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GPCI GRANT PROFESSIONALS CERTIFICATION INSTITUTE ®
Providing a Standard of Excellence for the Grant Profession

FIND OUT MORE

GPCI Competencies and Skills tested:

www.grantcredential.org/the-exam/competencies-tested

Specific requirements for eligibility, including the five-minute Eligibility Quiz and Eligibility Packet Templates:

www.grantcredential.org/the-exam/eligibility

Information on the exam and on the current registration fees:

www.grantcredential.org/the-exam/exam-fees

Information on the Certification Maintenance Program (CMP):

www.grantcredential.org/certification-maintenance

ABOUT GPCI

Mission

The Grant Professionals Certification Institute (GPCI)® provides a standard of excellence for the grant profession. GPCI measures and promotes competency and ethical practices within the field of grantsmanship.

GPCI accomplishes its mission through the identification of grant professionals who display outstanding expertise and ethical practices as measured by a psychometrically valid and reliable assessment tool.

Vision

GPCI envisions excellence and accountability in grantsmanship. It seeks to support a philanthropic community assured of grant professionals who can successfully guide and shape the outcomes of their funding endeavors.

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ABOUT THE GPC CREDENTIAL

The GPC credential is based on rigorous standards and ongoing research related to the real-world demands of grant professionals.

GPC-credentialed grant professionals demonstrate excellence in the grants profession and, on average, report higher earnings than those without the credential.

ACCREDITED
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

NCCA BY ICE

The Grant Professionals Certification Institute and the GPC credential are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

WHY CERTIFY?

A professional certification or credential represents an objective measure of the level of experience and expertise in the profession as defined by the profession as a whole.

For fields such as the grants profession where there is no recognized academic degree, certification is the only authoritative, independent measure available by which to determine a person's experience, skills, and knowledge as defined by our peers.

To understand the difference between a professional certification and educational or assessment-based certificates, please see:

www.grantcredential.org/why-certify/certification-vs-certificate-of-completion/

OVERVIEW

The GPC Exam is designed as a test for a "generalist," who is defined as a person experienced and competent in the fundamentals of grantsmanship. Generalists may (and often do) possess proficiency at the mastery or distinguished level.

The GPC credential demonstrates mastery and is considered appropriate for those with a minimum of 3-5 years of grant experience and a demonstrated record of grant success.

To qualify for admission as a Grant Professional Certified (GPC)©, candidates must:

- **Meet the minimum eligibility requirements**
- **Complete the application process**
- **Pass a two-part examination developed through rigorous national standards for professional credentialing**

COMPETENCIES & SKILLS

The Grant Professional Certified (GPC) examination measures a candidate's competency and skill in the grants profession. The Competencies and Skills and the weight each should receive on the test are determined through rigorous processes that involve numerous professionals nationwide, assisted by credentialing experts. To learn more about the GPCI Competencies and Skills and to see the full list, select the Exam Eligibility tab on our website.

THE EXAM

The GPC Exam consists of two mandatory pass/fail components: a writing exercise and a multiple-choice section. Candidates have the option to take the GPC exam either in person at an approved testing location or remotely. For additional details regarding available testing locations and registration procedures, please visit **www.grantcredential.org** and select "How to Register."

PATH TO THE GPC: ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

PATHWAY 1: Associate Degree or No Formal Degree	PATHWAY 2: Bachelor's Degree or Higher Degree
EDUCATION	
20 Points • High school diploma or equivalent from US or foreign equivalent • Associate degree or equivalent from US or foreign equivalent in any major, from an accredited college or university • Successfully completed a technical training course of study • Honorably completed military training (other than Basic Recruit Training) Include a copy of degree(s) or transcript(s) indicating a degree was conferred (if applicable)	**40 Points** • Minimum of a bachelor's degree or foreign equivalent in any major from an accredited college or university Include a copy of degree(s) or transcript(s) indicating a degree was conferred
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	
50 Points • Resume showing current/past employment, education, professional honors awarded, and other information appropriate to the field and your experience – must demonstrate a minimum of five (5) years of experience in the grants field within the past seven (7) years • Completed "Documentation of Grants Experience," including a list of successful proposals within the last seven (7) years (minimum of five (5) grants; this need not be all inclusive) • Three signed and dated letters from credible sources verifying your experience in the field of grants (letterhead or other verification required)	**70 Points** • Resume showing current/past employment, education, professional honors awarded, and other information appropriate to the field and your experience – must demonstrate a minimum of three (3) years of experience in the grants field within the past five (5) years • Completed "Documentation of Grants Experience," including a list of successful proposals within the last seven (7) years (minimum of five (5) grants; this need not be all inclusive) • Three signed and dated letters from credible sources verifying your experience in the field of grants (letterhead or other verification required)
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE / CONTINUING EDUCATION	
50 Points • List of up to 50 clock hours of grant-related professional practice activities or continuing education within the past two (2) years	**40 Points** • List of up to 40 clock hours of grant-related professional practice activities or continuing education within the past two (2) years
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
50 Points • List of up to 50 hours of community-based volunteer services within the past three (3) years	**20 Points** • List of up to 20 hours of community-based volunteer services within the past three (3) years

CANDIDATES MUST ACHIEVE 120 POINTS OUT OF 170 POINTS POSSIBLE

ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION

To be eligible to take the GPC Exam, candidates must meet a minimum number of points across four professional areas: **Education, Professional Experience, Professional Practice/Continuing Education, and Community Involvement.** Depending on educational background, candidates must have at least three to five years of experience in the grants profession and at least five successful grants in the past seven years. To learn more, take our Eligibility Quiz on the GPCI website.

CERTIFICATION MAINTENANCE

Because grant development, grant funding, and grant management are dynamic and rapidly changing fields, individuals are awarded GPC certification for a period of three years. To remain certified, every three years candidates must satisfy the minimum certification maintenance requirements, including completion of the CMP Application and payment of the certificate maintenance fee, or re-sit for the GPC examination. For more information, select the Certification Maintenance tab on our website.