



C-NIT and C-NIP Certification Renewal Requirements

Effective January 1, 2027 | Last updated August 2026

The Center for Nature Informed Therapy (CNIT) requires Certified Nature Informed Therapists and Certified Nature Informed Practitioners to renew their certification every three years. Renewal supports continued learning, accurate public representation of the credential, and responsible nature informed practice.

CERTIFICATION TERM	RENEWAL EDUCATION	WHEN TO APPLY
Three years from certification or the most recent renewal	Six qualifying continuing education hours during each cycle	Beginning about 90 days before expiration

Renewal Requirements

To keep a C-NIT or C-NIP certification active, the credential holder must:

- **Complete six qualifying continuing education hours** during the current three-year certification cycle.
- **Complete at least three of the six hours** in content directly focused on Nature Informed Therapy, nature informed practice, ecotherapy, or closely related competencies.
- **Submit the CNIT renewal application**, confirm current professional information, and agree to CNIT's current certification standards.
- **Continue to work within** the holder's education, professional role, legal scope of practice, and applicable licensing or regulatory requirements.

What Counts as Continuing Education?

Qualifying education must include structured learning, clear educational content, and a reliable way to verify attendance or completion. Relevant topics may include Nature Informed Therapy methods, ethics, cultural responsiveness, accessibility, trauma, grief, anxiety, attachment, expressive arts, group facilitation, outdoor safety, research, program development, and other subjects meaningfully connected to nature informed practice.

CNIT Lunch & Learns and Professional Development Workshops

A CNIT Lunch & Learn, webinar, or professional development workshop designated as renewal-eligible may count toward the requirement. A qualifying 60-minute program normally provides one CNIT Certification Renewal Hour. A general meeting, community gathering, consultation group, or membership program does not automatically qualify unless CNIT identifies the activity as renewal-eligible.

CNIT and External Education

Renewal hours may be earned through CNIT or through relevant education offered by another qualified organization.

- **CNIT programs:** Eligible events will state the number of CNIT Certification Renewal Hours and any completion requirements.
- **External programs:** Relevant courses, workshops, webinars, or conferences may qualify after CNIT review. Preapproval is recommended when eligibility is uncertain.
- **Licensing-board credit:** CNIT renewal approval does not automatically mean that a program is accepted by a professional licensing board.



Renewal Process, Status, and Transition

STEP		WHAT TO DO
1.	Plan	Complete six qualifying hours before expiration.
2.	Document	Keep records showing the program, provider, date, and hours.
3.	Apply	Submit the renewal application beginning about 90 days before expiration.
4.	Review	Respond if CNIT requests clarification or documentation.
5.	Renew	After approval, the certification is active for another three years.

Records and Timing

- Complete renewal education after the certification issue date and before the current expiration date.
- Initial certification activities cannot also be counted toward renewal, and the same activity may not be counted twice.
- Unused hours do not carry forward. Keep continuing education records for at least four years after the cycle ends.
- Do not submit client-identifying information, protected health information, or confidential clinical records.

If Certification Is Not Renewed on Time

If CNIT has not approved renewal by the expiration date, the certification becomes inactive. During the lapse, the person may describe having earned the credential in the past but may not state or imply that it is currently active.

- A late renewal may be submitted within 90 days after expiration. The credential remains inactive until approved.
- After 90 days, CNIT may require reinstatement steps based on the length of the lapse.
- An extension may be requested before expiration for significant medical, caregiving, military, disaster, accessibility, or comparable circumstances.

Transition for Previously Certified Professionals

First Renewal Deadline for Existing Credential Holders

Anyone certified before January 1, 2027 will receive a first expiration date of December 31, 2029. Six qualifying continuing education hours must be completed between January 1, 2027 and December 31, 2029. After the first renewal, the regular three-year cycle applies.

Important Scope Statement

CNIT certification is a voluntary professional credential. It does not replace professional licensure, authorize psychotherapy or diagnosis, expand a person's legal scope of practice, or guarantee employment, reimbursement, or regulatory recognition.

Questions and Renewal Resources

For current forms, approved CNIT learning opportunities, renewal applications, and external course review, visit www.NatureInformedTherapy.org or contact training@NatureInformedTherapy.org.

CNIT may update these requirements with reasonable advance notice.