



***Board Certification Study Timeline:
BCCCP 4-Month Calendar***

BCCCP Best Practices 4-Month Calendar

The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists New Practitioners Forum (ASHP NPF) has developed this guidance document to aid new practitioners in their quest to obtain Board of Pharmacy Specialties Certified Critical Care Pharmacist (BCCCP). This is not an all-inclusive study guide, although it is broad in nature and mirrors the content on the [ASHP Critical Care Pharmacy Specialty Review and Recertification Course](#). The purpose of this document is to provide a structured reference point to keep practitioners on schedule to sit for the BCCCP examination. In addition to providing a suggested study schedule, the following are some helpful tidbits that we've heard about or experienced along the way.

- Portions of the exam correspond with research-oriented topics that challenge an examinee's knowledge of how to search for drug information questions, research design, and concepts involving interpretation of the biomedical literature. "[Research Fundamentals](#)" is a series of articles published in the *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AJHP)* to consider reading to become familiar with these research-oriented topics.
- BCCCP item writers are highly encouraged to write case-based questions to test concepts, so what better way to study than by an interactive, case-based format? ASHP's Critical Care Pharmacy Specialty Review and Recertification Course is case-based, involving application of concepts to patient care, just as in clinical practice and on the exam.
*Learn more at <https://www.ashp.org/Professional-Development/Board-Certification-Resources>
- If new guidelines come out during the 6 months or so prior to the exam, there's a good chance that you will not be tested on those. Since the question validation process takes a significant amount of time, concepts regarding a particular topic are very likely to be based on the guidelines at the time the question was written.

Suggested 4-Month Calendar

Month 1	Topics	ASHP Core Therapeutic Modules	ASHP Review Course Module
Week 1	Supportive Care	Select Topics in Prevention and Supportive Care in Critical Care Patients	
Week 2	Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics	Alterations in Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics in Critical Care	
Week 3	Cardiology	Pharmacotherapy Considerations in the Management of Shock	Complex Case: Post-Cardiac Surgery
Week 4	Cardiology	Cardiac Arrhythmias and Advanced Cardiac Life Support	Complex Case: Acute Coronary Syndrome

Month 2	Topics	ASHP Core Therapeutic Modules	ASHP Review Course Module
Week 1	Neurology	Select Neurology Topics in Critical Care Patients	Complex Case: Warfarin-Associated Intracranial Hemorrhage
Week 2	Neurology	Select Neurology Topics in Critical Care Patients	
Week 3	Infectious Diseases	Select Topics in Infectious Diseases in Critical Care Patients	Complex Case: Sepsis
Week 4	Infectious Diseases	Select Topics in Infectious Diseases in Critical Care Patients	Complex Case: Oncologic Emergencies: Febrile Neutropenia and Tumor Lysis Syndrome

Month 3	Topics	ASHP Core Therapeutic Modules	ASHP Review Course Module
Week 1	Nutrition, Fluid, and Electrolytes	Nutrition, Fluid, and Electrolytes	Complex Case: Hyperglycemic Emergency and Community-Acquired Pneumonia
Week 2	Nutrition, Fluid, and Electrolytes	Nutrition, Fluid, and Electrolytes	Complex Case: GI Bleeding
Week 3	Acid-Base Disorders	Select Topics in Acid-Base Disorders	
Week 4	Pulmonology	Select Topics in Pulmonary Disorders	Complex Case: Pneumonia

Month 4	Topics	ASHP Core Therapeutic Modules	ASHP Review Course Module
Week 1	Toxicology	Select Topics in Toxicology	
Week 2	Biostatistics	Statistics, Evidence-Based Medicine, and Clinical Trial Design	Research Design, Evidence-Based Medicine, and Statistical Analysis
Week 3	Review	Practice Exam	Complex Case: Practice Administration and Development
Week 4	Review	Practice Exam	Complex Case: Practice Administration and Development

Tips to Stay On Schedule

- 1) Identify a study partner and do 2-3 weekly lunch discussions about the week's topics. Group accountability!
- 2) When you approach a topic you feel comfortable with, use your time to study statistics or re-visit a difficult topic.
- 3) Keep a notebook with concise notes as you progress. This way you have a quick and concise reference to review later.

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