

Press Release

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RAPS Expands Date, Location Flexibility for RAC Exams

Rockville, MD— Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) announced today a dramatic increase in the locations and dates of examinations to obtain the RAC, Regulatory Affairs Certification, the credential designated for professionals working in health product regulatory affairs.

Regulatory professionals interested in sitting for any or all of the three distinct RAC examinations—US, EU and Canada—can now register to take the exam at one of several hundred locations worldwide on a wide range of dates during a two-month period, a significant increase in flexibility from previous examinations, said Meredith Ellison, RAC spokesperson.

“These are substantial improvements for regulatory affairs professionals, who previously had only one day to take the exam and who, at times, had to travel long distances to do so,” said Ellison.

The changes will begin with the fall 2006 examination period for which registration opens today. Individuals taking one of the RAC exams can take the test on any date between 1 October and 30 November 2006.

For the first time as well, the test will be administered electronically on test-center computers.

“The general content and multiple-choice format remain the same, but the ease with which professionals can test for the certification has vastly increased,” Ellison said.

The RAC, a voluntary certification denoting professional and technical abilities in health product regulatory affairs, was developed in 1990 by RAPS and is maintained by the Regulatory Affairs Certification Board (RACB). An RAC exam and certification testing for EU regulatory affairs was launched in 2001, and the Canadian version began in 2004.

Candidates who pass the RAC (US), (EU) or (CAN) Examinations may use the RAC designation after their names.

Research shows that an increasing number of regulatory affairs professionals are seeking the credentials and are earning more money after obtaining it.

Figures released in RAPS 2003-2004 Scope of Practice Survey show that more individuals at all professional levels have obtained the credential—for example, 33% at the specialist level compared with 20% at the same level in 2002—and that they are earning at least 5% more than colleagues without the designation.

“Clearly, for regulatory professionals, the RAC has become a critical component to commitment and growth in their field,” said RAPS Executive Director, Sherry L. Keramidas, PhD, CAE.

“The RAC is a professional recognition of one’s creditability and dedication to regulatory affairs as much as it is a measure of knowledge, and obtaining the designation increases a professional’s stature among colleagues and marketability as an employee,” Keramidas added.

Visit www.raps.org/rac for more information on the certification or to register online for an exam.

About RAPS

The Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) is the foremost worldwide member organization creating and upholding standards of ethics, credentialing and education for the regulatory affairs (RA) profession within the health product sector. Founded in 1976, RAPS represents more than 10,000 individuals worldwide, working in government, corporations, academia, research and nonprofit organizations.

RAPS is a nonprofit educational/scientific organization with headquarters in Rockville, MD, and members in 45 countries in Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America and the Pacific Rim. RAPS is located at 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 1000, Rockville, MD 20852; Phone: 301.770.2920; Web: www.raps.org

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