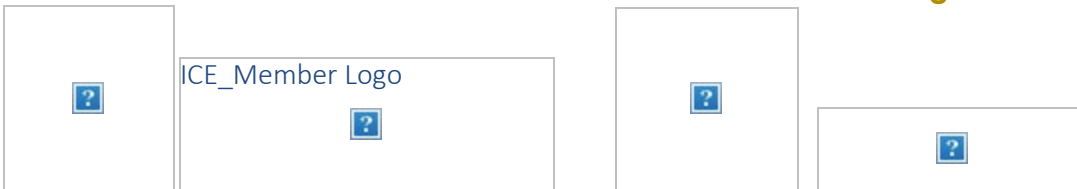
It will likely be myself, along with the Chair of our Radiation Safety committee, Dr. Fred Fahey, Co-Chair Jeremy Slicker, who will be on the call.

Please feel free to reply or call with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Katie Neal, BS, MS
Executive Director
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From: Maryann Ayoade [<mailto:maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 11:02 AM
To: Katie Neal, NMTCB <kneal@nmtcb.org>
Cc: Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez (She/Her/Hers) <Celimar.Valentin-Rodriguez@nrc.gov>; Daniel Shaw <Daniel.Shaw@nrc.gov>; Christian Einberg <Christian.Einberg@nrc.gov>
Subject: RE: NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Good morning Katie,

Thank you for reaching out on behalf of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) and expressing NMTCB's interest in pursuing the RSO-Eligible designation. I understand from the details of your email, it appears that NMTCB is interested in becoming a recognized NRC specialty board. Our Medical Radiation Safety Team Leader (Celimar Valentin-Rodriguez) and I would like to set up a meeting with you at your convenience to discuss your request further and provide initial guidelines that you may need to begin this process.

Note that there NRC procedures for medical specialty board recognition – [NRC Procedures for Recognizing, Monitoring, and Terminating the Certification Process of Specialty Boards](#) (also located under the NRC Medical Uses Licensee Toolkit – Medical Specialty Boards Certifications Recognized by the NRC: <https://www.nrc.gov/materials/miau/med-use-toolkit/spec-board-cert.html>), and you may want to review the procedure prior to our meeting and bring any questions you may have. The procedures provide criteria that

specialty boards must meet to be recognized by the NRC or the Agreement States. Once a specialty board's certification process for a specialty area is recognized by the NRC, any individual certified by that specialty board for the recognized specialty area may be approved to be an authorized user, radiation safety officer (RSO) or associate RSO, authorized medical physicist, or authorized nuclear pharmacist.

To support the meeting, please provide some available date/time options and I will send out a meeting scheduler to set up the meeting in the next week or two. Note that we will not be available next Thursday, March 30th and Friday, March 31st, as well as on Friday April 7th.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Maryann

Maryann Ayoade
Medical / Health Physicist
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From: Katie Neal, NMTCB <kneal@nmtcb.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2023 12:59 PM
To: Maryann Ayoade <maryann.ayoade@nrc.gov>
Cc: Katie Neal <kneal@NMTCB.org>
Subject: [External_Sender] NRC's eligibility pathway to RSO

Hello Maryanne-

I am writing to you as the Executive Director of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB), which is the technologist certification board for nuclear medicine.

About 5 years ago, we developed a [Radiation Safety Specialty Certification](#) for NM techs, to recognize individuals with expertise in all aspects of RAM and CT radiation safety issues, while also verifying their competency in fluoroscopy, X-ray, and MRI safety matters.

You may realize that at many hospitals and clinics, the technologist tends to perform the daily radiation safety work, while often times the MD will serve as the actual RSO. At other locations, especially the smaller hospitals and clinics, the technologists will also serve as the RSO at those institutions. Many of our NMTCB(RS) certification holders are already recognized by the NRC as Radiation Safety Officers.

To explain the reason for my email: the NMTCB Board of Directors has been discussing the idea of talking to the NRC regarding having some sort of process for vetting our Radiation Safety applicants as to whether they would be eligible for the NRC's RSO designation. The idea is that our certification board could vet the applicants for our Radiation Safety credential

and also see if they “tick all of the NRC boxes” as well during our certification application process.

The Chair of our Radiation Safety committee, Dr. Fred Fahey, Co-Chair Jeremy Slicker, and I recently had a chance to speak with Matthew Podgorsak about how ABR decided to discontinue the Authorized Medical Physicist-Eligible (AMP-Eligible) and Radiation Safety Officer-Eligible (RSO-Eligible) designations on ABR certificates issued after December 31, 2023. NMTCB would be interested in only pursuing the RSO-Eligible designation.

If you have a moment to respond, I would love to understand if this is something the NRC would be willing to discuss with NMTCB.

I would greatly appreciate what ever insight you could share. I look forward to hearing from you.

Please feel free to reply or call with any questions or concerns.
Sincerely,

Katie Neal, BS, MS
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