



Convention Industry Council and the CMP

Special thanks to CIC for their contribution

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The Convention Industry Council's 31 member organizations represent over 103,500 individuals and 19,500 firms and properties involved in the meetings, conventions, and exhibitions industry. The mission of the Convention Industry Council is to provide a forum for member organizations to exchange information on global trends and topics, promulgate excellence in best practices and guidelines, collaborate on industry issues and advocate the value of the meetings, conventions, exhibitions and events industry.

Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) Program: Setting the Standard of Excellence

The foremost certification of the meetings, conventions and exhibitions industry, the CMP program recognizes individuals who have achieved the industry's highest standard of professionalism. Established in 1985, the CMP credential increases the proficiency of meeting professionals by:

- Identifying a body of knowledge;
- Establishing a level of knowledge and performance necessary for certification;
- Stimulating the advancement of the art and science of meeting management;

- Increasing the value of practitioners to their employers;
- Recognizing and raising industry standards, practices and ethics;
- Maximizing the value received from the products and services provided by Certified Meeting Professionals.

Through the CMP program, individuals who are employed in meeting management pursue continuing education, increase their industry involvement, and gain industry-wide recognition. The requirements for certification are based on professional experience and a written examination. Over 14,000 individuals in 36 countries and territories have earned the CMP designation since its inception.

The CMP Board of Directors includes one representative from each CIC organization. The CMP Board represents the profession's diversity and serves as a voice for stakeholders who have an interest in maintaining a high industry standards.

The Convention Industry Council (CIC) launched the Certified Meeting Professional® (CMP®) program in 1985 to enhance the knowledge and performance of meeting professionals, promote the status and credibility of the meeting profession and advance uniform standards of practice.

Today, the CMP credential enjoys worldwide recognition as the badge of excellence in the meeting, convention and exhibition industry. The requirements for certification are based on professional experience and a rigorous examination. Since its inception, more than 14,000 meetings industry professionals in 35 countries have earned this prestigious designation. This unique community represents every sector of the industry.



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The Certified Meeting Professional

THE RECOGNIZED GLOBAL DESIGNATION





Thinking of joining this elite group of professionals? Listed are some of the benefits of obtaining this global certification.

Provides Continuing Opportunities for Education

Certification demonstrates that the certified meeting professional has evolved through self-study and industry-promoted education, which when combined with the individual's experience and practical knowledge, has led to their ability to obtain certification. CMP certification holders:

- are recognized by peers for their professionalism and expertise;
- are able to contribute to the development of industry best practices;
- act as role models to junior meeting professionals;
- participate in ensuring industry standards.

Elevates Your Professional Stature

The achievement of this credential immediately elevates the meeting professional to the next level in their professional career and increases positive recognition. The CMP certification:

- is based on qualifications and experience that are accepted by the industry and recognized as a standard;

- distinguishes its designee as a career professional who has demonstrated the highest level of experience, skill, and knowledge;
- is recognized by peers, by non-meetings professionals within their organizations, and by third parties as a forward-reaching career goal.

Offers a Competitive Edge in Business Negotiations

The certification communicates to business partners that they are dealing with an experienced meeting professional who is recognized in his/her field as an expert and a skilled specialist. The CMP certification:

- elevates the meeting professional to the status of accomplished professional whose opinion is highly regarded by the meetings industry as a whole;
- contributes to the justification of higher earnings for the meeting professional;
- is recognized and respected globally from peer-to-peer.

Qualification Requirements

To qualify to take the CMP Examination, a Candidate must demonstrate a minimum number of years of employment in the meeting management field as well as acquiring continuing education hours on the CMP application. The successful applicant will have proven responsibility and accountability for the successful completion of meetings.

The CMP Examination

Once approved as a candidate, an applicant may take the CMP Examination. The exam is given twice a year, in the 1st and 3rd quarters, in locations around the world. For dates and locations, visit the CIC website at www.conventionindustry.org.

Examination Preparation

A successful Candidate must prepare for the examination. It is recommended that you do the following:

1. Download the Candidate Handbook for more information as well as the "blueprint" of study domains.
2. Purchase the recommended study materials: the *Convention Industry Council Manual*, the *CIC International Manual*, and *Professional Meeting Management*.
3. Study for the examination. There are online courses as well as local study groups which can assist in studying for the exam.

Information on all of these resources can be found on the CIC website.