

The Certified Prevention Specialist Credential: How we got here and where we are going

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Certified Prevention Specialist

- Prevention Specialist requirements
- Examination and Role Delineation Study
- Performance Domains
 - Job tasks
 - Knowledge
 - Skills
- Prevention Specialist Scope of Practice
- Exam Study Resources



Texas Requirements



- **Certified Prevention Specialist** - a reciprocal credential for those professionals active in prevention. Requirements include, but are not limited to:
 - A. One hundred hours of prevention education. Fifty hours must be coursework that is Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug specific, and six hours must be Ethics education specific to prevention.
 - B. One hundred twenty hour practicum in the Prevention domains (see application for domains)
 - C. Successful score on the ICRC Prevention Examination
 - E. 2,000 hours (approximately one year) of prevention work experience

This credential has reciprocity with other ICRC member boards.

CPS Intern



- A. One hundred hours of prevention education. Fifty hours must be coursework that is Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug specific, and six hours must be Ethics education specific to prevention.
- B. One hundred twenty hour practicum in the Prevention domains (see application for domains)

This credential is NOT an IC&RC reciprocal credential.

Advanced CPS



- A. **Formal Training:** Applicants must provide documentation of two hundred (200) prevention education hours. Fifty (50) hours must be titled as specific Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) training. Six (6) of these hours must be Ethics education specific to Prevention.

Advanced CPS



- B. **Education and Experience:** Applicants must provide documentation of either:
- Associates Degree plus 10,000 hours (approximately five years) of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) prevention work experience. Forms are included in the application package on which the work experience and education verification should be documented. ***Please send official transcripts to verify degree.***
- OR
- Bachelor's Degree plus 4,000 hours (approximately two years) of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) prevention work experience. Forms are included in the application package on which the work experience and education verification should be documented. ***Please send official transcripts to verify degree.***

The CPS Exam



- How we got here:
 - Pass Rates
 - Old Exam
 - New Exam
 - Contributing factors
 - Exam development
 - New exam
- Where we are going:
 - Continue fine tuning

Role Delineation Study



- How did we get here?
 - 1993, 1999, and 2006 RDS
 - 5 domains
 - Tasks and knowledge under each
 - Exam blueprint
- Where are we going?
 - RDS is updated as needed, at least every 5 – 7 years

Planning and Evaluation



- Selected tasks
 - Use needs assessment strategies to gather relevant data for ATOD prevention planning. (4)
 - Identify gaps and prioritize needs based on the assessment of community conditions. (4)
 - Select prevention strategies, programs, and best practices to meet the identified needs of the community. (5)
 - Develop an ATOD prevention plan based on research and theory that addresses community needs and desired outcomes. (5)

Education and Skill Development



- Develop ATOD prevention education and skill development activities based on target audience analysis. (5)
- Connect prevention theory and practice to implement effective prevention education and skill development activities. (4)
- Provide technical assistance to community members and organizations regarding ATOD prevention strategies and best practices. (5)

Community Organization



- Identify key community leaders to ensure diverse representation in ATOD prevention programming activities. (4)
- Develop capacity within the community by recruiting, training, and mentoring ATOD prevention-focused volunteers. (4)
- Assist in creating and sustaining community-based coalitions. (5)

Public Policy and Environmental Change



- Make recommendations to policy makers/stakeholders that will positively influence the community's public policies and norms. (4)
- Participate in public policy development and enforcement initiatives to affect environmental change. (4)
- Use media strategies to enhance prevention efforts in the community. (4)

Professional Growth and Responsibility



- Maintain personal knowledge, skills, and abilities related to current ATOD prevention theory and practice. (5)
- Adhere to all legal, professional, and ethical standards. (6)
- Network with others to develop personal and professional relationships. (5)
- Demonstrate self-care consistent with ATOD prevention messages. (5)

Testing, Testing, ... 1, 2, 3



- Testing Dates for 2008:
 - September 12 & 13
 - December 12 & 13
- Testing Dates for 2009:
 - March 13 & 14
 - June 12 & 13
 - September 11 & 12
 - December 11 & 12

Important Resources



- Testing application form
 - CPS Application
 - CPS Intern Application
 - CPS Renewal Application
- ...may be found at www.tcbap.org

Value of Certification



- Anyone holding themselves out to be a professional should be able to demonstrate that they have met the accepted criteria, to practice in that field. The prevention field should not be an exception.
- The value of any certification process is in the standardization of the process.

Competency



- We cannot assume that someone has competency. It must be measured and monitored.
- Other professions measure and monitor: medicine, psychology, social work & law. So should we.

Importance of Certification



- Prevention certification is the hallmark of the prevention profession.
- Holding certification provides individuals working in the prevention field to qualify for and receive recognition for achieving a standard of professional education and experience necessary to provide quality prevention services.

Benefits of Certification



- National and International recognition as a professional
- Reciprocity: If you move to another state and you are certified through an IC&RC Board, your certification moves with you.
- Certification verifies your expertise and qualifications. It provides your employer with an accurate and reliable standard for measuring expertise based on the knowledge and skills needed to obtain certification.

International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium



International Certification & Reciprocity
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