

Workers' Compensation Programs FAQ

CPWC (Claims Practitioner in Workers' Compensation) is a 24-module certificate program that delves more deeply into the practical aspects of California workers' compensation claims than other introductory programs. This certificate lays the foundation for a great start towards a successful career in workers' compensation claims and is especially designed to provide the requisite 120 hours of classroom time required for the CA-WC indemnity adjuster certification.

Who should attend:

- Workers' compensation claims professionals with less than one year of experience
- Workers' compensation claims professionals with more than one year of experience and who could benefit from a refresher on specific subjects
- People considering a career transition into workers' compensation claims
- HR professionals who would like to improve bottom line results through knowledge of the workers' compensation system and workers' compensation claims
- Anyone who needs the CA-WC initial certification or CA workers' compensation CE credits

How long does it take?

- CPWC programs were designed for the modules to take approximately 1 week to complete.
- All modules need to be completed within 12 months.
- Each module has an expiration date 14 days after it has been loaded to your dashboard.
- IND Modules include:
 - 3 hours of video
 - 2 hours reading assignment and homework
 - an exam.
 - Total 5 hours. IND program = 120 hours.
- All other modules include:
 - 3 hours of video
 - An exam
 - Total 3 hours
- Modules are On Demand, so depending on an individual's time bandwidth, they can complete the program more quickly or take a bit more time. For example, with the 24 module IND program, the following time frames may be appropriate.
 - 1 module per week = 24 weeks = approx. 6 months

- 2 modules per week = 12 weeks = approx. 3 months
- 1 module every 2 weeks = 48 weeks = approx. 1 year

What is the difference between IEA's new CPWC program and the WCCA program?

Both programs provide a solid foundation in California workers' compensation claims handling.

Claims Practitioner in Workers' Compensation (CPWC) is a 24 module certificate program that was developed to meet the need of new claims practitioners as they move toward becoming a certified California WC Claims Adjuster (120 classroom hours). The program is presented at a practical desk level and provides learning opportunities through case studies and incorporating exposure to soft skills along with the technical information. Components of the CPWC will also help fulfill certification requirements for California WC Medical Review or Medical Only adjusters. The CPWC is complementary to the California Workers' Compensation Claims Administration (WCCA) certificate and an optional foundational program for the California Worker's Compensation Claims Professional (WCCP) designation, both offered by The Institutes and taught by IEA.

CPWC is available via On-Demand Recorded Webinars.

WCCA is a five course certification program, offered by The Institutes and taught by IEA. There is emphasis on industry wide educational objectives and knowledge solutions that are in keeping with The Institutes' high standards of professional development. WCCA is currently available through live, in person classes or Online classes offered by IEA, or as a 24/7 on-line self-study class or textbook offered by The Institutes. Passing The Institutes' proctored exam for each course is required to earn the WCCA Certificate.

If a person has started taking the WCCA, should they switch to the CPWC?

We recommend completing the WCCA to reap the full benefit of the program. Individual component workshops of the CPWC program can be taken alongside the WCCA or after completion as supplements to the WCCA.

If a person already has the WCCA or WCCP, do they need the CPWC?

The CPWC can be a refresher to those who have already earned their WCCA or WCCP. Individual component workshops of the CPWC program can be taken and will provide CA-WC CE.

Can a person take individual parts of the CPWC?

Yes, that's a benefit of this new program. Individual module topics can be taken a la carte, and there is a pricing discount for purchasing bundled packages of classes. In order to earn a certificate, all modules for the available tracks must be completed.

What are the different CPWC tracks?

- Indemnity Workers' Compensation Adjuster

- Medical Only Adjuster
- Medical Bill Review Adjuster

If a person has already earned the WCCA or WCCP, can they earn the CPWC by testing out of individual modules?

Candidates who have earned the WCCA or WCCP are well positioned to progress toward more advanced designations such as CPDM or CPFI. IEA encourages this path in your professional development. As such, testing out of the CPWC by WCCA and WCCP professionals is not available.

Is there an on-going CE requirement for CPWC, WCCA or WCCP?

CPWC requires six hours of CE per calendar year beginning the year AFTER the certification is completed. Participation in any IEA workers' compensation, disability management, fraud, insurance or risk management program will qualify for this requirement.

WCCA and WCCP do not require annual CE.