

Ame Enright

From: Child Life Certification Commission <aenright@childlife.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 4:30 PM
To: CLCAIStaff
Subject: CCLS Connection Newsletter Nov 2019



CCLS Connection
November 2019

Hello from the Child Life Certification Commission (CLCC)!

Hello CCLSs,

As always, I hope you find the Connection articles useful and interesting. The CLCC Communications Committee hopes to answer any unspoken or common questions that come to the office staff and if ever a change is in the offing, to keep you updated.

If you have unanswered questions, please let the ACLP Certification staff know. They will forward article suggestions to the Communications Committee.

Currently our Recertification and Audit Committee is flooded with certificants renewing their status. This group seeking recertification is exceptionally large, including the cohort who for the first time certified by exam in 2004. They had first certified through the previous “portfolio” system and had carried their credentials for many years; an assembly including some of the luminaries of child life! In 2004 they had reached the end of their chances to delay taking the “new” exam. There was much head and paper scratching as this group sat in the auditorium of the Seattle CLC Conference of 2004. To those of you newly certified it might be of solace to know that the angst among those test-takers was palpable and lingered for several days afterward. Things were changing quickly, as they have continued to do, and coping with the adjustment to the exam system was not easy.

Our three exam development committees, Item Writing, Item Review, and Exam Assembly have again developed a new certification exam for the spring of 2020. The item bank, a repository that has at times been rather

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Certification Numbers

Total Current CCLSs: 6272

Residing in:	AK - 9	MS - 22
US- 5797	AL - 81	MT - 4
Australia - 5	AR - 36	NC -225
Canada - 352	AZ - 125	ND - 15
China - 2	CA -566	NE - 40
Georgia - 1	CO - 101	NH - 31
Hong Kong - 10	CT - 70	NJ-183
India - 1	DC - 20	NM -16
Italy - 1	DE - 18	NV - 21
Japan - 55	FL - 272	NY-325
Kenya - 2	GA-189	OH-307
Kuwait - 3	HI - 11	OK - 35
Luxembourg -1	IA - 89	OR - 38
New Zealand - 3	ID - 13	PA -210
Norway - 1	IL - 232	RI - 21
Philippines - 3	IN - 96	SC - 88
Puerto Rico - 2	KS - 46	SD - 15
Qatar - 10	KY - 54	TN-161
Romania - 2	LA - 63	TX-559
Singapore - 4	MA -264	UT - 85
South Africa - 1	MD -114	VA -100
Spain - 2	ME - 14	VT - 22
Switzerland - 2	MI - 187	WA -111

shallow, is now replete with questions for the future. The CLCC continues to strive for an exam that is relevant and rigorous, protecting the public and instilling pride in our credential holders. More than 40 of your volunteer peers are involved in exam development, working with a credentialed exam development company.

The Certification Commission also has resource improvement plans for the future, so be sure to watch for credential-relevant resources as 2020 unfolds.

With warm regards,

Bindy Sweett, CCLS

Child Life Certification Commission Chairperson

Taiwan - 5	MN - 164	WI -120
United Kingdom - 7	MO - 180	WV - 8



Important Dates to Remember

December

31 – Deadline for reinstatement of lapsed certification

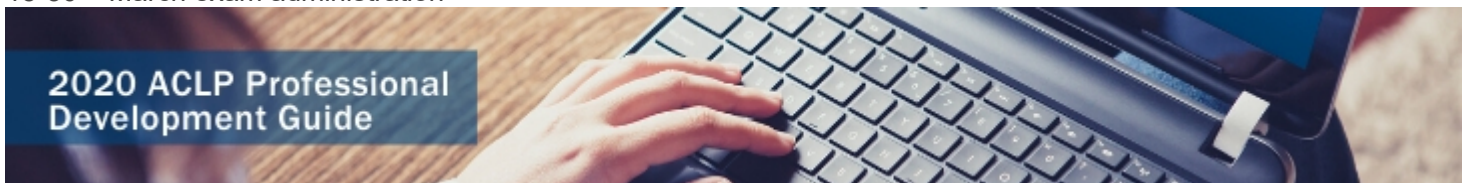
January

31 – Annual Certification Maintenance fees due

March

10 – Registration deadline for March testing window

15-30 – March exam administration

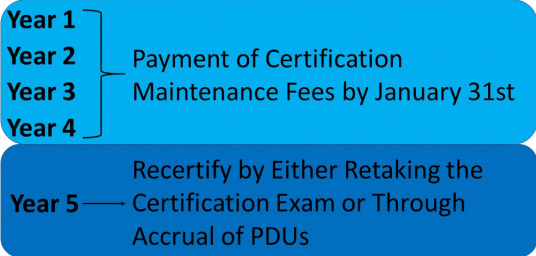


**Certification Lapse, Expiration
and the Appeals Process:
What You Need to Know**

Every Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS) has invested time, money, and quite possibly blood, sweat and tears to achieve their certification. In order to protect that credential, CCLSs must do their due diligence to understand exactly what it takes to maintain their certification and to prevent unwanted certification lapse or expiration. Essentially, this includes 1) the payment of certification maintenance fees, and 2) recertification.

CCLSs are certified for a five-year period or certification cycle. During the first four years of the cycle, CCLSs must pay a certification maintenance fee. In the last year of the cycle, CCLSs are not required to submit a maintenance fee payment, rather they are required to submit the appropriate recertification fee.

Certification Cycle



Certification Maintenance Fees

CCLSs are required to pay certification maintenance fees to support the administration of the certification program and to maintain their individual certification. These fees are essential to the operation of the Child Life Professional Certification Program. They provide the financial resources needed for the program’s operation.

January 31st is the deadline to pay certification maintenance fees in each of the first four years of the cycle; this date is the same for everyone and does not change from year to year. If a CCLS lets the January 31st due date pass without payment, they have until March 31st to pay maintenance fees with the addition of a late fee. If the individual does not pay the certification maintenance fee by March 31st, they will go into ‘inactive’ status. At this point, the individual is no longer able to refer to themselves as a Certified Child Life Specialist or to use the credential CCLS after their name.

Individuals may not stay in the inactive status indefinitely. They must reinstate the credential by December 31st of the same year in which payment was due. To reinstate, the maintenance fee, late fee, and an additional reinstatement fee must be paid by the end of the calendar year or certification will lapse.

**Lapsed certification is a result of
non-payment of certification maintenance fees.**

Certification maintenance fees are different than ACLP membership dues, as these are sometimes confused. The best way to remember this is to isolate that word: **maintain**. Maintenance fees allow us to **maintain our certification**. ACLP membership dues are what keep up our membership and allow us to reap benefits provided to us by the association.

Recertification

It is important to discuss that fifth, crucial year of the certification cycle. Child life specialists are able to re-certify by taking the Child Life Professional Certification Examination again or by submitting an application to recertify through Professional Development Units (PDUs) attained during the five-year cycle.

Beginning in 2020, all CCLSs who elect to recertify through PDUs must accrue a minimum of 60 PDUs with some in each of the exam domains.

RECERTIFICATION BY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UNITS (PDUs)

Certificants choosing the PDU option for recertification must earn a minimum of **60 PDUs within their five-year certification cycle.**

Of these, a specific number must relate to each domain of the Exam Content Outline as follows:

Exam Content Outline Domain Requirements				
Performance Domain	Professional Responsibility (Total of 15 PDUs required)		Assessment (Any Task)	Intervention (Any Task)
Task	Professional Ethics	Any Task		
Required Number of PDUs	5	10	20	15

The remaining **10 PDUs** may align with any of the three domains at the discretion of the CCLS.

What if a child life specialist attempts to recertify by taking the exam, but does not pass? If this situation occurs, the individual is still able to apply for recertification through PDUs by the October 31st due date. Likewise, if an application to recertify through PDUs is not accepted, the individual may retake the examination within the final year of the recertification cycle. If, however, recertification is not achieved through either passing the exam or submitting PDUs, the child life specialist's certification would then expire at the end of the year.

Expired certification is the result of an individual

not recertifying in the fifth year of their certification cycle.

If recertification is not approved or if they are in a situation where their PDU audit is unsuccessful, a CCLS may choose to submit an appeal.

To appeal, the CCLS must submit a letter to the Child Life Certification Commission (CLCC) within 21 days of the letter informing them that their recertification application was not accepted. This letter should state the reason for the appeal. The candidate should also include any documentation that supports their appeal. After receipt of such a letter, decisions will be made by a majority vote of the CLCC Appeals Committee. The decision made by the Committee is final.

Regaining the Credential after Lapse or Expiration

Both those with lapsed and those with expired certification would need to re-establish eligibility and take and pass the certification exam to become certified once again.

It is extremely important to note that the individual will need to establish eligibility based on the requirements in place at the time that they seek to regain the credential. This is the case even if the requirements are different than the requirements that were in place when someone became certified originally. As requirements have changed in the past few years, it is especially important that all Certified Child Life Specialists are aware of this fact.

One example is the internship requirement. If eligibility needs to be re-established due to lapsed or expired certification, a 600-hour internship must be completed. Any other gaps in eligibility would have to be addressed as well.

What is the best way for a CCLS to prevent unwanted certification lapse? ACLP sends routine reminders of any payments due. This is a great time for CCLSs to check their ACLP user profiles to ensure that they have their regularly-checked e-mail address listed. It is so important to ensure contact information is correct to avoid such a scenario entirely.

The ACLP website has a wealth of detailed information on maintaining the Certified Child Life Specialist credential. For additional information on recertification, visit the Certification section of the ACLP website and review the Child Life Professional Certification Maintenance and Recertification Manual. If you have a more specific question on certification lapse, expiration, or the appeals process, please contact certification@childlife.org for assistance.

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If You Need PDUs - This Is for You!
2019 Child Life Annual Conference
All Access Pass

View 40+ Sessions
Earn 45+ PDUs

LEARN MORE

Certification Highlights

Certification Exam Development

The 40+ CCLS volunteers who serve on the 3 CLCC exam development committees have been hard at work writing, reviewing, and revising new items (exam questions) for the Item Bank as well as assembling new exam forms. These committees spend countless hours working from June through November to add to and improve the questions that are available for the certification exam. Thank you to all of you!!

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Certification Exam Administration

The Child Life Professional Certification Examination was administered in August with the following results:

# Candidates	# New CCLSs	% Passing
167	139	83.23%

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Certification Maintenance

There are still 115 individuals who have not paid the 2019 Certification Maintenance fee who will lose their certification as of December 31st unless they reinstate. Reinstatement applications will be accepted through December 31, 2019. Contact certification@childlife.org for additional information.

Roughly 90% of CCLSs who owed this fee have made their payment.

Thank you for maintaining your certification!

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Recertification

2019

Number of CCLSs due to recertify in **2019**: 1186

Number recertified: 1052

Thank you all for recertifying!

Please note that if you recertified in 2019, you did not pay the Certification Maintenance fee in 2019, but it will be due by January 31st for 2020.

2020

Number of CCLSs due to recertify in **2020**: 1078

Please note that if you are due to recertify in 2020, you will not pay the Certification Maintenance fee in January. Instead, your application to recertify through PDUs will be due by October 31, 2020. You may also retake the certification exam during 2020 to recertify.

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Thank you CLCC Communications Committee!

CLCC would like to recognize the team of volunteers who serve on the CLCC Communications Committee and make this newsletter possible! Thank you!

Chair, Geri Sehnert; Chair-Elect, Tracey Craddock

Members:

Amber Hill, Sarah Framarin, Michelle Barksdale, Shannon Meland, Erin Munn

STAY CONNECTED



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