

If you're seeking to climb the career ladder in any communications field,

the AWC Matrix Foundation has a certification process of particular importance to you. By documenting your evolving professional competence and leadership skills, this certification will help you prove your outstanding proficiency.

The certification program is designed to help you demonstrate

- Your professional competence
- Your commitment to ongoing professional growth
- Your leadership skills
- Your management capabilities



Designed for the Generalist or Specialist

The program was developed in conjunction with the Association for Women in Communications (AWC) to recognize excellence in a wide spectrum of communications skills. Communicators who successfully complete the program earn a Certificate of Communications Excellence, and are designated Certified Communications Professionals (CCP).

The certification is open to anyone who has been employed in any area of communications for two of the last five years (at the time of application). Applicants must also be members of a recognized professional communications organization at the time of application and maintain membership while completing the program.

"Although my niche is technical writing, I also write in many other genres. The CCP certification validated my other skills and helped me gain insights about avenues that I might not have considered, such as volunteering for leadership positions."

—Cheryl Landes, Seattle, Wash.



A Point System for the Things You Are Already Doing

The CCP process includes earning points for on-the-job, volunteer, and educational activities. Activities such as managing a successful communications campaign, designing a web site, producing a video, chairing a committee, serving a president for a local communications group, attending a seminar, or completing an online course all count toward completion of the program.

A workbook is used to record your progressive skill development for up to the three years you have to complete the process. You may provide your materials on paper or digitally.

"As a nonprofit professional, I believe it is important for me to continually strive for effective communication with donors, volunteers and community members," said Mackey. "The CCP process provided a method for me to monitor, evaluate and further develop my communication strategies."

—Amy Mackey, Springfield, Ill.



Application
AWC Matrix Foundation Certificate of Communications Excellence

Date: _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP: _____

Work phone: _____

Home phone: _____

Email address: _____

Member of (state professional communications organization you wish to be listed under):

Date current membership expires: _____

Local Unit (enter name): _____

Or At-Large Member: _____

Current Employment:

Job title: _____

Employer Name: _____

Check if self-employed/freelance

Dates of employment/own firm established:

Address: _____

Brief job description/description of services offered:

Brief description of most recent project:

I understand that I must complete the program within three years of acceptance to it. Further, I understand that awarding of the Certificate of Communications Excellence is contingent upon the payment of the application fee at this time and of the payment of the certificate fee with the completed workbook and the successful review of my complete work by a panel of professional communicators.

Signature: _____

Mail application with 50% of the fee to:

The AWC Matrix Foundation
400 Washington Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-778-4636
Fax: 703-683-5480
Email: ccpstudent@awcmatrixfoundation.org

The AWC Matrix Foundation, a 501(c)3 tax exempt foundation under the IRS code, was established in 1998 as the educational affiliate of The Association for Women in Communication. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.

Cost

\$300* for members of the Association for Women in Communications

\$500* for members of other professional communications organizations

*50% due with application; %50% due at completion & submission of workbook

For more information

www.awcmatrixfoundation.org for general information
www.awcmatrixfoundation.org/ccp-certification to learn more about CCP and to download an application form.

About the AWC Matrix Foundation

The AWC Matrix Foundation, the educational affiliate of the Association for Women in Communications, was established in 1998 to promote the advancement of women in communications through education, research, and publications. The Association for Women in Communications is a professional organization encompassing all areas of communications, with professional and student members through the country and internationally.

Founded in 1909 as Theta Sigma Phi at the University of Washington, the association has continued to grow and change. The founding principles, however, still serve as touchstones. These are:

- To promote the advancement of women in all fields of communications
- To work for the First Amendment rights and responsibilities of communicators
- To recognize distinguished professional achievements
- To promote high professional standards throughout the communications industry

The association is dedicated to leading progressive change in communications professionals through information exchange, leadership, professional development, and technology. To learn more, visit <http://www.womcom.org/>.

Certification for Professional Communicators

Get your stamp of achievement now— You've earned it!

