



Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist Application

The ICPS certification is designed for those who have been working in the field of prevention for at least 2 years, have completed additional training related to the field and can demonstrate knowledge and skills based on the six Prevention Performance Domains and core functions in a computer-based exam. Candidates without a Bachelor's degree must have additional paid work experience. This certification is eligible for reciprocity with other IC&RC affiliated state boards. You must recertify every two years.

Qualifications: Candidates for ICPS certification must:

- Live or work in Georgia at least 51% of the time;
- Have at least a Bachelor's degree and 2 years (4,000 hours) of verified work experience in planning or delivering prevention services; candidates without a college degree must have a high school diploma or equivalent (i.e., GED) and 4 years (8,000 hours) of verified paid work experience within the past six years;
- Have at least 150 contact hours of prevention-specific training with the following requirements:
 - 30 hours for the four mandatory PCCG core courses taken within 2 years of the application;
 - 24 hours specifically related to substance abuse prevention topics;
 - 10 hours of training aligned to each of the six Prevention Performance Domains (total of 60 hours);
- Have 2 letters of recommendation documenting character, professionalism and competency of applicant;
- Have 120 hours of supervised practical experiences related to the six Prevention Performance Domains; OR compilation of a prevention portfolio demonstrating work within the six Domains;
- Complete the ICPS application and pay the application fee;
- Demonstrate knowledge and skills by passing the computer-based IC&RC Prevention Specialist exam.

Steps to the Internationally Certified Prevention Specialist Credential:

1. Visit the PCCG website, www.pccga.org, and download the Application Manual and ICPS Application or request them by email, pccginfo@gmail.com.
2. Take the 4 mandatory core courses (unless you took them to get the PA or CP certification and are upgrading)
 - Fundamentals of Prevention* (12 hours)
 - Cultural Competency* (6 hours)
 - Communications for the Prevention Professional (6 hours)
 - Prevention Ethics** (6 hours)
3. Arrange for your college transcript to be sent to PCCG, if applicable.
4. Complete 120 hours of practical work experience related to the six Prevention Performance Domains under the supervision of an ICPS-credentialed mentor or supervisor with verification.
5. Document 120 additional hours of continuing education that were taken within 5 years of the application. These may include relevant online training and college or graduate school courses.
6. Get work verification forms completed and signed by current or former supervisors.
7. Request 2 letters of recommendation from current or former supervisors to be sent to PCCG.
8. Complete the ICPS Application, attach certificates of attendance for all continuing education and core courses and make a check or money order payable to PCCG for the application fee. You may request to make credit card payment through the PCCG PayPal account.
9. Send your application packet and payment to:
PCCG Credentialing Committee, P.O. Box 1922, Lawrenceville, GA 30046
10. Once your application is complete, PCCG will pre-register you to take the IC&RC Prevention Specialist exam. You must complete the registration, take the exam within one year and pass it to complete the credentialing process. An exam study guide is available at www.internationalcredentialing.org.

*The Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST) may be used in lieu of the Fundamentals and Cultural Competence core courses if it was taken within 2 years of the application.

The 6-hour moderated online course **Ethics in Prevention offered by Prevention Solutions (preventionsolutions@edc.org) may be used in lieu of the ethics core course if it was taken within 2 years of application.