

## National Certification Exams

National certification exams are *NOT* required to pass the medical certificate courses at Madonna University; however our courses prep students to sit for the exams. Benefits of passing the exam include national certification and adding this credential to the student's resume. Also, students who become nationally certified earn a higher wage per hour. See the national websites below for additional information.

### ***Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Exam***

Many students who enroll in Madonna University's Pharmacy Technician Program choose to sit for the PTCB exam. Students can also ask their instructor about exam details.

- The PTCB exam is administered on a computer and costs \$129.
- Exam requirements are a high school diploma or GED and you must not have been convicted of a felony.
- Visit [www.ptcb.org](http://www.ptcb.org) for the latest testing information and how to register for the exam.

### ***Medical Billing & Coding Exams***

Students are split on their decision as to when to take the coding exam. Some students take it immediately upon completing the Medical Billing & Coding Program at Madonna University, while others wait the recommended six months to two years and gain practical experience before taking an exam.

**American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC)** - Certified Professional Coder Exam (CPC or CPC-H Apprentice)

- The cost of the exam is \$300 for members. One free retake.
- To schedule an AAPC exam, you must contact the AAPC for more information which can be found at [www.aapc.com](http://www.aapc.com) or call 800-626-2633.

**American Health Information Association (AHIMA) Certified Coding Associate (CCA) exam**

- The cost of the exam is \$199 for members and \$299 for non-members and is administered by computer.
- For more exam information, log onto the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) site at [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org) or call (312) 233-1100.