

Accredited Certificates

Certifications are not always necessary, but students often find that supplementing education with certification improves their job prospects and their potential salary. There are five accredited organizations that provide certifications for medical assistant students or graduates, all of which may be prepared for and taken online.

- The [American Association of Medical Assistants \(AAMA\)](#) offers the Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) certification. To be eligible, candidates must either graduate from an accredited medical assisting program or have previously passed the CMA and are attempting to recertify.
- The [American Medical Technologists \(AMT\)](#) offer the Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) certification. To be eligible, candidates must have graduated or be scheduled to graduate from a program accredited by the Department of Education, or have graduated or be scheduled to graduate from a military medical assistant program. Candidates may also take the test if they worked five of the last seven years as a medical assistant, or if they worked as an instructor at an accredited program.
- The [National Center for Competency Testing](#) offers the National Certified Medical Assistant certification (NCMA). Current students and graduates from recognized programs may apply. Those with two years of work experience in the field, as well as those with equivalent military training may also apply. Instructors with more than 10 years experience are eligible, as are foreign physicians or RNs with documented U.S. equivalency.
- The [National Healthcareer Association](#) offers the Certified Clinical Medical Assistant certification, as well as the Certified Medical Administrative Assistant certification.