Steps and Qualifications for CCA certification:

— pass two comprehensive exams covering nutrient management, soil and water management, integrated pest management, and crop management

— work towards gaining documented crop advising experience
  - 2 years of experience with a Bachelors, Masters or PhD.
  - 3 years of experience with an associate degree, or
  - 4 years of experience with an unrelated degree or no degree

— must sign and adhere to the CCA Code of Ethics: CCAs always focus on grower profitability while optimizing and protecting natural resources

— once all experience is achieved and your local board approves you as a full CCA, you must earn 40 hours of continuing education every 2 years

— please see more details on www.certifiedcropadviser.org

Get Certified

Application forms, exam information, and other criteria are available at www.certifiedcropadviser.org or call 608-273-8085
What is CCA Certification?
The purpose of a certification program is to protect the public and the profession. The same is true of our certifications. They are voluntary, professional enhancements to your career. Once certified you are telling your clients, employer, and the public, “I am serious about what I do as a professional.” All successful certification programs have one common element and that is to serve and protect the public interest.

Many professions require a license to practice such as in medicine, engineering, and accounting. That license is basically a certification program offered by the state. Certification programs offered by the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) are voluntary, but offer similar benefits to the public, as state-sponsored licensing programs. Certification programs set higher standards for knowledge, skill, and conduct in any field.

The CCA Candidate certification is perfect for those who want to jumpstart their career in agriculture, whether just out of high school or college. Pass the exams and work toward achieving the years of experience that are required for full CCA certification.

Who Should Be Certified?
Any individual whose education, experience, and career path is associated with the practice of agronomy, including:

- Field agronomists or salespeople working in public, private, or commercial sectors
- Consultants and farm managers
- Natural resource conservation personnel
- Educators and extension specialists
- Government and academic scientists and agronomy researchers
- Technical support personnel

Benefits of being certified:
Enhanced marketability to employers
Increased income potential
Raised reputation in community
Creates opportunity for advancement