The Compliance Certification Board (CCB) number of actively certified individuals has increased 20% in the last two years. In June 2015, we were at 8,000 actively certified, and now we are excited to announce we have over 10,000 compliance professionals actively certified (6,000 CHC, CHPC, CHRC, and CHC-F certifications held, and 4,000 CCEP, CCEP-I, and CCEP-F). The CCB, established in 1999, has been dedicated to the continued growth and development of its seven professional compliance certifications starting with the Certified in Healthcare Compliance (CHC) back in 2000, all the way to its most recently addition, the Certified Compliance & Ethics Professional - International (CCEP-I), developed in 2012. According to Debbie Troklus, President of the CCB, “Our compliance certifications take a lot of work. Many hours each year are dedicated to assuring these certifications reflect what a compliance professional actually does and are up-to-date and defensible. I can remember when we first started the CHC certification; I never envisioned that we would grow this fast and actually offer seven different compliance certifications. This growth further demonstrates that Compliance is now its own profession. All I can say is, ‘Wow.’”

The success of these certifications can be seen in many places, in job requirements/preferences for compliance positions, salary surveys, and, most exciting, with those that are committed to maintaining or earning these certifications themselves. In recent years, a new phase of compliance growth is being seen; that is its movement into higher education. Troklus says, “We are experiencing an increase in universities offering compliance certificate and master’s programs. People are interested in how to become a compliance professional.” As the profession continues to grow so has the need for professional certifications that focus on the areas of corporate compliance, privacy, and research, as well as international compliance.

See what your peers have to say about growth in the profession and why they got certified:

“Compliance is an interesting and challenging profession because generally, whether as an employer or employee, someone is making a judgment call of what is the right thing to do. More companies are recognizing the importance of having a compliant and ethical work culture in order to stay in business for the long term and retain their workforce. I decided I wanted to be certified in order to lend more credibility to my compliance role and it had been a desire of mine for several years.”

Nicole Y. Corn, CCEP

“I previously worked in a government consulting capacity where I was trying to build our company’s compliance capabilities when it was not our company specialty. I took an accredited graduate certificate program at the George Washington University to learn more about compliance and compliance programs, and the CHC certification was an easy step after that. The regulatory environment can be tough to navigate, and government audits as well as patient/employee complaints represent big areas of risk for organizations that frequently operate on thin margins. Even just one large disclosure or settlement can make all the difference for healthcare providers, so organizations want to invest in qualified personnel looking for red flags and working to prevent them from happening in the first place.”

Nolen Morton, JD, CHC
What is the difference between a “certification” and a “certificate”? This is one of the most common areas of confusion for people looking for a way to demonstrate to their current or future employers their knowledge and/or expertise in a particular area or field. The answer: To be defined as a certification, the certification must include an experience component and educational component, as well as require an exam. It also allows a practitioner to put letters after his or her name, also known as designations. In addition, certification requires recertification, which ensures that practitioners stay current in their field through continuing education.

A certificate program typically indicates attendance or completion of a course or series of courses with a specific focus. They are open to newcomers and experienced professionals alike, but do not allow a practitioner the ability to place designations after their name when finished.

The Compliance Certification Board’s (CCB)* seven credentials fall under the definition of being “certifications.” In line with this, the CCB does not require education from any specific entity in order to attain or maintain a CCB certification. The compliance education required for attaining or maintaining a CCB certification can come from any organization as long as it is compliance related and submitted to CCB for review.

The CCB has worked very hard to maintain its seven professional certifications. Learn why it can be valuable to maintain a certification on page 4 of the CCB Review. Want to hear what your peers have to say about CCB Certifications? Check out Page 1.

Reminders for the Actively Certified

All 40 CCB CEUs earned for renewal of a CCB certification must have been earned within the 24-month renewal period. A certification holder’s renewal period is two years from the month the individual originally passes their CCB exam. Also, CEUs earned within a certification period stay in that certification period, even when in excess of the 40 required to renew CCB’s five basic certifications (CHC, CHRC, CHPC, CCEP, CCEP-I). For a “How to” on submitting CEUs from pre-approved outside events or trainings that fall within your certification renewal periods, see Page 3.

Certification Fun Facts

- Verification of your certification will soon be able to be done right online. CCB is in the process of making this a quicker, faster process for you and for your current or future employer.

- Keep an eye out in the coming months for the unveiling of CCB’s new logo.

- If you compare the period of April to June 2016 with April to June 2017, CCB saw a 16% increase in first-time test takers opting to sit for the computer-based exam format rather than paper and pencil.
How to: Submit CEUs earned from pre-approved events (non HCCA/SCCE events)

The screenshots below show SCCE’s website. HCCA’s website will function in the same way.

1. Login to your SCCE or HCCA free password-protected online account.

Any individual who has previously participated in an SCCE or HCCA activity has a free password-protected account already set up at www.corporatecompliance.org or www.hcca-info.org.

2. Click on “Add CEU’s to My Account”

You will automatically be shown the “My Account” section once you have logged in. This section is specific to you, giving you access to information such as certifications you hold, events you have registered for, and other transactions.

3. Click on the “Pre-Approved Events (non SCCE Events)” or “Pre-Approved Events (non HCCA Events)” option at the bottom.

If you are not sure whether the outside event you attended is pre-approved for CCB CEUs, please contact the event sponsor directly to verify.

4. First select the format of the program, “Live vs. Non-live;” “Event Title and Date;” then the “Total Number of CEUs earned” as listed on the certificate; and finally the “Program Code” as found on the that same certificate.

Once you have entered the information from your certificate and hit submit, your CEUs will be automatically added to your account. You do not need to send the certificate to CCB. If you cannot find your event or receive an error message, please contact ccb@compliancecertification.org.
Look inside for:

- CCB hits new milestone, over 10,000 actively certified!
- Certification vs. Certificate?
- How to submit a pre-approved outside event to CCB

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the purpose of maintaining a certification?

A: Maintenance of a certification, regardless of what the certification is for, is meant to demonstrate continual commitment to retaining and gaining experience and education in a particular field. Having a certification to demonstrate a specific skillset can be seen as valuable in one’s current position or when in the job market.

Curious whether or not maintaining your certification is helping you? Check out required/preferred certifications for compliance related jobs on websites like SimplyHired.com; Indeed.com or Zip Recruiter. You can also check out the Job Board on SCCE or HCCA’s website under “Career Center”.

Hear from your peers:

CCB hits 10,000 actively certified and sees a new emergence into higher education.

Hear what your peers think about these big moves in the Compliance field:

I went to law school and found that the training and focus there was really only on practicing law rather than on regulatory compliance, which was my real interest. Until I found the graduate certificate program, I had to do all my learning piecemeal and on the job. I think it’s great that the increase in career opportunities in compliance has helped create these specialized programs for students with goals that might not fit in with a traditional JD, MPH, or other program.

*Hear more about these exciting changes and milestones on Page 1, of the CCB Review.