

ICCA CEU requirements task force

Recommendations to CCA – International Council and CCA – North American Board

Numerous documents were reviewed by the task force as they deliberated their review. These included the following and are posted on the Board web page for your review:

- CEU current requirements CCA and CPAg
- CEUs 2013 by Board
- CEU pass drop info
- CEU category breakdown by year
- CEU survey 2014 CCAs
- CEU survey 2014 CCA CPAg
- CEU comparisson1

The task force was comprised of 11 CCAs of which 5 were also CPAg. After review of survey results and additional documentation, the Task Force charged with reviewing the requirements is recommending the following changes:

1. Implementation of these changes should be on January 1, 2015
2. Total number of CEUs should be: CCA – 35, CPAg – 45
3. Two year cycle remains the same, calendar based
4. The good faith leniency policy should be eliminated, meaning, a CCA and CPAg must reach the minimum required along with the category minimums or they are dropped from the program. Hardship appeal to their local board is still an option.
5. Remove the maximum of 20 for board approved self-study.
6. Keep professional development as an optional category for CCAs, no max or min.
7. Combine the nutrient management and soil and water management categories into one called Soil, Water and Nutrient management with a minimum of 10 CEUs.
8. Combine the CPAg Professional Development, Service and Study categories in to one category called Professional Development with a minimum of 5 CEUs.
9. Change the CEU tracking standard from 0.5 to 0.1 with minimum unit being 0.1 or 5 to 6 minutes to qualify as a continuing education event. This modernizes the standard and allows more electronic delivered events.

These changes keep in line with the survey results and it simplifies the process by having one standard with only an appeal process for legitimate, defined exceptions.

Local Board could grant appeals for the following extenuating circumstances:

- Long term (one month or more) medical situation, doctor documentation, this includes maternity leave
- Active military duty, certification is placed on hold until CCA returns and notifies the program
- Unemployment, 3 consecutive months or more