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# Certified Crop Adviser

## APPLICATION *AND*

## CREDENTIAL INFORMATION

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*Please complete if ONLY applying for the CCA certification.*

UNITED STATES & CANADA



**CERTIFIED  
CROP ADVISER**

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5585 Guilford Road • Madison, WI 53711-5801 • (608) 273-8085 • Fax (608) 273-2081

*A certification program of the American Society of Agronomy*

# International Certified Crop Adviser (ICCA) Program

[www.certifiedcropadviser.org](http://www.certifiedcropadviser.org)

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## Contacts

### Calling From

AB, AL, AR, CT, DE, FL, GA, KY,  
LA, MA, MB, MD, ME, MI, MS,  
NB, NC, NF, NH, NJ, NS, NY, OH,  
ON, PA, PE, RI, SK, SC, TN, VA,  
VT, WV

AK, AZ, BC, CA, CO, HI, ID, KS,  
MT, NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, TX,  
UT, WA, WY

IA, IL, IN, MN, MO, ND, SD, WI,  
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# Certified Crop Adviser CREDENTIAL INFORMATION

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**NOTE:** Please remove the necessary forms (**pages 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16**) from this booklet, complete and forward. Keep copies of all forms and the booklet for your records.

*Do not send the entire booklet back to ASA. Thank you.*

# Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Background

The International Certified Crop Adviser (ICCA) program was developed by the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) in cooperation with agribusiness retail dealers, cooperatives and manufacturers, state and national trade associations, the USDA, and independent consultants. The representatives from these groups acted as the CCA Steering Committee. Upon their recommendation, the CCA program was founded on four principles.

1. The ICCA program should certify credentials at the base standards levels and initially should not require a college degree to be eligible, but require all applicants to pass an international CCA exam.
2. The ICCA program must be administered in the states/provinces. Each state/province that participates will nominate a local CCA board to review applications and develop a local board exam.
3. The ICCA program must be prepared to change as government policy changes.
4. CCA participants, once certified, will have to subscribe to the Code of Ethics, participate in continuing education programs to maintain their certification, and pay an annual renewal fee.

The local CCA board that will administer the ICCA program will have to consist of at least seven members with at least one representative from agribusiness, the state/provincial agency for environmental protection, and extension, to ensure the program is educationally sound and meets the needs of industry and government.

The American Society of Agronomy's responsibilities are to coordinate the national activities, which include providing the international exam and act as liaison with the federal agencies to keep the ICCA program in tune with public policy. ASA serves as registrar and assists the local CCA boards with processing applications, grading of all exams, and recording continuing education credits.

## Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Certification Steps

- Step 1** Pass both the international and local board exams.
- Step 2** Complete this CCA Credential Packet within six months of passing both exams.
- Step 3** The local CCA Board reviews your credential packet. (NOTE: Once the forms are sent from ASA to the local board, usually on a monthly or quarterly basis. The board has up to six weeks to grant or deny your certification.)
- Step 4** Once granted certification from the local CCA Board, you will receive a certificate for framing and a wallet card. In order to maintain your certification you will need to pay an annual renewal fee and earn 40 hours of continuing education units over a two year period.
- Step 5** You may start receiving your Continuing Education Units (CEUs) from the date on your CCA certificate. Any meeting/course hours taken before your certification date will not count towards your CCA.

# Certified Crop Adviser (ICCA) Program

## Introduction

The International Certified Crop Adviser (ICCA) program is open to anyone who provides crop management recommendations to clients (e.g. farmers, growers, farm managers/operators). The purpose of the program is to provide base standards for certification for these individuals. The goal of the program is to help agriculture as an industry meet its environmental stewardship objective.

## CCA Certification Process

1. All CCA applicants to be certified must pass the international and local board exam and have their credentials reviewed by their local board.
2. All CCA Credential Forms are sent to CCA, 5585 Guilford Road, Madison, WI 53711-5801.
3. Your Credential Forms are collected and permanently filed in Madison. Please use an ink pen when completing these forms. When your file is complete, a copy of your file is sent to your local board for review.
4. You are notified after the local board reviews. If your credentials are approved and you have passed the examinations, you will be sent a Certificate of Certification. If you are denied certification, you will receive a letter of explanation.

## Directions

1. Please fill out all of the information requested on the Application for Verification of Credentials on page 5.
2. Pick the category—A, B, C, or D—that best describes you:

### Full CCA Status

- A. At least 4 years of crop advising experience, with no college degree.
- B. At least 3 years of crop advising experience, Associates Degree with 15 semester hours or 23 quarter hours of agricultural sciences

OR

At least 2 years of crop advising experience, BS Degree and 15 semester hours or 23 quarter hours of agricultural sciences.

- C. Currently hold SSSA Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) certification.

\* **NOTE:** Your references will be sent to your CCA local board. You may want to submit new references if your original references are: i) dated, ii) not specific to crop advising, or iii) no reference on file from a client that you have given crop advice to.

Provide all information requested for your category.

## CCA Candidate Status

D. CCA Candidate is granted to an applicant who has passed both exams and has met all requirements as reviewed by the local CCA board but *does not meet the experience requirement*.

The applicant needs to indicate that they are applying for CCA Candidate status. Please include any experience that you have. If you do not have the required references, you will need to provide at least one reference of any kind which should be a non-relative such as former employers from part-time jobs or professors. This references does not need to be a farmer/grower.

The applicant will be notified by the ICCA Office of the local CCA board's decision. The applicant will be designated as a CCA Candidate for the number of months or years that are required to fulfill the experience requirement. The time cannot be extended except in the case of extenuating circumstances such as military duty, medical related issues, or unemployment. At that time, the applicant will need to update their experience form and provide the required references (employer and client) if they have not done so already and submit those forms to the ICCA Office to be reviewed by the local CCA board for full CCA status.

CEU requirements and an annual renewal fee are not required for the CCA Candidate Status. CEU and annual renewal fee requirements will begin once the CCA Candidate becomes fully certified and the status changes to CCA as recommended by the local CCA board.

3. Sign application form and mail to CCA, 5585 Guilford Road, Madison, WI 53711-5801.

## Code of Ethics—page 6

- Make sure you read and sign the Code of Ethics on the reverse side of the Application for Verification of Credential.

## Professional Expertise

The professional expertise areas allow you to connect, via the “Find a CCA” directory, with other CCAs and share knowledge within and across expertise areas. The “Find a CCA” directory is available to the public – including farmers, extension agents, and anyone else interested in the program. In addition to the professional expertise areas, the directory search can be based on name, location, type of certification, and those self-identified areas of expertise. And, designating your areas of expertise helps you market yourself to current and prospective clients.

## Crop Advising Experience Form—page 9

- To be certified an applicant must have either:
  - Four years of crop advising experience working with a client (e.g. farmer, grower, farm manager/operator) and an unrelated degree or no degree; or
  - Three years of experience and associate degree in an agricultural related field; or
  - Two years of experience and a baccalaureate degree in an agricultural related field.
- Using the guidelines above, determine the years of experience needed.
- A year of experience should be credited for each year of qualified activity, if approximately one-third (i.e. at least 30% to 35%) of your time is engaged in one or more of the following activities:
  - a. Advising client(s) (e.g. farmers, growers, farm managers/operators) on crop production;
  - b. Teaching or educating crop advisers about topics that are described in the Performance Objectives; and
  - c. Advising or working with client(s) (e.g. farmers, growers, farm managers/operators) to install soil conservation practices, or to meet state/province or federal regulations that are related to crop production (such as conservation compliance).

**NOTE:** *If you spend less than 30% of your time engaged in the activities described previously, partial credit might be assigned based on the following:*

Actual Experience	CCA Experience
30%	1.00 year per year involved
25%	0.83 year per year involved
20%	0.66 year per year involved
15%	0.50 year per year involved

For example, an applicant spends 20% of his or her time in activities outlined in a, b, or c and lists 10 years experience. The applicant should receive 6.6 years credit for experience (i.e.; 0.66 x 10 years = 6.6 years).

**NOTE:** *If you spend less than 15% of your time in activities outlined above, no credit for experience will be given.*

- The crop advising experience form must clearly show that you have the minimum number of years of experience providing crop advice to client(s) (e.g. farmers, growers, farm managers/operators). (Review the example on page 8.)
- Write in at the bottom of the page your estimate of years of crop advising experience.
- Experience gained while farming may count as a maximum of 1 year of the total work experience requirement.

- Supervised Work Experience or Internship may be used to substitute for six months of work experience for each three months of supervised work experience. Six months of supervised work experience may count for a maximum of 1 year of work experience. The Crop Advising Experience form should be used to describe the supervised work experience. A separate attachment is recommended.

### Reference Forms—pages 11 and 13

- You must submit TWO non-relative references:
  - 1) Reference form 1 is for your supervisor and
  - 2) Reference form 2 is for a client (e.g. farmer, grower, farm manager/operator) that you provide crop production advice.
- If self employed, provide at least two references from clients.
- Reference form signatures must be witnessed OR notarized.
- You may send the completed references or have the reference send them directly to Madison.

### Summary of College/Short Course Work—page 15

- If you are applying under category B, you must submit a transcript and **complete** the Summary of College Course Work Form. Transcripts do not substitute for the Course Work Form. Transcripts are kept in your file in Madison. **Transcripts** must be “official” and sent directly to ASA/CCA from the institution. Once your file is complete, a copy of the Course Work Form will be sent to the local board in which you are applying for certification.

# Application for Verification of Credentials

## CERTIFIED CROP ADVISER

(This does not register you for the exams.)

### 1. Applicant's Name and Address

Office Use Only

Please print or type:  Dr.  Mr.  Ms.

Contact No.

Last Name/First Name/Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address  Home Address

List in CCA Directory  Yes  No

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Expertise: See page 7 for options.

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### How would you like your name to be printed on your certificate?

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### 2. PLEASE CHECK CATEGORY A, B, C, or D BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOU AND SUBMIT ALL THE FORMS REQUESTED.

- A. Full CCA Status—A minimum of 4 years of crop advising experience.** Submit the following forms:
- Reference Forms—One from an employer & one from a client familiar with work history advising farmers, growers, farm managers or operators.
  - Crop Advising Experience Form that verifies four years of crop advising experience.
  - Code of Ethics Form—Please read and sign (on reverse side).
  - *Optional*—Summary of College/Short Course Form—In area III titled Supporting Short Courses/Internships, list continuing education seminars or short courses most recently attended.
- B. Full CCA Status—A minimum of 3 years crop advising experience with an associates degree in agriculture or certificate OR A minimum of 2 years crop advising experience with a BS degree in agriculture.** Submit the following forms:
- Official College Transcript (photocopies or faxes not accepted)
  - Summary of College/Short Course Work form with college courses broken out in supporting areas I and II.
  - Crop Advising Experience Form verifying years of experience.
  - Reference Forms—One from an employer & one from a client familiar with work history advising farmers, growers, farm managers or operators.
  - Code of Ethics Form—Please read and sign (on reverse side).
  - *Optional*—If applying for internship credit, provide documentation in Area III of Summary of College/Short course Work.
- C. Full CCA Status—Currently hold SSSA Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) certification.**
- Submit Certification number \_\_\_\_\_
  - Submit the following: Contact your certification representative for required forms.
- \*NOTE: See note under Directions—#2, category D, on page 3.**
- D. CCA Candidate Status (Still need work experience.** See #2 under Directions on page 3.) Provide years of experience \_\_\_\_\_
- Check which applies to you and submit the following forms:
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unrelated/No College Degree  | <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum of Associate Degree in Agriculture  |
| • Reference Forms—At least one (See directions).  | • Official College Transcript (photocopies or faxes not accepted)  |
| • Crop Advising Experience Form verifying years of experience.  | • Summary of College/Short Course Work form with college courses broken out in supporting areas I and II.                        |
| • Code of Ethics Form—Please read and sign (on reverse side).   | • Crop Advising Experience Form verifying years of experience.   |
| • <i>Optional</i> —Summary of College/Short Course Form—In area III titled Supporting Short Courses/Internships, list continuing education seminars or short courses most recently attended | • Reference Forms—At least one (See directions).   |
|   | • Code of Ethics Form—Please read and sign (on reverse side).  |
|   | • <i>Optional</i> —If applying for internship credit, provide documentation in Area III of Summary of College/Short course Work. |

### 3. SIGNATURE

I hereby certify that all information submitted in support of this application is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and that I have read and signed the Code of Ethics on the reverse side. All information regarding this application will remain confidential.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

4. MAIL TO: CCA, 5585 Guilford Road, Madison, WI 53711-5801



# Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Code of Ethics

All individuals certified under the International Certified Crop Adviser (ICCA) program must subscribe to the CCA Code of Ethics. The ICCA Standards & Ethics Committee periodically reviews the current Code of Ethics.

## Article I. Preamble

1. The privilege of professional practice imposes obligations of responsibility as well as professional knowledge. The ICCA program certifies the credentials of individuals through state/provincial certification boards.
2. When using the CCA designation, a CCA shall use professional conduct in all communications relating to this vocation including but not limited to emails, blogs, and social media.
3. The ICCA program will award the title of Certified to individuals who meet the experience, testing requirements and the continuing education requirements of the ICCA program. The ICCA program does not require college level education. A college education will substitute for part of the ICCA work experience requirement as provided for in the ICCA guidelines.
4. Certified Crop Advisers (hereafter called CCAs), at the request of a client or employer, must disclose the information used to gain certification. CCAs who knowingly misrepresent their credentials will face disciplinary action.

## Article II. Relation of Professional to the Public

1. A CCA shall avoid and discourage sensational, exaggerated, or unwarranted statements that might induce participation in unsound enterprises.
2. A CCA shall not give professional opinion, or make a recommendation, without being as thoroughly informed as might reasonably be expected considering the purpose for which the opinion or recommendation is desired; and the degree of completeness of information upon which it is based should be clear.
3. A CCA shall not issue a false statement or false information even if directed to do so by employer or client.

## Article III. Relation of Professional to Employer and Client

1. A CCA shall protect, to the fullest extent possible, the interest of the employer or client insofar as such interest is consistent with the law and professional obligations and ethics.
2. A CCA who finds that obligations to the employer or client conflict with their professional obligation or ethics should work to have such objectionable conditions corrected.
3. A CCA shall not use, directly or indirectly, employer or client's information in any way that would violate their confidentiality.
4. A CCA shall not divulge information given in confidence.

5. A CCA retained by one client shall not accept without the client's written consent, an engagement by another if the interests of the two are in any manner conflicting.
6. A CCA who has made an investigation for any employer or client shall not seek to profit economically from the information gained, unless written permission to do so is granted, or until it is clear that there can no longer be a conflict of interest with the original employer or client.
7. A CCA shall engage, or advise employer or client to engage and cooperate with other experts, specialists and government agency staff.
8. A CCA protects the interest of a client by recommending only products and services that are in the best interest of the client and public.
9. A CCA protects his/her credibility by disclosing to clients how he/she will be compensated for providing recommendations to the client.

## Article IV. Relation of Professionals to Each Other

1. A CCA shall not falsely or maliciously attempt to injure the reputation of another.
2. A CCA shall freely give credit for work done by others, to whom the credit is due, and shall refrain from plagiarism of oral and written communications and shall not knowingly accept credit rightfully due another person.
3. A CCA shall not use the advantage of public employment (e.g. university, government) to compete unfairly with other certified professions.
4. A CCA shall endeavor to cooperate with others in the profession and encourage the ethical dissemination of technical knowledge.

## Article V. Duty to the Profession

1. A CCA shall aid in exclusion from certification, those who have not followed this Code of Ethics or who do not have the required education and experience.
2. A CCA shall uphold this Code of Ethics by precept and example and encourage, by counsel and advice, other CCAs to do the same.
3. A CCA having positive knowledge of deviation from this Code by another CCA shall bring such deviation to the attention of the CCA's Local Board.

Approved by  
International CCA Board of Directors 07/97

Edited and approved by  
ICCA Board of Directors 09/2016

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**I have read the Certified Crop Adviser Code of Ethics and agree to adhere to this code.**

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Professional Expertise

The professional expertise areas allow you to connect, via the “Find a CCA” directory, with other CCAs and share knowledge within and across expertise areas. The “Find a CCA” directory is available to the public – including farmers, extension agents, and anyone else interested in the program. In Addition to the professional expertise areas, the directory search can be based on name, location, type of certification, and those self-identified areas of expertise. And, designating, your areas of expertise helps you market yourself to current and prospective clients. **Please circle your top 4 areas of Professional Expertise that you would like added to your account.**

## **Agricultural Regulation, Business and Technology (ARBT)**

Crop Marketing  
Crop Utilization  
Chemical/Fertilizer Labeling  
Regulatory Administration/ Enforcement  
Regulatory Compliance  
Pollution Control  
Conservation Planning/Food Security Act  
Computer Assisted Design  
Computer Modeling  
Computer Uses  
Digitized Mapping  
Information Systems  
Statistical Analysis  
Product R & D  
Precision Ag  
Unmanned/Autonomous Equipment  
Agricultural Administration  
Agricultural Development  
Agricultural Economics  
Dairy Economics  
Crop Insurance  
Labor Management  
Livestock Economics  
Hazardous Waste Management  
Best Management Practices Ethics

## **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**

Agricultural Chemicals  
Application Methods  
Environmental Protection  
Environmental Regulation  
Plant Pathology  
Biocontrol  
Fungal Pests  
Entomology  
Nematology  
Pesticide Use  
Organic Pest Control  
Wildlife Management  
Plant Metabolism  
Weed Management  
Resistance Management  
Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds  
Weed Identification

## **Nutrient Management (NM)**

Comprehensive Nutrient Management  
4R NMP (Nutrient Management)  
Conservation Education  
Farmland Preservation  
Fertilizer Technology (Variable Rate)  
Fertilizer Blending/Formulation  
Fertilizer Application  
Manure Management  
Plant Nutrition  
Micro-Nutrients  
Resource Conservation  
Soil Sampling  
Plant Analysis

## **Crop Management (Science, Production, and Specializations (CMSPS))**

Crop Breeding  
Seed Technology  
Crop Ecology  
Crop Genetics  
Crop Physiology  
Crop Quality  
Biotechnology  
Crop Forensics  
Crop Production  
Seed Production  
Crop Enterprise Budgeting  
Organic  
Post-Harvest Physiology  
Forages  
Cannery (Processing) Crops  
Pulses  
Corn  
Cotton  
Hops  
Grazing  
Rice  
Small Grains  
Soybean  
Tobacco  
Tree Fruit  
Tree Nuts  
Vegetable  
Wheat  
Small Fruit Culture  
Tropical Crops  
Viticulture  
Turfgrass Management  
Farm Management  
Impact Assessment

Land Classification  
Land Management  
Land Resource Analysis  
Land Resource Development  
Land Use Planning  
Range Management  
Range Soil Science  
Reclamation  
Wetlands Identification  
Waste, Land Treatment/ Application

## **Soil Management (SM)**

Soil Morphology/Classification  
Soil and Waste Management  
Soil and Water Conservation  
Soil and Water Management  
Soil Erosion Sediment Control  
Soil Management  
Soil Fertility  
Conservation Tillage  
Streambank Stabilization  
Surface Mine Reclamation  
Waste Disposal, On-Site  
Soil Biochemistry  
Soil Chemistry  
Soil Genesis  
Soil Interpretations  
Soil Microbiology  
Soil Mineralogy  
Soil Physics  
Soil Sampling & Analysis  
Soil Survey  
Soil-Plant Correlation  
Soil-Water-Plant Relation  
Pedology  
Acid-Sulfate Soils  
Forest Soils  
Hydric Soils  
Saline Alkali Soils  
Saline Soils  
Sodic Soils

## **Water Management (WM)**

Ground Water Quality  
Irrigation Scheduling  
Irrigation and Drainage  
Water Diversion and Control  
Surface Water Quality

## **Horticulture (Gardens, Nurseries, and Turfgrass) (HGNT)**

Floriculture  
Garden Center Management  
Greenhouse Production  
Horticulture  
International Horticulture  
Nursery Management  
Ornamental Horticulture  
Pomology  
Plant Breeding  
Plant Ecology  
Plant Health  
Plant Propagation  
Sod Production  
Golf Course Management

## **Specialty Agronomy/Ag Education (SAAE)**

Agricultural Climatology  
Agro-Forestry  
Agronomic Education  
International Agronomy  
Tropical Agriculture

## EXAMPLE

## Crop Advising Experience Form CERTIFIED CROP ADVISER

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. List full-time positions in sequential order, ending with current position.
2. List only positions in the area of crop advising. Work experience while obtaining a degree should be included.
3. List beginning and ending month and year for all positions.
4. Show the percent of time on an annual basis for each work activity (should total 100%).
5. Under reference, list the reference(s) most familiar with each work experience.
6. Duties and responsibilities should be specific and detailed.

**Actual Experience**

30%  
25%  
20%  
15%

**CCA Experience**

1.00 year per year involved  
0.83 year per year involved  
0.66 year per year involved  
0.50 year per year involved

## EXAMPLE

## Employment Information

Length From To	Degree Level	Employer Name, Location	Professional Title	% Time	Duties and Responsibilities	% Time/ Activity	Reference
7/91-7/94	High School	Agway Lancaster, PA	Field Sales Crops/Dairy	100	Advising farmers on crop production Develop crop plans for corn, potatoes, and tobacco Take soil tests Scout fields for insects  Application of pesticides  Dairy sales	25 15 10 5  15  30	Dave Smith 555-2143
		25% crop advising = .83 yr. Total that applies to Crop Advising Experience is 2.49 years (.83 × 3 years)					
9/94-9/01	High School	Sure Grow London, ON	Field sales	100	Advise farmers on crop production Develop fertilizer plans for corn, soybeans, and snapbeans for 17 growers Develop weed and insect control programs for all crops Field scouting Oversee variety trials for corn and soybeans  Manage blend plant	40 15  15  10 5  15	John Brown 555-8693
		40% crop advising = 1 yr. Total that applies to Crop Advising Experience is 7.0 years (1 × 7.0 years)					





# CCA Reference Form—Employer

FORM 1

*Applicant completes top portion*

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's phone number

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reference name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Note to Applicant:** Please complete the above information and give this form to the reference. The reference needs to complete the questions on the reverse side, have their signature witnessed or notarized and forward to CCA, 5585 Guilford Road, Madison, WI 53711-5801.

**Note to Reference:** The above-named individual is applying for CCA certification and has requested that you act as a reference. Once completed, please mail to CCA, 5585 Guilford Road, Madison, WI 53711-5801. An applicant must provide at least two non-relative references who are familiar with her/his experience providing crop management advice to client(s) (e.g. farmers, growers, farm managers/operators). By completing this form you will be acting as a reference for the applicant named above.

Please answer the questions on the back of this form, and include any additional comments that you feel may be helpful. This form will be reviewed by the CCA Local Board to ensure that the applicant has the necessary experience to be certified as a crop adviser.

To become certified, a prospective applicant must pass the international and local board CCA examinations. Applicants must have knowledge and skills in the areas of nutrient management, soil and water management, integrated pest management, and crop management. As a reference, by checking 5 and 6 on this form, you are acknowledging that the applicant has skills in these areas. The applicant must also have their credentials reviewed and meet one of the conditions below:

- Two years of experience providing crop management advice to farmers/growers plus a baccalaureate degree in agriculture, **or**
- Three years of experience providing crop management advice to farmers/growers plus an Associates Degree (Two Year) in Agriculture, **or**
- Four years of experience providing crop management advice.

**Please sign this form**

Have your signature witnessed or notarized and return to: CCA  
5585 Guilford Road  
Madison, WI 53711-5801



# CCA Reference Form—Client

FORM 2

*Applicant completes top portion*

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's phone number

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reference name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Note to Applicant:** Please complete the above information and give this form to the reference. The reference needs to complete the questions on the reverse side, have their signature witnessed or notarized and forward to CCA, 5585 Guilford Road, Madison, WI 53711-5801.

**Note to Reference:** The above-named individual is applying for CCA certification and has requested that you act as a reference. Once completed, please mail to CCA, 5585 Guilford Road, Madison, WI 53711-5801. An applicant must provide at least two non-relative references who are familiar with her/his experience providing crop management advice to client(s) (e.g. farmers, growers, farm managers/operators).. By completing this form you will be acting as a reference for the applicant named above.

Please answer the questions on the back of this form, and include any additional comments that you feel may be helpful. This form will be reviewed by the CCA Local Board to ensure that the applicant has the necessary experience to be certified as a crop adviser.

To become certified, a prospective applicant must pass the international and local board CCA examinations. Applicants must have knowledge and skills in the areas of nutrient management, soil and water management, integrated pest management, and crop management. As a reference, by checking 5 and 6 on this form, you are acknowledging that the applicant has skills in these areas. The applicant must also have their credentials reviewed and meet one of the conditions below:

- Two years of experience providing crop management advice to farmers/growers plus a baccalaureate degree in agriculture, **or**
- Three years of experience providing crop management advice to farmers/growers plus an Associates Degree (Two Year) in Agriculture, **or**
- Four years of experience providing crop management advice.

**Please sign this form**

Have your signature witnessed or notarized and return to: CCA  
5585 Guilford Road  
Madison, WI 53711-5801









# Certification Maintenance

## A. Renewal

### 1. Annual Renewal

- a. Certification may be renewed annually by payment of the appropriate fee. At the end of the certification continuing education cycle, renewal requires evidence of completion of continuing education units and the appropriate fee.
- b. Renewal is due annually on 1 January, and is considered delinquent if not paid within 30 days after the annual date. Certification is re-instated with payment of the annual fee plus a late fee. The registrant's name will be dropped from the active Registry if the fee is not paid before 1 April.

## B. Certification Maintenance/ Continuing Education Requirements

1. Every 2 years a Certified Crop Adviser must complete 40 hours of continuing education units (CEUs). One continuing education unit is equal to one hour of classroom training. Registrants are required to take a minimum of 20 CEUs that have been CCA Board approved. CEUs submitted by registrants are subject to be audited by the registrant's local CCA board.
2. A CCA registrant's certification may be revoked for failing to maintain the required CEUs. To regain certification a registrant must appeal to the local CCA board for reinstatement or pass the international and local board exam and meet the current eligibility requirement.

## C. Denial, Revocation, or Suspension of Certification

### 1. Rights and Responsibilities

- a. The right to deny, revoke, and suspend certification is vested in the local CCA board.
- b. Since the certification is entirely voluntary, the Society (ASA) assumes no responsibility for any loss or disadvantage, real or imagined, that may be alleged to have resulted from denial of certification, or revocation or suspension of an existing certification.

### 2. Reasons for Denial, Revocation, or Suspension

- a. Certification may be denied, revoked, or suspended for any of the following reasons:
  - (1) If the local CCA board's Ethics and Standards Committee determines that the applicant does not meet the minimum requirements as stated.
  - (2) Violation of rules, regulations, or the CCA Code of Ethics established by the ICCA Board and the American Society of Agronomy.
  - (3) Misrepresentation on an application or willful submission of incorrect information or failure to include relevant information in any communication to the local CCA board or Office of the Registry.
  - (4) If the local CCA board's Ethics and Standards Committee has substantial proven charges of incompetence in the area(s) of certification.

### 3. Appeal

- a. Any applicant denied certification has the right of appeal and hearing before the entire local CCA board.
- b. Any action to revoke or suspend certification shall be preceded by a copy of the complaint.
  - (1) Registrants will be given the opportunity to appeal any such disciplinary action.

