

To get your MA-Certified from the Department of Health of the state of Washington, you need to pass one of four national exams. **Which test should you take?**

Consider the facts about each exam to help you decide which test to take.

NCMA (NCCT) ([Links to an external site.](#)) Phone: 800-875-4404

- Easy to schedule throughout the state of Washington.
- Requires two (2) years of MA work experience within the past five (5) years.
- Includes administrative questions (such as billing and scheduling). If you have no experience with this, you'll need to study administration material.
- Military service training must be within the last five (5) years.
- Cost as of May 2016: \$135, \$90 students and military

AMA (CMAC) [Clinical Medical Assistant Certification](#) Phone: 888-960-2622.

- Cost as of April 2019: \$139.00 (Study Material Included)
- Option 1
Graduate from a training program (proof of completion is required) and has up to one year from the date of completion to challenge AMCA's certification exam.
- Option 2
Exam Eligibility Application:
 - Option 1: Graduate from a training program within one year of test date
 - Option 2: Graduate from a training program combined with full time work experience.
 - Option 3: Have 2 or more years full time work experience immediately preceding the date of application and be presently working in that field.
- All candidates must complete and submit an AMCA "Exam Eligibility Application". There is a \$25.00 processing fee upon the submission of the application.
- FAST Track: Submit Exam Eligibility Application with full verification of employment which includes: date of hire, job description and be presented on company letterhead.
- 4 to 6 Weeks: All work experience listed on the application will be verified by the AMCA.

- Once the application is approved/denied, the candidate will receive an email with a determination from the AMCA.
- The candidate has 60 days in which to test or the process will have to start over including payment of all the fees.

CMA (AAMA) ([Links to an external site.](#)) Phone: 800-228-2262

- Some employers may prefer or give incentive pay for this test.
- It is both a harder test and harder to schedule
- Limited testing locations:
 - In Western Washington: Montlake Terrace and Puyallup.
 - Eastern WA: Spokane
 - Oregon: Portland
- You are *not eligible* for this exam unless you have completed a [CAAHEP or ABHES accredited medical assisting program \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- No military route offered.*
- Cost as of May 2016 Members, \$125. All others, \$250

CCMA (NHA) ([Links to an external site.](#)) Phone 800-499-9092

- Tests only clinical knowledge, so no administrative content.
- Requires at least one (1) year of MA work experience within the last three (3) years.
- It is offered in various locations throughout Washington; call NHA to find a location near you:
- If you do not have two (2) years of MA work experience yet, you can take this exam after only one (1) year of work.
- Military service training/update within the last five (5) years, or experience one (1) out of the last three (3) years.
- Cost as of May 2016: \$149

RMA (AMT) ([Links to an external site.](#)) Phone 847-823-5169

- Easy to schedule throughout Washington state.
- The credential itself (RMA) can sometimes become confused with the Washington state credential, MA-R.
- You must either have graduated from an accredited program or worked five (5) out of the last seven (7) years.

- Military: experience doing MA duties in five (5) of the last seven (7) years, including both clinical and administrative duties. Or, “a recent graduate of, or be scheduled to graduate from, a formal medical services training program of the United States Armed Forces.”
- Cost as of May 2016: \$120

Confirm your eligibility, get the details:

Visit the following links and determine which test(s) you are eligible to take:

[NCMA \(NCCT\) Eligibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

[CMA \(AAMA\) Eligibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

[CCMA \(NHA\) Eligibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

[RMA \(AMT\) Eligibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

[AMA \(CMAC\) Eligibility \(Links to an external site.\)](#)