

Prevention Specialist Certification Preparation Training

National Prevention Network Conference
Julie Hogan, PhD, CPS
Sandra Puerini Del Sesto, M.Ed, CPSS
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Objectives

Participants will:

- Review the IC&RC requirements for Prevention certification
- Explain the working definition of Prevention based on the SAMHSA- supported Institute of Medicine (IOM) definition
- Describe all IC&RC Prevention Specialist Certification domains
- Review test taking strategies and the content covered by the Prevention Specialist exam

Other Expectations?



ABOUT THE IC&RC

The mission of the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium is to promote public protection by offering internationally-recognized credentials and examinations for the prevention, addiction treatment, and recovery professionals.





IC&RC represents more than 45,000 addiction-related professionals from 76 Member Boards.

MEMBER BOARDS

COUNTRIES

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------------|
| Bermuda | Germany | Mexico |
| Bulgaria | Greece | Nicaragua |
| Canada | Iceland | Norway |
| China | India | Spain |
| Costa Rica | Israel | Sweden |
| Cyprus | Japan | United Kingdom |
| Denmark | Latvia | United States |
| Estonia | Lithuania | |
| Finland | Malta | |



MEMBER BOARDS
U.S. STATES

Alabama	Louisiana	Pennsylvania
Arizona	Maine	Rhode Island
Arkansas	Maryland	South Carolina
California	Massachusetts	South Dakota
Colorado	Michigan	Tennessee
Connecticut	Minnesota	Texas
Delaware	Mississippi	Utah
District of Columbia	Missouri	Vermont
Florida	Nebraska	Virginia
Georgia	New Hampshire	Washington
Hawaii	New Jersey	West Virginia
Idaho	New Mexico	Wisconsin
Illinois	New York	
Indiana	North Carolina	
Iowa	Ohio	
Kansas	Oklahoma	
Kentucky	Oregon	

MEMBER BOARDS
ARMED FORCES, NATIVE AMERICAN, TERRITORIAL & OTHER

U.S. Air Force	
U.S. Army	World Federation of Therapeutic Communities
U.S. Navy	

IHS Nashville Area
IHS Northern Plains
Southwest Indian Tribes
Upper Midwest Indian

Pacific
Puerto Rico



Benefits of Certification

- Identifies professionals who are specialists in the field, setting them apart from others not certified.
- Is based on industry standards and state of the art evidence-based practices.
- Is a marketing tool for the professional when seeking employment or advancement and for the agency when promoting their services to the public, the client, potential clients, and payers.
- Provides the benefit of reciprocity when moving to another state, country, or nation.
- Provides public protection and a grievance process for those harmed.

Prevention Specialist Requirements

Experience: 2000 hours of prevention work experience specific to the PS domains.

Education: 120 hours specific to the domains of which 24 hours must be ATOD specific. Six hours must be specific to prevention ethics.

Supervision: 120 hours specific to the domains with a minimum of ten hours in each domain.

Examination: Must pass the IC&RC International Prevention Specialist Examination.

Code of Ethics: Must sign a Prevention-specific Code of Ethics statement or affirmation statement. <http://professional.internationalcredentiaing/PS>

Recertification: 40 hours of continuing education earned every two years.

The Written Examination

- Candidates must be **pre-registered** for their exam by their board. Candidates will then schedule their exam directly with the testing company.
- The examinations are all **150 multiple choice** questions. These examinations allow up to 3 hours to complete.
- Exams are **computer based**, and offered on an on-demand basis, year round. Candidates can choose the testing site that is closest for their travel.
- Some states still offer **paper and pencil** exams, which are offered twice yearly.
- **No books, papers, or other reference materials** may be taken into the exam room.
- **No materials you receive on the day of the exam** may be taken from the room.
- **No questions** concerning the content of the exam may be asked during the exam period.
- **Official scores, and notification** of certification will follow from the board certifying the professional. Preliminary scores are available after a candidate completes the exam.

Exam continued

- You will need one form of **photo identification** on the day of the exam. CBT requires you to also bring an **admission letter** which will be given to you when you schedule an exam.
- Candidates are required to **arrive on time** for their exam. Candidates who arrive late will not be permitted to test and will be charged a cancellation/rescheduling fee. If you arrive at the test site late and the exam has begun, you will not be permitted to enter and will forfeit your opportunity to test that day.
- Candidates who **cancel or reschedule** their exam less than five days prior to their scheduled date may be charged the full testing fee. Candidates who cancel or reschedule more than five days before their scheduled date may be charged a cancellation/reschedule fee.
- Candidates failing the exam can **retest after a 60 day wait** period from date of last taking the exam. Candidates will be sent retest instruction from their board.

Exam continued

- **Candidate Guides** are available for all exams and include the domains, knowledge and skill areas for each domain, sample exam questions and a list of references free of charge. They can be downloaded from IC&RC's website and are free.
- **Practice exams** will be available from the IC&RC website. Cost is \$49.95. Practice Exams were developed in conjunction with IC&RC's testing company to mimic the exact look and feel of IC&RC's Computer Based Testing (CBT) platform. Each practice exam has 50 questions, which candidates have 60 minutes to complete. After completing the practice exam, candidates will receive a score report identifying their areas of strength and weakness.

Scoring & Passing Point Information

- **Scoring**
 - IC&RC exam scores are reported on a scale of 200 to 800 for all international exams. Candidates must achieve a score of 500 in order to pass the exam. The score is determined by the number of questions correctly answered.
 - IC&RC's testing company will score all exams. Scores will be broken down by category (domain) so that candidates can see areas of strength and weakness.
- **Passing Point**
 - The passing point is determined by a criterion-referenced approach called the Angoff Modified Technique. Criterion-referenced exams are quota-free with regard to passing percentages.
 - The passing point is fixed to assure that all candidates must achieve the same score to be granted certification.

Special Administration

- Individuals with disabilities and/or religious obligations that require modifications in exam administration may request specific procedure changes, in writing, to their board no fewer than 60 days prior to the exam date. With these written requests, the candidate must provide official documentation of the disability or religious issue. Candidates should contact their board on what constitutes official documentation. Appropriate modifications to the exam process will be provided when documentation supports the need for them.

IC&RC Contacts

Ms. Rachel Wittmer
IC&RC
298 South Progress Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17109
USA

T: +1 717-540-4457
F: +1 717-540-4458

info@internationalcredentialing.org
InternationalCredentialing.org



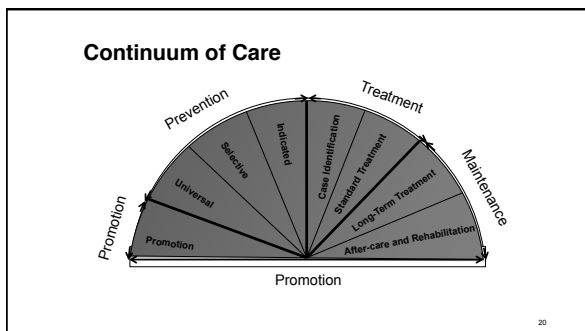
Local Contact Information

<http://internationalcredentialing.org/memberboards>

- Jurisdiction
- Name of Board
- Credentials offered
- Contact information
- Link to send a message

The Exam: What Do You Need to Know?

Prevention and the IC&RC
Prevention Domains



The Prevention Specialist Job Analysis

- Revised every 5 years by a group of diverse Subject Matter Experts (10 or less years certified)
- Reviewed by up to 1500 certified professionals internationally for relevance and significance to the work of a prevention professional with minimum required training, supervision and experience
- Identifies significant knowledge and skills needed to perform the functions in the task under each of the six domains or areas of work

The Job Analysis: Example

Domain 1: Planning and Evaluation
Task 1 Determine the level of community readiness for change

- **Knowledge of:**
 - information gathering and data analysis techniques
 - stages of community readiness
- **Skill In:**
 - collecting, organizing, and interpreting data
 - assessing and building community resources and readiness
 - identifying and engaging key stakeholders

Domain 1: Planning and Evaluation

- Readiness and Resources
- Steps in Strategic Planning for Prevention
 - Assessment
 - Capacity (Assessment and Building)
 - Planning
 - Implementation
 - Evaluation
- Cultural Competence and Sustainability
- Risk and Protective Factor Theory
- Reporting Results

Domain 2: Prevention Education & Service Delivery

- Coordination of Activities
- Determining Appropriateness for the Target Audience
- Ensuring accurate, relevant, timely content (Evidence-Based Interventions)
- Fidelity and Adaptation

Domain 3: Communication

- Promotion and Public Relations
- Marketing techniques
- Principles of Effective Listening
- Principles of Public Speaking and Facilitation
- Interpersonal Communication Strategies

Domain 4: Community Organization

- Knowledge of Community Demographics and Norms
- Diversity in Stakeholders
- Building Ownership
- Mobilization
- Sustaining Coalitions
- Developing Materials
- Developing Collaborative Agreements
- Involvement in Behavioral Health Planning

Domain 5: Public Policy & Environmental Change

- Enforcement Initiatives
- Public Policy Development
- Media Strategies
- Community Organizing
- Advocacy

Domain 6: Professional Growth & Responsibility

- Knowledge of Current Theory and Practice, Current Issues in Addiction and Mental Health (MEB)
- Prevention Ethics
- Cultural Responsiveness
- Self-Care
- Ethical Use of Public Funds
- Advocacy for Health Promotion and Healthy Communities

References

- All exam questions are derived from the resources listed in the IC&RC Candidate Guide (pages 18-19).
- All references are re-examined at the most every five years.
- In nearly all cases no references are older than ten years.
- Most references can be accessed via the Internet and/or are free materials.
- Text: IOM Preventing Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders Among Young People (2009)
- Prevention Code of Ethics and Prevention Ethics Course

Domains and Weight on the Exam

• Domain	Weight on Exam
• Planning and Evaluation	30%
• Prevention Education and Service Delivery	15%
• Communication	13%
• Community Organization	15%
• Public Policy and Environmental Change	12%
• Professional Growth and Responsibility	15%

The Prevention Specialist Exam

- Total number of examination questions: 150
- Total Number of pretest questions: 25
- Total time to complete the examination, Paper & Pencil: 3 ½ hours
- Total time to complete the examination, Computer Based: 3 hours

Testing Taking Strategies



Let's Practice...



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Participants will:

- Review the IC&RC requirements for Prevention certification
- Explain the working definition of Prevention based on the SAMHSA- supported Institute of Medicine (IOM) definition
- Describe all IC&RC Prevention Specialist Certification domains
- Review test taking strategies and practice using a short sample exam

Final Questions?



Good Luck!!!

Questions? sdelsesto@ric.edu