Certified Euthanasia Technician
How to renew certification

General Information about Renewal

The North Carolina Administrative Code requires that anyone euthanizing animals at a certified shelter be trained and approved as a Certified Euthanasia Technician. The certification is good for 5 years unless it is revoked or suspended.

Every five years the CET must renew their certification if they wish to continue euthanizing animals at a certified shelter. The renewal process is similar to the original certification though there are differences. The Administrative Code states:

> **02 NCAC 52J .0417 CERTIFICATION RENEWAL**
> (a) Certifications may be renewed every five years provided that:
> > (1) within the 12 months immediately preceding the application for certification renewal the Certified Euthanasia Technician has taken and passed a practical examination for each method of euthanasia for which they are seeking certification renewal;
> > (2) the applicant receives up-to-date information about the method of euthanasia for which the applicant is seeking certification; and
> > (3) the applicant receives training in stress management.
> (b) The applicant shall submit an application for certification renewal to the Animal Welfare Section. The application shall be on a form created by the Animal Welfare Section and shall include a document from an approved Certified Euthanasia Technician trainer establishing that the applicant has passed a practical examination in the specific euthanasia techniques for which he or she is seeking certification.

Additionally, effective October 1, 2010 the General Assembly passed legislation that requires anyone wishing to be a CET to submit fingerprints and pass a background check:

> **G.S. 19A-24   POWERS OF BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.**
>
> (c) Regardless of the extent to which the Board exercises its authority under subsection (b) of this section, the Department may deny, revoke, or suspend the certification of a euthanasia technician who has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or *nolo contendere* to a felony involving the illegal use, possession, sale, manufacture, distribution, or transportation of a controlled substance, drug, or narcotic.
>
> (d) Persons seeking certification as euthanasia technicians, or a renewal of such certification, shall provide the Department a fingerprint card in a format acceptable to the Department, a form signed by the person consenting to a criminal record check and the use of the person's fingerprints, and such other identifying information as may be required by the State or national data banks. The Department may deny certification to persons who refuse to provide the fingerprint card or consent to the criminal background check. Fees required by the Department of Justice for conducting the criminal background check shall be collected by the Department and remitted to the Department of Justice along with the fingerprint card and consent form."

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Will you notify me when my certification needs to be renewed?**
   Yes, we will send you notification approximately 1 year before your certification expires. We will notify you again 6 months later if you have not renewed by that time.

2. **Will you notify my shelter when my certification needs to be renewed?**
   Yes, we will send a copy of your notification to the shelter at which you are certified.

3. **Where do I get an application/fingerprint card?**
   You can send us a request in writing for the application/fingerprint card. The packet will include directions about how to complete the application and as well as what fields you will need to complete on your fingerprint card.

4. **Is there a charge for the CET application?**
   No, there is no charge for the application but the State Bureau of Investigation charges us for each background check. At this time the fingerprint/background check costs $38.00.

5. **How long will it take to process the CET application?**
   It depends, we cannot complete the renewal until we have your application, a completed fingerprint card + the signed Authorization form, a check to process the fingerprint card, notice from your trainer that you have successfully completed training and the background check is returned from the SBI.

6. **How long will it take to process the fingerprint cards?**
   Usually it takes 1-2 weeks although occasionally it takes longer. Plan accordingly.

7. **Who will teach the practical examinations for CET?**
   We expect that those people that have trained previously may also provide re-certification training. Watch our web site for details about upcoming classes.

8. **What is "up-to-date information about the method of euthanasia"?**
   The trainer will decide what is necessary to bring you up to date.

9. **What is training in stress management?**
   The term is not defined in the Administrative Code; your trainer will decide what is necessary to ensure that you have received stress management training.

10. **If I had a background check previously do I have to do another to renew my certification?**
    Yes. You will need a new background check each time you renew your certification.

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11. If I didn't have to have a background check previously why do I have to have one for renewal?
The General Assembly passed legislation that requires a background check for each new or renewed certificate to euthanize animals at certified shelters.

12. Can you accept the background check performed by another agency such as a Sheriff's Department/Police Department/etc?
No, we cannot. The statute requires that you provide us with a completed fingerprint card provided by the AWS. It does not allow us to accept background checks conducted by other organizations.

13. Why do I have to use your fingerprint card?
The law requiring you to undergo a background check states that this Section must submit the documents. In order to submit the documents we must use fingerprint cards containing information specific to AWS including the authorization.