



Recertification: Frequently Asked Questions

General Concepts

Q: What is the difference between renewals and recertification?

A: We use the term recertification when it comes to certification. We use the term renewals when it comes to CSI membership. Recertification is separate from membership renewal.

Q: What does recertification mean?

A: For those who have earned a CSI Certification, every 3 years you'll need to submit 24 Learning Units (LUs) and pay a recertification fee.

Q: Why was the CDT changed to a certification requiring recertification?

A: In 2018, the CSI Board of Directors moved to evolve the CDT from a certificate program to a certification. Professional certifications require ongoing continuing education to demonstrate that credential holders are staying up to date on industry practices. This elevates the CDT's value and professionalism within the industry.

Q: I earned my CDT several years ago and was told it would be evergreen.

A: If you earned or were awarded the CDT before 2018, it was considered a certificate program, which measures your knowledge at that one point in time. With the transition to a certification, the CDT now demonstrates ongoing knowledge and competency. It shows employers and peers that you are staying current with industry changes.

Costs & Fees

Q: How much does recertification cost?

A: The cost for recertification is \$160 for CSI members and \$220 for nonmembers. After your certification expires, there is a 30-day grace period in which you can reinstate for \$205 for members and \$265 for nonmembers.

Q: Where is the recertification income for CSI directed?

A: Recertification fees are reinvested into member education, certification program improvements, and development of the CSI Learning Library. Revenue also supports course development and industry research to keep certifications valid.





Q: I have both the CCS and the CDT. Do I have to pay both fees to maintain both certifications?

A: Yes, there are 2 individual fees.

Q: Can I pay the recertification fee before uploading my LUs?

A: No.

Learning Units (LUs)

Q: How do I log my LUs?

A:

1. Go to the Certification tab → Attribute/Add Learning Units.
2. Complete the required fields and click Complete.
3. Be sure to select the credential and enter the hours. Otherwise, the LU won't be applied.

Q: Why can't I submit my (LUs) for recertification now?

A: You can enter your LUs anytime, but they are not reviewed until the application is submitted. The recertify button appears 90 days before your recertification deadline.

Q: What is the easiest way for me to build up the hours needed to recertify?

A: CSI's Learning Library offers both live and on-demand LUs. Members should also watch for free programs offered periodically.

Q: Do CSI chapters and region educational offerings count as LUs?

A: Yes, if they are related to exam domains or construction in general and meet LU guidelines.

Q: What are some of the different ways you can earn LUs?

A: CSI recognizes many ways adults continue learning. In collaboration with the Certification Committee, a chart of accepted activities is provided. Examples include volunteering, teaching, presenting, and coursework. Be mindful of maximums for each activity type.





Q: Can you use AIA Learning Units for the certifications?

A: Yes. Upload your AIA transcript instead of entering each program individually. This is a great time saver.

Q: What are “acceptable education sources” and what counts as “evidence of completion?”

A: Acceptable sources include any provider offering education relevant to CDT domains. Recommended starting point: CSI Learning Library. AIA courses generally count, along with many other industry offerings.

Q: If I have multiple credentials, can I use the same LUs for multiple recertifications?

A: Yes. If you are recertifying 2 or more credentials within the same 3-year cycle, up to 12 LUs (or 50%) may overlap. When submitting, check the boxes for all credentials the LUs apply to (up to 2). This ensures accurate credit toward each certification.

Q: How do I log volunteer hours?

A: No documentation is required. All CSI Volunteers may enter 2 LUs per year for each year served. Opportunities are posted in the CSI Volunteer Portal.

Q: If I’m presenting a course, can that count as an LU?

A: Yes. Instructors/presenters may claim up to 2 LUs per year, or 6 total per 3-year cycle.

Q: Are there maximums on types of LU you accept?

A: Yes. For example, presenting/authoring is capped at 2 LUs per year (6 total over 3 years).

Q: I'm a telecommunications engineer. Will my industry courses apply?

A: Yes, if the content relates to CDT domains.

Q: I am PMP certified. Do any of those count?

A: Possibly. Project management courses generally qualify if relevant to CDT domains.





Eligibility & Requirements

Q: If you have other CSI certifications, do you have to recertify your CDT?

A: It is a personal choice. We would love for you to keep all your CSI certifications up to date; however, we recognize that some who have earned specialty certifications like the CCS or CCCA may opt not to continue the CDT. If you choose to go that route, you may still maintain your specialty credential.

Q: Is the CDT required to earn the CCCA or CCS?

A: No. Familiarize yourself with exam requirements by downloading the candidate handbook (free) via the CSI Bookstore.

Q: Is membership in CSI required to recertify?

A: No.

Q: Do I need to retest to recertify my CDT?

A: You do not need to retest if you complete your LUs and pay the recertification fee.

Deadlines & Expiration

Q: How are the recertification expiration dates determined?

A: Expiration is every 3 years. From 2018 onward:

- Spring testers: June 30 expiration
- Fall testers: January 15 expiration
- CDT earned before 2018: Every 3 years after 2021; to spring or fall windows. If your assigned window is a challenge, contact CSI before your deadline to discuss adjustments.

Support

Q: Is there a support number to call for assistance?

A: Yes, contact Member Services at 1-800-689-2900, Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM ET.

