



BCPE FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions about getting certified:

1. What's the difference between the designations CPE, CHFP, and CUXP?

You choose the designation that best markets you. The application and exam are the same for all.

2. What is the difference between a Certificate and a Certification?

A **certificate** program assesses whether a student has learned specific objectives provided in an educational or training program.

A **certification** program tests the knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform a job. Becoming certified is evidence of a minimum level of professional competence.

3. Is certification right for me?

You should consider getting certified by BCPE for the following reasons:

1. Increase your **credibility**.
2. Increase the number of **potential opportunities**.
3. Higher **potential** base salary.
4. Distinguish yourself as a **leader** in the field.
5. Personal **satisfaction**.

4. What topics are on the exam?

All exam questions are based upon the [Core Competencies](#).

5. What coursework will I need to show?

Academic coursework is required across specific categories, amounting to a minimum of 24 total semester credit hours. Refer to the [Educational Coursework Requirements](#) for more detail.

6. I need help navigating the certification process (determining eligibility, completing the application, studying for the exam, etc.). Is there someone who can help me?

BCPE has a complimentary mentor program. Learn more [here](#).

7. What books would be good to read for background information? Is there a study guide for the exam?

[Sample exam questions and answers](#) are available, as is a list of [recommended references](#).

8. Where can I take the exam?

The examination has two delivery modes: 1) ONLINE proctored or 2) ONSITE proctored. You will choose which option you prefer as part of the registration process.

9. How long is the exam?

The exam consists of 125 multiple-choice questions and takes approximately 3 hours to complete.

10. What will it cost to get certified?

See the [Certification Fees](#) page.

11. What percentage of people pass the exam on the first try? What score do you need to pass the exam?

The passing score is 350 Scaled Score 200-500. Exam statistics for each Fall and Spring offering are available in each newsletter. Past newsletters can be found on the [Documents](#) page.

Frequently Asked Questions from BCPE certificants:

1. What activities qualify for Continuance of Certification (COC) "credit"?

Accumulate COC points in five areas:

- i. Working as a certified ergonomist.
- ii. Receiving or providing ergonomics-related training.
- iii. Ergonomics-related services to societies, committees, or standards development activities.
- iv. Publishing ergonomics-related articles, papers, or internal/external company reports.
- v. Attendance or participation at an ergonomics-related professional conference/meeting.

2. How can I get involved in helping BCPE and my fellow certificants?

Contact Kris Rightmire (bcpehq@bcpe.org) or connect via LinkedIn.

3. How can I find a job where my certification will be useful?

Visit BCPE's Job Bank [page](#).

4. How can I change my designation?

Contact Kris (bcpehq@bcpe.org) and payment of an administrative [fee](#).

5. I would like to retire my certification (CPE, CHFP, CUXP or CEA), what do I need to do?

Contact Kris (bcpehq@bcpe.org) and payment of a one-time retired status [fee](#).

Established as a non-profit in 1990, BCPE is the largest Human Factors/Ergonomics professional certification body, internationally renowned and endorsed by the International Ergonomics Association.

Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics

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