



**MISSION:** Provide global leadership to promote integrity and excellence for the clinical research profession.

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**PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**  
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## **ACRP's CCRA and CCRC Certification Programs Accredited by NCCA**

Alexandria, Va.— The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) is pleased to announce the official accreditation of the CCRA® and CCRC® certification exam programs from the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), the accreditation body of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence. Administered by the Academy of Clinical Research Professionals (the Academy), these exams are now the first and only certification programs in clinical research to earn this level of recognition.

This prestigious, independent confirmation of the quality of ACRP certification applies to the Certified Clinical Research Associate (CCRA®) and Certified Clinical Research Coordinator (CCRC®) programs offered through the Academy, ACRP's affiliate body for non-physician certification. Based in Alexandria, Va., ACRP first offered its CRC examination in 1992, and launched its CRA examination in 1995. The Academy has certified more than 14,200 CRCs and 7,600 CRAs to date.

"Those who earn the CCRA and/or CCRC designation have demonstrated their understanding of and compliance with internationally accepted standards of clinical research practices for the conduct of studies of experimental medicines, medical devices, and other therapies involving human subjects," said Kathryn Kimmel, CCRC, CCRA, chair of the Academy's Board of Trustees. "In no small part, this accomplishment was made possible through the dedication of volunteers working behind the scenes to take programs that we knew were already of tremendous value to our certificants, and raise their quality to a level of excellence that distinguishes ACRP from all other clinical research organizations offering certification."

"Achieving official accreditation of the CRA and CRC certification programs was one of our top ranked priorities in the ACRP strategic plan," said Carol McCullough, director of credentialing and certification for ACRP. "This accreditation serves as independent verification that our programs are reliable and statistically valid."

Added David M. Vulcano, LCSW, MBA, CIP, RAC, immediate past chair of ACRP's Association Board of Trustees and champion of this effort: "What this means is that ACRP is the first and only clinical research industry organization to join the ranks of other well-established and well-recognized healthcare (and non-healthcare) certifying bodies, many of whose certification products are state licensing requirements."

The NCCA accreditation is good for five years, through April 30, 2015. To earn accreditation, ACRP had to submit an application demonstrating the program's compliance with the NCCA's Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs. Since 1977, the Washington, D.C.-based NCCA has been accrediting certifying programs based on the highest quality standards in professional certification to ensure the programs adhere to modern standards of practice in the certification



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industry. To view the standards, visit <http://www.credentialingexcellence.org/ncca>. There are 233 NCCA accredited programs that certify individuals in a wide range of professions and occupations, including nurses, financial professionals, respiratory therapists, counselors, emergency technicians, and more.

**\*\*ACRP\*\***

Founded in 1976, ACRP is the leading professional association in the world addressing the unique issues and challenges clinical researchers face daily in their professional lives. It has nearly 20,000 members worldwide. The association's mission is to provide global leadership to promote integrity and excellence for the clinical research profession. For more information, visit <http://www.acrpnet.org>.