



The Certification Chronicle

January - April 2015

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From the IBC Executive Director

As most of you know by now, this past July IBC made changes to the certification and recertification process, namely:

- Applications are available on the IBC website FREE - they can be completed online and mailed back to the IBC office.
- There is no longer a separate application, test and certification fee as these fees are now rolled into one fee and due with the completed application. **See the article below.**
- Recertification applications may also be completed online and emailed back **without copies of certificates of completion**. IBC has implemented an **audit system** for recertifications, so be sure to keep your certificates in case you are audited. **More information can be found below.**

Be sure you read the article below about the CADC and IADC exam being updated effective 2/16/15 to new Domains.

And check out 3 upcoming IBC sponsored trainings in the eastern half of the state. We're working on more IBC trainings, so watch our website.

Upcoming IBC Sponsored Trainings

Ethics for Helping Professionals

February 25, 2015 - 1:15-4:30 p.m.

Family Resources, 2800 Eastern Ave., Davenport

IBC approved for **3.0 hours in Ethics**

Presenter: Angela Davis MEd CCDP CADC TTS

Cost: \$30.00

Drugs and the Brain

March 25, 2015 - Noon-4:15 p.m.

St. Luke's Chemical Dependency, 1030 Fifth Ave. SE, Ste. 110 - Cedar Rapids
IBC approved for **4.0 hours in Alcohol & Drug Specific**

Presenter: Angela Davis, MEd, CCDP, CADC, TTS

Cost: \$40.00

Color, Class and Culture - What Does it Mean to Me?

May 13, 2015 - 1:00-4:15 p.m. Four Oaks, 1916 Waterfront Dr., Iowa City

IBC approved for **3.0 hours in Racial/Ethnic**

Presenter: Angela Davis, MEd, CCDP, CADC, TTS

Cost: \$30.00

To register, go to the IBC home page at www.iowabc.org, and click on the registration form. Space is limited for all trainings and registration forms will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis. An emailed confirmation will be sent upon receipt of registration form and payment.

New Domains and Exam for CADC/IADC Coming in February

IC&RC has reworked the 8 Domains for a substance abuse counselor and incorporated them into 4 Domains, with updated tasks associated with each Domain. These Domain and task changes will be reflected in the Handbook and application forms by the middle of February.

The updated Job Task Analysis (JTA) can be found on the IBC website by February 1, and the updated Domains/Tasks can be reviewed in that document. A JTA is the methodical process of determining what elements of practice and knowledge are important to assess as part of a certification exam and serves as the blueprint for the exam. It is the process that directly links an exam score to a specific job and ensures that an exam is valid, reliable and legally defensible. To stay relevant to current trends and practices, a JTA must be updated every 5-7 years.

Exams being taken by CADC's and IADC's will begin reflecting these changes on February 16, 2015.

The larger study guides that we sell (\$185.00) are now updated to the Domain changes and new exam, and are available in the IBC office for purchase. Our smaller guides (\$65.00) are nearly done with updates and will soon be available for purchase in the IBC office.

IBC Applying for New Reciprocal Credential through IC&RC

In January 2013, IBC launched the Mental Health Peer Support Specialist (MHPSS) credential; currently, there are 55 certified MHPSS's in Iowa.

Due to a push from SAMHSA for more peer support services and interest by other states, IC&RC developed a reciprocal level credential for those performing peer support duties - both in the mental health setting and in the substance abuse setting. To date, 14 states (AR, CT, GA, ID, IL, IN, LA, MD, MI, NJ, OR, RI, TX, WV) and Canada are carrying this credential.

IBC's board made the decision last Fall to apply to carry this **Peer Recovery Specialist** (PRS) credential, and we are in the process of doing so at this time.

When we developed the MHPSS credential, we fashioned it very closely after what IC&RC's reciprocal credential would look like to make it easier to transition to that credential once we carried it.

Iowa's reciprocal Peer Recovery Specialist (PRS) credential will be presented for approval at the April IC&RC meeting....be watching shortly thereafter for an announcement on our website's home page, and an email via Constant Contact, for an announcement on when the application process will start and when the grandfathering period will take place.

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Changes to the Certification Application Process

Applications for all of IBC's credentials are now available on the IBC website free of charge and they may be completed online. When an applicant is ready to apply, he/she will simply go to IBC's website, open the application for the credential they're interested in, complete it online, save it to their hard drive, print it and mail the entire application to the IBC office with the applicable fee - detailed instructions are included with each application.

The application/review fee, test fee and 2-year certification fee have been rolled into one non-refundable fee, and needs to be received in the IBC office before the application will be reviewed. Applicants still have one year to complete their application **starting from the date it's received at IBC**; if the application is not complete within this one-year time frame, all fees are forfeited. If the applicant does not pass the exam the first time, the test fee will be required for subsequent exams.

This new process has eliminated the need for applicants to request and wait for an application, and allows the applicant to work on the application at their own speed. If an applicant loses a portion of the application, forms are readily available on our website. Payment of one fee eliminates the need for IBC staff to remind applicants of fees that are due and speeds the certification process along. Completing the application online is quicker and neater, and allows the applicant to have a permanent copy of his/her application.

Changes to the Recertification Process

IBC certified professionals are now able to complete their recertification online, save it to their hard drive and email it (or print and mail it) to the IBC office *without certificates of completion!* The IBC office has implemented an audit system for recertification applications so **be sure to keep your certificates of completion in case you are audited.** **We do check every recertification to be sure that appropriate fees are being paid.** As soon as the recertification is complete, the new certificate is mailed out.

We are excited about this change and have found it simplifies and speeds the recertification process for IBC's professionals; it also saves time and money by emailing, rather than mailing, the application.

Note: updates will be sent to our web designer and to IC&RC (for those holding a reciprocal credential) the first of each month, so there may be some lag time between a completed recertification and when it is reflected on the IBC website.

Ethics Sanctions

During the past several months, the following certified people have had a substantiated ethics violation with sanctions placed upon his/her credential by an IBC hearing panel:

Danielle Philips Berregaard (IADC/CCDP) - Sanctions

Clem Crazy Thunder (IADC) - Sanctions

Tiffany Harris (CPS) - Sanctions

New....Practice Exams

Practice exams are now available for those preparing to become certified as a CADC, IADC or CCS. Practice exams were developed in conjunction with IC&RC's testing company to mimic the exact look and feel of IC&RC's Computer Based Testing (CBT) platform. Each practice exam has 50 questions which candidates have 60 minutes to complete. After completing the practice exam, candidates will receive a score report identifying their areas of strength and weakness. The cost of the exam is \$49.00 and is paid directly to IC&RC online.

For more information, go to www.internationalcredentialing.org; click on "Are You a Professional," then click the "Exam" tab and "Prep."

The next practice exam coming will be for CPS candidates.



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Changes to IBC Forms

Along with the ability to complete applications and recertifications online, we're excited to announce that all our other forms may now be completed online, then emailed, faxed or mailed to the IBC office. **This includes the Study Guide request form, Request for CEU Approval forms, Committee and Board Member applications, and the Ethics Violation Allegation Worksheet.** We think you'll enjoy the convenience, speed and savings of emailing rather than mailing these forms to us.

Two Ways to Pay Fees

Did you know that you can pay quickly and easily with Dwolla? And it's free! You are welcome to pay any of your fees with Dwolla, and you can find

the button to pay right on our home page. Once you pay, we'll be notified that you've made a payment....then we'll be notified about 5 days later once the funds have cleared your account, and your transaction will be complete at that time.

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Who and What Is IC&RC?

The Iowa Board of Certification is a proud member of IC&RC (the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium). You may know about IBC's membership with IC&RC, but do you know what this means for Iowa's certified professionals? Through our annual dues to IC&RC, IBC is able to provide testing and reciprocity with other members of IC&RC; our membership also allows us to collaborate with other states/countries/jurisdictions on best practices.

IBC's Executive Director, Debbie Gilbert, was elected two years ago to serve as Administrator's Representative for IC&RC, which also allows her to serve on IC&RC's Executive Committee. The Administrator's Rep serves as a liaison between other state's/country's executive directors and IC&RC's Executive Committee. Prior to this position, Debbie held the position of Marketing Chairperson for 7 years which also allowed her to serve on IC&RC's Executive Committee. In this way, she has had a unique role in advocating for Iowa's certified professionals. As Administrator's Rep, Debbie chairs monthly conference call meetings with other board administrators, and attends two IC&RC meetings each year, many times along with IBC's Board President.

IC&RC is the global leader in the credentialing of prevention, addiction treatment and recovery professionals. Organized in 1981, IC&RC provides

standards and examinations to certification and licensing boards in 25 countries, 47 states and territories, 5 Native American regions and all branches of the U.S. military.

Quality and integrity are the foundation of IC&RC's work. IC&RC's credentials use the latest research on evidence-based practices, and they are updated every 5 years and subjected to an extensive process of peer review. IC&RC examinations are based on formal Job Analyses, written by subject matter experts, and supported by current references. Member boards are audited regularly to ensure compliance with international standards.

With more than 45,000 professionals in prevention, alcohol and drug counseling, clinical supervision, criminal justice addictions, and co-occurring disorders, IC&RC represents up to half of all substance abuse professionals in the U.S.

You can learn more about IC&RC at their website at www.internationalcredentialing.org.

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|---|--|----------|------|
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| | Dual Diagnosis: Mood Disorders | 15 hours | \$95 |
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| | Dual Diagnosis: Personality Disorders | 15 hours | \$95 |
| | Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse | 15 hours | \$95 |
| | Three Theories of Counseling: Psychoanalytic, Cognitive & Reality Approaches | 15 hours | \$95 |
| | Older Adults and Substance Abuse | 15 hours | \$95 |
| | Brief Family Therapy for Adolescents | 15 hours | \$95 |
| | Working with Gambling Problems | 15 hours | \$95 |
| | Case Management Issues | 10 hours | \$75 |
| | Mental Status Assessment in Addiction Settings | 8 hours | \$65 |
| | Health Issues for Addiction Setting Employees | 8 hours | \$65 |
| | Understanding Withdrawal & Detoxification | 8 hours | \$65 |
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| Adolescent Treatment Issues | 8 hours | \$65 | |
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| Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment of Cocaine Addiction | 6 hours | \$50 | |
| The Methadone Controversy | 4 hours | \$30 | |
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Certification & Ethics Information for your Agency

IBC's Executive Director, Debbie Gilbert, is available to speak to employees at your agency regarding any of IBC's credentials and to assist them in the certification process. It's even possible for contact hour credit to be awarded to attendees, which in turn can be used for certification/recertification applications.

If you would like to have Debbie come to your agency, please call the IBC office at 515-965-5509 or email her at info@iowabc.org.

Need Education Hours?

Did you know that IBC has an area on the web site entitled "**Online Ed**" where you can go to find online/distance learning organizations to help you obtain hours for certification or recertification?

Remember that new applicants may have up to 50% of their education hours in distance/online education to qualify for certification; current certified professionals are allowed up to 20 hours of distance/online education for recertification.

IBC appreciates our advertisers - both in the Online Ed site and in our newsletters - and we encourage you to utilize their services when it comes to finding qualify online education.

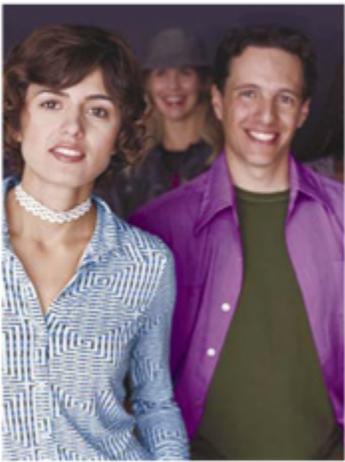
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Sioux City, IA 51101

Or submit online application at
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Has your work or home address or phone number changed? Did you take a new job? Do you have a new email address? Did your name change? Please don't forget to contact the IBC office to let us know your new information for our files and database!

The Importance of the CCJP Credential

Addiction counseling for individuals in the criminal justice system is complex and it requires an understanding of the criminal justice system and criminal thought processes, as well as training in the best practices of addictions counseling.

Becoming credentialed as a CCJP demonstrates competence through professional expertise and qualifications verified by an independent evaluator. It recognized achievement of a standard of professional education and experience necessary to provide quality addiction recovery treatment services.

Researchers stress the importance of fidelity of treatment models by competent counselors who are trained and certified:

- Counselors want to spend their valuable time on interventions that work and discontinue practices that are ineffective

- "A growing body of research notes the importance of treatment process or the organization of service delivery on drug court offenders' compliance, retention, or outcomes." (Taxman, 1999)
- Programs that reduce recidivism utilize counselors who are well trained and supervised. (Gendreau, et al, 1995)

Credentialing provides a much-needed standardization to the burgeoning profession of criminal justice addictions treatment. IC&RC adopted the professional practice standards for Certified Criminal Justice Addictions (CCJP) in 2002. The CCJP meets the highest standards for credentialing by:

- Measuring competency with a psychometrically validated exam
- Upholding adherence to a Code of Ethics specific to criminal justice
- Requiring ongoing education and training to maintain the credential.

The CCJP is recognized as the gold standard in the field and has been endorsed by the International Community Corrections Association (ICCA). This credential is also reciprocal with 28 states in the U.S.

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Please be sure to utilize our advertisers as much as possible when you are looking for trainings and continuing education hours. You'll find their information both in our newsletters and on the "Online Ed" tab of our website.

Debbie Gilbert, Executive Director
Iowa Board of Certification

Phone: 515-965-5509
Fax: 515-965-5540
Email: info@iowabc.org
Web: www.iowabc.org