



CYC-P

Professional Level CYC Certification

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Professional Level CYC Certification is designed for practitioners who demonstrate the full range of knowledge and skills described in the five domains of the CYC competency document. This is the highest certification level in the field and is based on extensive demonstration of competence. It is designed for practitioners who:

- Demonstrate the full range of knowledge and skills needed for competent practice. Practitioners often have work experience in multiple practice settings in a variety of direct care, supervisory, programmatic, and administrative capacities.
- Graduate from baccalaureate, masters or doctoral degree programs based on the five competency domains. Graduates who test upon completion of the degree program may qualify for Provisional Certification.
- Provide supervision to relatively large groups of staff or serve as a program developer, administrator, senior supervisor, researcher, trainer or educator.
- Have a minimum of five (5) years experience working with children, youth & families (less with higher educational attainment).
- Are employed in a variety of settings including: early care and education, after school, mental health, education, group living, emergency shelters, disabilities programs, juvenile justice, recreation, transitional living and community youth serving organizations.

REQUIREMENTS

Practitioners complete the Professional level exam with a score of 65% or higher, complete a Professional level application packet and submit supporting documentation to demonstrate the requirements outlined below.

Applicants have 6 months from the date of testing to submit their application packet and supporting documentation. A one-time, six month extension can be granted (\$20 fee) to extend the time to a full year period. This is typically submitted and paid for when the application is submitted.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Applicants document one of the following:

	Education Diploma/degree must be from a regionally accredited school, college or university.	Documented Experience May include internship, practicum, and/or field placement hours included in the diploma, certificate, or credentialing program.
<input type="checkbox"/>	High School Diploma or GED	5 years/10,000 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 year Associate's degree/diploma	3 years/6,000 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 year diploma in child and youth care	3 years/6,000 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 year diploma in child and youth care	2 years/4,000 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bachelor's degree in a non-related field	2 years/4,000 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bachelor's degree in child and youth care	1 year/2,000 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Master's or doctorate degree	1 year/2,000 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provisional Certification: I have a degree/diploma from or am currently enrolled in an educational program relevant to child and youth care practice, can meet all of the certification requirements for this level except experience, and have a plan in place to meet the experience requirement within the next 30 months.	

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Applicant documents at least 250 hours training in the following CYC competency domains:

Professionalism	20 hours
Cultural and human diversity	20 hours
Applied human development	20 hours
Relationship and communication	40 hours
Developmental practice methods	80 hours
Other (not assigned to specific domain)	70 hours

This may include a variety of in-service training, conferences, seminars, workshops, college/university courses, and/or self-directed learning modules. Documentation of completion can be by certificate of completion, class attendance record, employer training records, letter from training provider, etc.

At least 100 hours must have been completed during the past five years. The remaining 150 hours can have been completed anytime during your career. Documentation must indicate title, date, duration of training, and name/credentials of instructor.

REFERENCES

Applicants submit the following references recommending the applicant for certification.

Two Colleague References
One Supervisor Assessment

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Applicants submit proof of individual membership in a professional association relevant to CYC practice. Visit the [Professional Association](#) section of this website for details of characteristics of approved associations.

Membership is demonstrated by a certificate, card, or letter issued in the applicant's name that indicates that the membership is current. Organizational membership does not meet the requirement for professional association membership.

ELIGIBILITY STATEMENTS

The applicant signs a statement attesting to the following:

I have read and agree to abide by the Standards for Practice of North American Child and Youth Care Professionals. I understand that my adherence to these standards of practice does not restrict my use of other codes relevant to my practice or employment.

I have or will complete the CYC-P Portfolio and submit it by email.

I understand that certification is granted based on meeting the minimum requirements as fully outlined at www.cyccb.org and that no promise or guarantee is made that certification will be granted.

I am not currently under investigation nor have I been convicted of any crime(s) that would cause me to be denied employment working with children, youth or families in the state or province where I live and/or work. By signing this application I am agreeing to immediately notify CYCCB if my criminal history status changes. Failure to abide by this requirement is grounds for termination of certification.

I certify that the information submitted on this application is true and that any misleading statements will be cause for my application to be denied.

I give my employers included in this application permission to provide confirmation of my work history including length of employment (beginning and ending dates), whether the work was full or part time (if part time, then the actual number of hours worked), and job title.

RENEWAL

Renewal of the certificate is required on a two year cycle before the anniversary date of the certificate. Retesting is not required. For more information visit the RENEWAL page of this website.

PROVISIONAL PROFESSIONAL LEVEL CYC CERTIFICATION

Provisional Professional Level CYC Certification is available for practitioners who meet all the requirements listed above with the exception of experience. Provisional applicants document current attendance at or graduation from a college degree program that includes classes aligned to the 5 domains of the CYC competencies.

The Professional Level CYC Certification is owned by the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice and is licensed for use by CYCCB.