Digital Badges: Now Available!

We are excited to share that, this year, ARDMS and APCA introduced an added Registrant benefit – a digital badging program for our credentials, certificates and physics examinations. We partnered with Credly (the badges are managed by Credly’s Acclaim platform) to offer a new way for you to promote your achievements to employers and colleagues on social media and other digital platforms.

What is a digital badge?
The badges are digital versions of ARDMS- or APCA-awarded credentials, certifications, certificates and physics examinations. They act as a quick on-line reference, offering the viewer a description of what was awarded, the steps taken to earn it, skills tied to the earner’s accomplishments and links to additional information about the badge and qualifications.

What are the benefits of digital badging?
• Share your badge on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter to promote the ARDMS credential(s) you earned! Learn more.
• Download your badge image and URL to embed in a resume, website or email signature; your badge can be added to anything that can be hyperlinked!
• Personalize your Acclaim profile to highlight your strengths and abilities.

What is the process for claiming a badge?
Claiming an ARDMS digital badge is simple! After an ARDMS credential, certificate or physics examination is awarded, you will receive an email from Credly’s Acclaim platform with instructions on how to claim the badge. Note: if you were issued multiple badges, you will receive multiple emails. They are not spam! Learn more about ARDMS digital badges.

Sonography Program Spotlight

Have you ever been part of a sonography program that you thought was special? ARDMS is committed to celebrating the accomplishments and diversity of sonography programs. If you would like to nominate a sonography program to be featured in the next Notes for Educators newsletter, please complete this form and email it to EducatorResources@ARDMS.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Certification Corner

Q: How many and what forms of ID are acceptable when applying/submitting an application?

A: An ID is not required to be submitted if the students are applying for an examination under the Paperless Perquisite 2 Program, the application would automatically be approved. However, if the students are applying for the SPI examination prior to 60 days before graduation under the SPI Examination Requirement then they need to submit a copy of a non-expired government-issued photo identification (ID) with signature; the first and last names on the ID must exactly
2. It should be organized. Every story has a beginning, a middle and an ending. The information and details presented must be done in an orderly fashion. Your resume then becomes easy to read and ensures that critical information is not overlooked. Consider the following:

- **Objective statement**
- **Summary of education and clinical training**
- **Employment or unpaid work experience**
- **Skills, abilities and talents**
- **CME credits**
- **Publications, presentations and other achievements**

All great stories begin with an introduction which would be the objective statement on your resume. An introduction provides an overview of where a story is taking the reader, as does the objective statement. It clearly states what you want in terms of a position and provides a quick summary of your end goal.

3. Know your readers. Great storytellers know that they must adjust their story depending on who is listening. You want to customize your resume to target the specific job position you are applying for. Be sure to showcase what makes you uniquely qualified for the position.

You Are Building Your Resume Before Graduation

- **Now Write It**

Stories form before they are written. Likewise with your resume. Resume building is happening now, every day. Activities include:

- **Volunteer work at health care facilities or community health events**
- **Professional association memberships and becoming an active participant who networks, sits on committees, or helps with special events**
- **Development of skills and competencies by wisely choosing experiences that strengthen weaknesses and show initiative**
- **Personal activities that show creativity, problem-solving abilities and varied interests**

Make Your Resume Your Own

Storytelling is an art form. The final product should be stylish, appealing, informative and unforgettable. Whether you are just beginning your career or it is in full swing, your resume is your story to tell. Be proud of your accomplishments and don’t be afraid to share them!

Share Your Story!

ARDMS is searching for Sonography Educators to tell their personal journey of becoming an ultrasound professional and educator and their contributions to the sonography community. Sharing your journey will inspire others! Nominate yourself or someone you know to be selected for a featured spotlight in the Notes for Educators. Submit your nominations to Communications@ARDMS.org

Ultrasound SmartBrief

Sign-up for the complimentary e-newsletter bringing you the most important and timely news stories about the sonography industry to over 40,000 subscribers. Ultrasound SmartBrief is brought to you exclusively by the ARDMS.

match the first and last names in your ARDMS/APCA record. Please note that at the test center, they will need to present one valid photo identification (ID); see Test Center Identification Requirements.

Q: How much time does it take for an application to be approved when applying?

A: If the students are applying for a Specialty Examination within 60 days before graduation and the steps are followed correctly (see Visual Guide), the application should automatically be approved. *Please note students should not apply for exams until after the Program Director has submitted them for the Paperless Prerequisite 2 Program. However, if the students are applying for the SPI examination under the SPI requirement, review of the application can take up to five business days from date the documentation is received in the office.

Q: When submitting transcripts, do they need to be official or can they be unofficial?

A: The only instance where the students might be required to submit a transcript is if they apply for the SPI examination under the SPI Examination Requirement and it may be unofficial.

The required documentation for the SPI Examination Requirement is listed below:

1. An official or unofficial transcript (see transcript requirements below) reflecting successful completion of a grade, general, medical, or sonographic physics class, post-secondary or higher education physics class (with a grade of C or above);

OR

A CME certificate denoting successful completion of a general, medical or sonographic physics seminar, physics review course, or physics correspondence course, denoting a minimum award of 12 ARDMS-accepted CME credits. The certificate must meet ARDMS CME documentation requirements (visit ARDMS.org/CME to view ARDMS-accepted CMEs). The CME credits must be earned within two (2) years prior to application submission.

2. A copy of a non-expired government-issued photo identification (ID) with signature; the first and last names on the ID must exactly match the first and last names in your ARDMS/APCA record.

Transcript Requirements

- **Name of Applicant and school must be printed on the transcript; handwritten information will not be accepted.**
- **The class or course name must specifically indicate Physics, Physical Principles and/or Instrumentation in the title and be printed on the transcript. Supplementary information will not be accepted.**
- **Transcript can be unofficial or official.**
- **If submitting a foreign transcript or degree, a formal course by course foreign transcript evaluation report must accompany the application summary and indicate the aforementioned requirements.**
- **Transcripts indicating only a number grade must include a grade key printed on the transcript showing the equivalent letter grade. Supplementary information will not be accepted.**
- **A grade report will not be accepted in lieu of the transcript (unofficial or official).**

To promote knowledge sharing and open communication, we have added a new feature to Notes for Educators – the Certification Corner! Here you will find answers to questions we’ve received from you directly or FAQs from the Contact Us section of the ARDMS website.

Don’t stay in the dark! Submit your question(s) to Aimie Pak at Aimie.Pak@ARDMS.org so we can address them here in a future issue!

Stay in Touch with ARDMS

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