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A Note from the ICHCC

The International Commission on Health Care Certification (ICHCC) welcomes you as a candidate to sit for the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner (CCLCP) credential. There are several resources that you may want to review to answer any questions you may have regarding qualification standards, practice guidelines, ethical standards, testing fees, and recertification protocols and fees. You may wish to visit our web site at www.ichcc.org where you will find the resources that are discussed below.

The material contained in this information handbook is designed to clarify for the certification candidate any questions he or she may have during their initial stages of certification inquiry. The candidate is encouraged to call the ICHCC office for clarification of any matter, concerns or questions that have arisen as a result of reading the enclosed material. Please call the ICHCC office at (804) 378-7273 to speak to a representative regarding your question. For the candidate’s convenience, an application is included in this informational handbook. Please feel free to complete the application at your earliest convenience, which may provide some clarification to your questions.

Thank you for your interest in certification for life care planning service delivery. Best of luck to you in procuring this essential certification credential in the life care planning rehabilitative service delivery system.

V. Robert May III, Rh.D., CDE II, CRP
President – International Commission on Health Care Certification (ICHCC)
About the ICHCC

The history of the ICHCC, its various certification credentials, its certification standards and guidelines, and the specific listing of life care planning skills and tasks on which you will be tested can be found in the International Commission on Health Care Certification Practice Standards and Guidelines. This document is available to download from the ICHCC website. For convenience, a brief historical review is presented below:

The International Commission on Health Care Certification (ICHCC) was established originally as the Commission on Disability Examiner Certification (CDEC) in 1994 in response to the healthcare industry’s need for certified clinical examiners in impairment and disability rating practices. The CDEC expanded rapidly over its first 8 years such that its name was updated in the spring of 2002 to that of the International Commission on Health Care Certification. The name-change was necessary since the CDEC was offering certifications into other specialty areas of rehabilitation by 2001, and a more generic reference was required under which each of its 3 certification credentials as well as future credentials could be classified.

Credentialing in the specialty area of impairment rating and disability examination evolved as a result of meetings with allied health care providers around the country in the early 1990s. Issues were discussed that focused primarily on clinical examiner credentials, validity and reliability of rating protocols, and the establishment of a testing board to oversee the impairment rating and disability examining credentialing process. The resulting credential was the Certified Disability Evaluator (CDE) with three levels that allow for the inclusion of all professionals who are involved in measuring functional performance of persons reporting impairment or disability. The International Commission on Health Care Certification awarded the Certified Disability Examiner I, II, and/or III (CDE I, II, III) credential to persons who have satisfied the educational program requirements and training standards established by the National Association of Disability Evaluating Professionals (NADEP), with all classroom instruction offered at regional locations around the country.

The Commission has broadened its influence in the medical and rehabilitation marketplace through its research and development of a certification program in life care planning and related catastrophic case management. Currently, comprehensive training programs in life care planning have evolved to respond to this need for life care planning services as applied to catastrophic cases. Vocational/medical rehabilitation case managers and rehabilitation nurses have established themselves as consultants and case managers in these catastrophic cases and often detail the medical and rehabilitation needs of catastrophically disabled persons. Thus, the Commission developed the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner (CCLCP) credential in response to the rapid growth and influence of case management in catastrophic disabilities and managed care in today’s health care insurance industry. Subsequent to the development of the CLCP credential, the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner (CCLCP) was established to assist in the growth of this field in Canada as more Canadian nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, counselors, psychologists, and rehabilitation counselors traveled to the United States for training in this specialty health care service delivery system.

Validity and reliability research of the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner credential was completed through Southern Illinois University, and is based specifically on the roles and function of case managers and rehabilitation nurses who provide this service as part of their case management structure. An update of life care planners’ roles and functions was completed at the University of Florida and published in the Journal of Life care planning, 9(3), 2010. The most recent updated role and function study was completed by the ICHCC and is scheduled for publication in the Journal of Life Care Planning in the Fall of 2019. Currently, there is ample literature in the professional journals that addresses life care planning, and the Commission’s research goals of identifying and establishing the background, education, and experience criteria required to competently develop life care plans have been achieved. However, there is always more research required of a dynamic service delivery system in health care such as life care planning.
The Canadian Certified Life Care Planner Credential

The purpose of the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner examination is to assess the knowledge and skills that are necessary for the processing, documentation, and the writing of the life care plan of a disabled individual. The purpose of the examination as stated above supports our mission statement in that the ICHCC is charged with "...developing and administering examinations that assess the knowledge and skills that comprise the essential functions required of life care planners...”

Why is life care planning certification important in your practice? The answer lies within the litigious nature of this specialized health care delivery service and the need to protect the consumer of services. The consumer of services can be the third-party benefit provider/defense counsel or the disabled person/plaintiff counsel, and any other referral source that may include but not limited to attending physicians, rehabilitation program medical directors, or family members. Consumer protection is achieved through the policy structure of the ICHCC such that by obtaining the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner credential, the candidate agrees to:

1. be peer reviewed
2. adhere to a set of practice standards and ethical guidelines that are research-based
3. be scrutinized by a governing board regarding his or her practice behavior
4. be disciplined in the event of a finding of fact regarding inappropriate practice behaviors and/or outcomes

Protection for the consumer of services is safeguarded through the existence of a governing board, or a Canadian Certified Life Care Planner Board of Commissioners to oversee consumer concerns/complaints as well as concerns or complaints of one’s certified peer-group. Disciplinary action may be implemented on behalf of the consumer by this governing board. Non-Canadian Certified Life Care Planners cannot assure to the consumer such safeguards or practice tenets and therefore cannot guarantee to the consumers that their work will follow a set of standards governed by a higher board of authority. The primary purpose of the Board of Commissioners is to protect the consumer as well as to regulate the actions of those persons who carry the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner credential.

Information in regards to eligibility is found in the International Commission on Health Care Certification Practice Standards and Guidelines. For your convenience, the following preliminary information is provided to you for clarification:
Eligibility:

The ICHCC requires the following criteria to be met by all candidates in order to qualify to sit for the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner examination:

- Each non-nurse candidate must have at the minimum a Bachelor’s degree. Nurse candidates must have at the minimum a Diploma in nursing.

- Each candidate must have a minimum of 120 hours of post-graduate or post-specialty degree training in life care planning or in areas that can be applied to the development of a life care plan or pertain to the service delivery applied to life care planning.

- Each candidate must also submit a sample life care plan assigned to the candidate by the respective training program or by the ICHCC for peer review.

- There must be 16 hours of training specific to a basic orientation, methodology, and standards of practice in life care planning within the required 120 hours. The 120 hours may be obtained through online training/educational programs as well as onsite presentations and conferences.

- Applicants should have a minimum of 3 years field experience in their designated area of formal training and expertise within the 5 years preceding application for certification. Final approval of any applications with ambiguity regarding experience will be left to the discretion of the ICHCC following a thorough review of the respective applications.

- Training hours acquired over a time frame of 5 years from the date of application are counted as valid for consideration. Documentation of such coursework and participation verification is required in the form of attendance verification forms and/or curriculum documentation from the training agency.

- Each candidate must hold a Masters’ Degree in a health-related field or meet the minimum academic requirements for their designated health care related profession, and be certified, licensed, or meet the legal mandates of the candidate’s respective Province that allow him or her to practice service delivery within the definition of his or her designated healthcare related profession. However, final approval of any applications with ambiguity regarding training and/or experience will be left to the discretion of the ICHCC following a thorough review of the respective applications. The opinion of the ICHCC is final.
Qualified Health Care Professional

The ICHCC does not discriminate against any applicant for the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner certification because of race, color, religion, creed, age, gender, national origin or ancestry. However, the ICHCC reserves the right to reject an application based on one's documented professional misconduct, a history of licensure or certification revocation, or convictions related to criminal misdemeanors or felony charges.

The designation of a health care professional must be specific to the care, treatment, and/or rehabilitation of individuals with significant disabilities and does not include such professions as attorney, generic educators, non-health care related administrators, etc., but does include such professions as counseling and special education with appropriate qualifications.

This designation of qualified healthcare professional is based on a background of education, training, and practice qualifications. A background of only experience and/or designated job title is not accepted as a qualified health care professional for this credential. Completion of training in life care planning, experience developing life care plans, or being qualified in the court system would not provide credential qualification without meeting the criteria for a qualified health care professional.

Those health care professionals who hold a Masters' Degree in a health related field are exempt from being required to have a primary certification. However, due to the unregulated status or professional status that varies among states, the following is offered as clarification for qualified status regarding the following professionals who do not hold a Masters Degree:

- Rehabilitation Counselor - CRC
- Case Manager - CCM
- Counselor - NCC, CRC, or State License or State Mandate to Practice
- Special Education - Undergraduate or Graduate Degree in Special Education
- Social Worker - State License in Social Work

Persons holding licensure designations as "technicians" or "assistants", to include but are not limited to Physical Therapy Assistants (PTA), Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTA), Dental Hygienists, Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), Nursing Assistants or Certified Nursing Assistants, Massage Therapists, Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN's), are excluded from qualifying to sit for the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner. However, any person meeting the above definition of a health care professional, but who also carries a "technician/assistant" title will be eligible to sit for the examination (e.g., a EMT who is a licensed RN). This does not apply to Physician Assistants as a licensed or certified PA is a qualified health care professional.
Appeals Process

The Canadian Certified Life Care Planner candidate has the right to challenge the ruling of the application review process if he or she feels that they have been denied access to the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner credential unfairly through a review of their credentials, education degree status, work history, or whether or not they met the criteria for the designation of a Qualified Health Care Professional. The candidate is required to notify the ICHCC office in writing of his or her desire to have the application further reviewed by the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner Board of Commissioners for an advisory opinion of eligibility. The ruling by the ICHCC is final.
Examination Information

Exam Structure

The Certified Life Care examination consists of 100 multiple-choice items administered online with a total time-period of 3 hours to complete the exam. An additional 10 items are included in addition to the 100 test items. These items are for field-testing and do not count in the scoring of the exam. All test answers are referenced within current professional literature from the medical, insurance, and rehabilitation professions.

Test Cutoff Score

All tests are scored by the online test software program at the submission of the last item by the candidate, and the results are sent directly to the corporate office of the International Commission on Health Care Certification. The Canadian Certified Life Care Planner examination's cutoff score and item validation were derived and achieved using the Angoff Method (Modified) (Arrasmith and Hambleton, 1988; Ashby, 2001; Biddle, 1993; Bowers and Shindoll, 1998; Carlson, Tomkowiak, and Stilp, 2009; Tiratara, 2009). The ICHCC Test Committee met on June 2-3, 2012, and one of the activities in which 18 subject matter experts (SME) (Test Committee members) participated was the determination of the cutoff test score for the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner examinations using the criterion-referenced model. The specific model used was the modified Angoff method in which rating participants discussed the characteristics of a borderline certification candidate, and a consensus was reached as to the specific characteristics to consider when reviewing each individual item. The raters were asked, "Would a borderline candidate be able to answer the item correctly?" The items that the Committee felt would be answered correctly by the borderline certification candidate were assigned a 1=yes. Items that the Committee felt that the borderline candidate would more than likely mark a wrong answer were assigned a 0=no. A second meeting of the Test Committee was held on March 1 – 2, 2013, and all items were reviewed and rated a second time by 5 committee members. A total of 208 examinations administered in 2011 through March of 2012 were used in the validation and cut-score determination study. Using the Test Analysis and Validation Program (TVAP) statistical application for validity and reliability regarding test item content and test-taker item responses, validity and reliability were established with a cutoff score of 79.

Exam Content

The Canadian Certified Life Care Planner examination is comprised of test items based on the more recent role and function (practice analysis) study of life care planners. May and Morad (2018) identified sixteen (16) knowledge domains underlying the life care planning service delivery system from which item content is applied. Please note that some of the domains contain additional information addressing the application of the test items to the respective domain. Within these domains are subdomains that provide further definitions of specific areas of the referenced domain. The ICHCC added the first knowledge domain that addresses relevant information the candidate needs to know about their testing agency. The domain titles and subdomains that apply to the CCLCP examination include the following:

Factor 1 – The International Commission on Health Care Certification Agency: These items address specific information regarding the Certified Life Care Planner and the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner credentials' certifying agency, to include but not limited to qualifications to sit for the examination, duration of active certification period, recertification options and respective requirements, and the Qualified Health Care Professional designation.

a. Document qualifications requirements to sit for the CLCP and the CCLCP examinations
b. Document certification term length
c. Document certification renewal options
d. Document how exam cut-scores are obtained.

Factor 2 - Care Plan Development

Subfactor 1 - Initial Interview

a. 14 Obtain HIPAA Release from referral source/injured person
b. 26 Schedule Initial Interview/Home Visit
c. 28 Perform face-to-face interview with injured person
d. 29 During Initial Interview/Home Visit, document current medical condition
e. 30 Document Current Medications During Initial Interview/Home Visit
f. 31 Evaluate through observation or through test cognitive status During Initial Interview/Home Visit
g. 34 Evaluate through observation physical limitations During Initial Interview/Home Visit
h. 35 Assess the need for training in activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities
   of daily living (IADLs), such as cooking, shopping, housekeeping, and budgeting
i. 37 Address needs/preferences of the evaluate and/or family
j. 39 During Initial Interview/Home Visit makes notes of potential home barriers and
   identifies some potential home modification needs
k. 40 During Initial Interview/Home Visit assesses presence of familial support system for the
   evaluate 41 Interviews immediate family members
l. 42 Identify attitudinal, social, economic, and environmental forces that may present barriers
   and/or advantages to evaluate's rehabilitation
m. 50 Examines the relationship between the evaluate's needs and existing functional
   capabilities
n. 52 Assess injured person's potential for long-term independent functioning
o. 53 Assess independent living and adaptive equipment needs.
p. 54 Assess the need for transportation (e.g., adapted/modified vehicle with hand controls)
q. 62 During Initial Interview/Home Visit documents current family members living in and
   away from residence
r. 205 Conduct a comprehensive interview with the evaluate, his/her family and/or significant
   other(s), if possible

Subfactor 2 - Referral Source Contact

a. 15 Upon receipt of referral, communicate with referral source regarding specific case needs,
   projected time for LCP completion, and projected fee for completed life care plan
b. 16 Request specific medical records

Subfactor 3 - Cost Analysis

a. 36 If applicable, specifies cost for independent living and adaptive equipment needs for
   independent function/living
b. 51 Determines costs of needed equipment for the injured person
c. 67 Specifies cost for physical therapy services
d. 68 Specifies the cost of speech therapy services
e. 69 Specifies the cost of occupational services
f. 70 Reviews current catalogs to determine the costs of assistive devices needed by the evaluate
g. 78 Specifies cost for and replacement of orthotics and prosthetics (e.g., braces, ankle/foot
   orthotics)
h. 80 Specifies cost for projected evaluations (e.g., PT/OT, SLP, individual counseling, family
   counseling, group counseling, family counseling, group counseling, marital counseling, etc.)
i. Specifies cost for projected therapeutic modalities (e.g., PT, OT, SLP, individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, marital counseling, etc.

j. Specifies cost for case management services

k. Projects associated costs for non medical diagnostic evaluations (e.g., recreational, nutritional) for the injured person

l. Specifies cost for architectural renovations for accessibility (e.g., widen doorways, ramp installations)

m. Specifies costs for evaluatee's home furnishing needs and accessories (e.g., specialty bed, portable ramps, patient lifts)

n. Specifies cost for health/strength maintenance (e.g., adaptive sports equipment, exercise/strength training)

o. Determines costs of needed social services for the evaluatee

p. Determines costs of needed medical services for the evaluatee

q. Research pricing of medical recommendations

r. Research services costs and frequencies

s. Reviews current catalogs and websites to determine the costs of needs and services

t. Provide fair and representative costs relevant to the geographic area or region

Subfactor 4 - Report Writing

a. Upon return to office, summarizes assessment/home visit

b. Maintains log of time and mileage

c. Contact attending physician and medical/rehabilitation providers

d. Documents and summarizes all meetings with medical and rehabilitative providers, and extraneous facilities.

e. Write the report to include a log of all resources contacted

f. Write the report to include a complete chronology of the medical and rehabilitation histories

g. Write the report to include demographic information

h. Write the report to include recommendations based on assessment of evaluatee, home visit, review of all medical and rehabilitative records, and communications with medical and rehabilitative team members and providers

i. Present various health care options (facility vs. home care).

j. Write the report to include comorbid conditions

k. Apply knowledge of family dynamics, gender, multicultural, and geographical issues

l. Clearly state the nature of the evaluatee's problems for referral to service providers

m. Apply knowledge regarding the types of personal care (e.g., hospital, extended care facility, subacute facility; home, hospice) when developing the life care plan

n. Recognize psychological problems (e.g., depression, suicidal ideation) requiring consultation or referral

o. Prepare case notes and reports using applicable forms and systems in order to document case activities in compliance with standard practices and regulations

p. Total all spreadsheets and check figures for accuracy

q. Finalize the plan and proof it

r. Itemize your bill for services

s. Synthesize assessment information to prioritize care needs and develop the life care plan

t. Compile and interpret evaluate information to maintain a current case record

u. Provide list and date of responses received from life care planning referral sources

v. Select evaluation/assessment instruments and strategies according to their appropriateness and usefulness for a particular client

w. As appropriate, review/utilize current literature, published research and data to provide a foundation for opinions, conclusions and life care planning recommendations
x. Use reliable, dependable, and consistent methodologies for drawing life care planning conclusions

y. Have an adequate amount of medical and other data to form recommendation

z. Address gaps in records and/or life care plan recommendations

aa. Consider the impact of aging on disability and function when developing life care planning recommendations

bb. As appropriate, rely upon qualified medical and allied health professional opinions when developing the life care plan

Subfactor 5 - Standards of Practice

a. Accept referrals only in the areas of your or your agency's competency

b. Refrain from inappropriate, distorted or untrue comments about colleagues and/or life care planning training programs

c. Identify one's own biases, strengths, and weaknesses that may affect the development of healthy client relationships

d. Avoid dual/biased relationships, including but not limited to, pre-existing personal relationships with clients, sexual contact with clients, accepting referrals from sources where objectivity can be challenged (such as dating or being married to the referral source, etc.)

e. Be credentialed in your area of expertise that also provides a mechanism for ethics complaint resolution

f. Abide by life care planning-related ethical and legal considerations of case communication and recording (e.g., confidentiality)

g. Consider the worth and dignity of individuals with catastrophic disabilities

h. Monitor to ensure that the life care planning work is performed and that it meets standards and accepted practices

i. Disclose to the evaluatee and referral sources what role you are assuming and when or if roles shift

j. Provide progress of life care plan development to retaining party

k. Apply knowledge of clinical pathways, standards of care, practice guidelines

l. When working with pediatric cases, keep abreast of guardian issues for protecting minors or those deemed mentally incompetent

m. Educate parties (e.g., attorneys, evaluatees, insurance companies, students, family members) regarding the life care planning process

n. Stay current with the relevant life care planning literature

o. Belong to an organization that reviews life care planning topics and issues, as well as offers continuing education specifically related to the industry

p. Maintain continuing education in areas associated with your life care planning practice

Subfactor 6 - Forensics

q. Serves as an expert witness in court case for an individual who sustains a catastrophic injury or a non-catastrophic injury

Subfactor 7 - Communication Skills

r. Apply interpersonal communication skills (verbal and written) when working with all parties involved in a case
Subfactor 8 - Fee Schedule

187 Establish fee schedules (how much you or your practice charge) for life care planning services to be rendered

Subfactor 9 - Practice Analysis

a. 194 Evaluate one’s own practices and compare to ongoing evidence-based practice

Factor 2 - Needs Assessment

b. 56 Determines needed medical supplies
c. 57 Determines a feasible support system for the evaluate if none exists
d. 58 Assess the need for home/attendant/facility care (e.g., personal assistance, nursing care)
e. 59 Determines Assistive Devices needed by the evaluate
f. 60 Determines evaluate’s adaptive equipment needs
g. 61 Provides an assessment of the evaluate’s potential for self-care
h. 63 Identifies the need for physical therapy services
i. 64 Identifies the need for speech therapy
j. 65 Identifies need for occupational therapy
k. 66 Determines evaluate's need for counseling services (i.e., psychological intervention, licensed professional counselor services, licensed social worker, counseling services
l. 72 Assess the need for wheelchair/mobility needs
m. 73 Assess the need for wheelchair/mobility accessories and maintenance
n. 74 Specifies cost for wheelchair/mobility needs
o. 75 Assess the need for medications and supplies (bowel/bladder supplies, skin care supplies)
p. 76 Assess the need for future routine medical care (e.g., annual evaluations, psychiatry, urology, etc.)
q. 77 Assess the need for and replacement of orthotics and prosthetics (e.g., braces, ankle/foot orthotics)
r. 79 Identifies the need for music therapy
s. 85 Determines evaluate's home furnishings and accessories needs (e.g., specialty bed, portable ramps, patient lifts)
t. 88 Assesses the evaluate's recreational equipment needs
u. 89 Assess the need for health/strength maintenance (e.g., adaptive sports equipment and exercise/strength training)
v. 91 Identifies the need for nutritional counseling
w. 92 Identifies the need for audiological services
x. 95 Assess the need for case management services
y. 179 Assess the need for projected evaluations (e.g., PT/OT, SLP, individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, marital counseling, etc.)
z. 180 Assess the need for projected therapeutic modalities (e.g., PT/OT, SLP, individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, marital counseling, etc.)
aa. 181 Assess the need for diagnostic testing/educational assessment (e.g., neuropsychological, educational, medical labs)

Subfactor 1 - Service Recommendation

a. 94 Recommend services that maximize functional capacity and independence for persons with catastrophic disabilities through the aging process
b. 99 Evaluate and select facilities that provide specialized care services for evaluatees
c. 130 Include recommendations that are within your area of expertise
Factor 3 - Vocational Consideration

a. 55 During Initial Interview/Home Visit gathers a work history from the evaluée
b. 103 Either personally or through vocational rehabilitation consult referral, identifies the
evaluée's need for long-term vocational/educational services
c. 104 Either personally or through vocational consult referral, assesses the evaluée's need for
vocational services
d. 105 Either personally or through vocational rehabilitation consult referral, determines the
evaluée's ability to pursue gainful employment
e. 106 Either personally or through vocational rehabilitation consult referral, obtains
information on past occupational/educational performance for purposes of vocational
planning
f. 107 Either personally or through vocational rehabilitation consult referral, specifies cost for
long-term vocational/educational services for the injured person
g. 202 Assess the need for short/long-term vocational/educational services
h. 203 Specifies cost for short/long-term vocational/educational services

Subfactor 1 - Economist Consult

a. 152 Consults an economist for an estimate of the lifetime costs of the LCP

Factor 4 - Litigation Support

b. 146 Add the case to your list of cases for Federal Rules of Evidence purposes, marketing,
etc.
c. 147 Assists with the development of information for settlement negotiations for legal
representatives
d. 149 Consults with a plaintiff attorney to reasonably map out what long-term care services
will be needed for the evaluée
e. 150 Consults with a defense attorney to reasonably map out what long-term care services
will be needed for the evaluée
f. 151 Provides information located in the LCP to an official of the court
g. 153 Advises the evaluée's attorney on the cross-examination of opposing counsel's expert
witness
h. 154 Recommends other expert witnesses to an evaluée's attorney when appropriate
i. 155 Advises defense attorney on the cross-examination of plaintiff counsel's expert witness
j. 156 Review the plaintiff's plan and develop a rebuttal or comparison plan when consulting
with defense attorneys

Factor 5 - Knowledge Applications

a. 174 Apply knowledge regarding legal rules (justification for valid entries in a life care plan
may vary from state to state
b. 175 Apply knowledge of health care/medical/rehabilitation terminology
c. 182 Apply medical knowledge of potential complications, injury/disease process, including
the expected length of recovery and the treatment options available
d. 183 Apply knowledge regarding the interrelationship between medical, psychological,
sociological, and behavioral components
e. 184 Apply knowledge of human growth and development as it relates to life care planning
f. 185 Apply knowledge of the existence, strengths and weaknesses of psychological and
neuropsychological assessments
Subfactor 1 - Evaluate Interactions

a. 160 Maintain contact with life care planning recipients in an empathetic, respectful, and genuine manner, and encourage participation

Subfactor 2 - Time Management

b. 191 Use effective time management strategies when developing the life care plan

Factor 6 - Marketing

c. 188 Promote and market the field of life care planning

d. 192 Perform life care planning in multiple venues (e.g., personal injury, special needs trust, case management)

e. 198 Obtain regular client feedback regarding the satisfaction with services recommended and suggestions for improvement in a life care plan

Subfactor 1 - Report Writing

a. 71 Specifies costs for maintaining the evaluate's exercise equipment

b. 84 Identifies the need for pharmaceutical counseling

c. 97 Research and investigate the community to identify client-appropriate services for creating and coordinating agency service delivery

d. 113 Write the report to include formatting the report template rather than an office clerical person

e. 119 Write the report to include bibliography

Subfactor 2 - Process Evaluation

a. 199 Perform program evaluations and research functions to document improvements in evaluate outcomes following life care plan development

Factor 7 - Information Sharing

b. 43 Educate evaluate regarding his/her rights under federal and state law

c. 44 Explain the services and limitations of various community resources to evaluates.

d. 45 Apply advocacy, negotiation, and conflict resolution knowledge.

e. 46 Educate evaluates how to facilitate choice and negotiate for needed services

Subfactor 1 - Invoicing

a. 145 Send your bill with the report

Factor 8 - Data Collection

b. 33 Observes or requests demonstration of activities of daily living During Initial Interview/Home Visit

c. 38 During Initial Interview/Home Visit evaluates socio-economic status

d. 125 Research literature for standard of care for client for national, regional, and local areas and include in report
Subfactor 1 - Expense Projection

a. 126 Write the report to include bills the evaluate is expected to incur one time only, monthly, annually, and remaining lifetime.

Subfactor 2 - Resource Application

b. 204 Apply financial management knowledge when working with evaluators (e.g., balance checkbook, banking, etc.)
c. 206 Apply risk management knowledge as it relates to life care planning.

Factor 9 - Report Preparation

a. 25 Sorts medical records by medical provider(S)
b. 32 Sorts medical records by facility
c. 116 Write the report to include all graphs and tables.
d. 118 Write the report to include category of need tables.

Subfactor 1 - Marketing

a. 12 Market LCP services through mailings, e-mail, presentations, etc.
b. 189 Provide information regarding your organization’s programs to current and potential referral sources.

Factor 10 - Records Request

a. 17 Request educational transcripts
b. 18 Request vocational/employment records
c. 19 Request financial records
d. 21 Request social records if available (i.e., foster care, juvenile detention, adult detention)

Factor 11 - Professional Development

a. 177 Attend conferences/workshops for continuing education to be applied to recertification and/or licensure renewal
b. 195 Attend professional conferences

Factor 12 - Report Writing

a. 120 Write the report to include life expectancy
b. 122 Write the report to include coding for costs
c. 208 Utilize medical coding when developing a life care plan (e.g., CPT, ICD-9/10, HCPIC coder)

Factor 13 - Financial Resources

a. 157 Apply knowledge regarding other funding sources as it relates to legal cases
b. 171 Apply managed care (insurance industry) knowledge when developing life care plans
c. 172 Apply knowledge regarding workers’ compensation benefits within the state of injury as it relates to life care planning
d. 173 Keep abreast of the laws, policies, and rule making affecting health care and disability related rehabilitation service
Factor 14 - File Development

Subfactor 1 - Primary Data Collection
a. 13 Obtain and sign retainer fee agreement from referral source

Subfactor 2 - Secondary Data Collection
b. 20 Request deposition transcripts
c. 27 Monitor evaluatee progress and outcomes during the life care planning process
d. 207 Obtain and review day-in-the-life videos of clients when developing a life care plan.

Subfactor 3 - Tertiary Data Collection
a. 201 Have a physician review the life care plan prior to submission to referral source

Factor 15 - Collaboration
b. 98 Makes referrals for assessments of the evaluatee
c. 100 Request meeting with treatment/rehabilitation team members
d. 101 Request meeting with medical providers
c. 102 Request meetings with extraneous entities that may include daycare facilities, education facilities, recreational facilities, etc.

Factor 16 - Records Review
a. 22 Review medical records, associated summaries, and all other requested records
b. 23 Review medical records from physicians, nurses, PTs, OTs, and speech therapists to assess the evaluatee's medical status
c. 24 Sorts medical records by chronological order

Subfactor 1 - Objectivity
a. 141 Remain objective in your assessments

Study Application: It was concluded by May and MoradiRekabdarkolaee (2018) that 196 functions were identified that met the definitions of 16 knowledge domains. It was also concluded that given the diversity of professional backgrounds of health care practitioners offering life care planning services (i.e., psychologists, case managers, rehabilitation counselors, vocational evaluators, physicians, nurses, etc.), life care planning is considered a subspecialty area of rehabilitation that requires the practitioner to be well informed and knowledgeable of complicated and diverse medical conditions and diagnoses. Thus, life care planners, particularly Certified Life Care Planners/Canadian Certified Life Care Planners, must have the knowledge and skill-set to be able to address the functions of any one of the 16 knowledge domains while maintaining the balance of their primary practice of health care service delivery. Additionally, life care planning consists of numerous dynamic variables that must be considered when developing a life care plan. The term “dynamic” is applied when one considers the multiple types of catastrophic disabilities and the multiple health care professions from which life care plans are developed.
Examination Testing

Administration of Exam

The ICHCC administers the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner examination online with proctor options that include online proctoring through ProctorU.com, a local community college, junior college, college, university, Sylvan Learning Center, or public library. The onsite proctor cannot have any relationship with the candidate, either as a relative, spouse, or personal friend. The test is taken at the site of the proctor's employment, and again, there are no exceptions to this rule. The candidate does not have any influence as to determining the location to where the test is to be proctored once a proctor has been secured. The ICHCC prefers the online proctoring method as a convenience to the candidate since the candidate is able to determine the location to where the test will be administered, such as his or her home, business office, or a library conference room. Specific proctor options are detailed as follows:

Option 1: Online Proctor

Our online administration of the examination is proctored by ProctorU. To register, please visit www.proctoru.com. Click on "How to Get Started" on the top-center of their home page, or click on "For Students - About Online Proctoring" on the left side of the page to get started with your registration. The advantage of using this online proctoring service is that you only pay a $35 proctoring fee and you can take it anywhere at any time that is convenient for you. Exam site is at the applicant's discretion. Please note that ICHCC will contact you when your exam is available after you have registered with ProctorU.

Option 2: On-site Proctor

Exam must be taken at a university, community college, Sylvan Learning Center, or public library where internet access is available. The password key will be sent to your proctor, and the proctor will supervise your testing experience. Do not forget to provide the name, phone number, address and e-mail address of a proctor as well as a testing site where you will be accessing the Internet.

Option 3: Group Test

Our Bylaws state that we must administer a group-test on site no less than once per 12 month period of any life care planning related conference/meeting, or at our corporate office.

The examination is a timed test that allows a total test time of 3 hours. All tests are scored by the online test software program at the submission of the last item by the candidate, and the results are sent directly to the corporate office of the International Commission on Health Care Certification.

Examination Preparation

Review courses are offered during the year and are instructed Dr. May, President of the ICHCC. Review programs are offered through the ZOOM meeting application, and the review schedule is posted on the ICHCC website.

A review book for the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner exam is available online at the ICHCC web site. The book is divided into 5 primary disability groups of which general instruction is based. The certification candidates are advised that while the actual test may address some of the content of the text, the review book in and of itself by no means addresses any specific test item.
Appeals Process

Any candidate who acquires a test score below the cut-off score may appeal the failure status of his or her test score to the ICHCC. The ICHCC requests from the Certification Program Administrator re-scoring of the test through a manual procedure, comparing the answers of each question to that of an answer key. The results of the manual scoring are final and are reported directly to the ICHCC Administration. It is the Administration's responsibility to inform the certification candidate of the final pass-fail status of the respective exam in question.
Fees

Payments by check or money order should be made payable to ICHCC. Credit card payments may be processed online at ichcc.org.

Examination Fee: $445
Review book: $60 + Shipping/Handling
Life Care Plan Review: $350*

*If you have not had one of your life care plans peer-reviewed by the training program from which you obtained your 120 hours of life care planning training, please submit an additional $350 US to have it peer-reviewed by the ICHCC Canadian Certified Life Care Planner Commissioners.

Please forward your CCLCP Application using email, fax, or regular mail and payment to:

The International Commission on Health Care Certification
13801 Village Mill Drive, Suite 103
Midlothian, VA 23113
Phone Number: (804) 378-7273
Fax: (804) 378-7267
Email: ichcc1@gmail.com

Payment may be made on the ICHCC website:

- Click on the shopping cart icon in the top right corner of the page.
- Under ICHCC Product Categories, choose Canadian Certified Life Care Planner (CCLCP)
- Add exam to your cart and check out, using the Guest option.
Certification Maintenance and Renewal

The International Commission on Health Care Certification asserts that certified professionals should maintain a high level of skill and knowledge through development of professional skills and continuing education. Requirements for certification renewal are designed to encourage the continuation of professional development which will aid in the effective delivery of health care services. Goals include but are not limited to:

- Exploration of valid and reliable testing protocols.
- Enhancement of one's skills in their area of concentration and certification.
- Developing informational resources for their area of concentration.
- Enhancement of professional assessment and processing skills.
- Exploration of new strategies for problem solving in their areas of concentration.
- Acquiring knowledge in specific areas of disabilities, vocational applications, case management, technology, public and private insurance benefit programs, legislation, and legal implications.

Options for Recertification

I. Continuing Education Units

ICHCC requires 80 Continuing Education Units for Canadian Certified Life Care Planner recertification every five (5) years. Eight (8) of these 80 required hours must relate to Ethics. Documentation is required to validate that the education or training has been successfully completed in one or more of the focus areas related to life care planning.

- Preapproved: If a course was pre-approved, the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner professional only needs to send the attendance verification and the attached form.

- Non-Preapproved: If the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner professional attended a program which was not approved for Canadian Certified Life Care Planner hours, the required documentation must be submitted and is subject to review. This includes the program agenda and the attendance verification/certificate of completion.

The recertification fee is $350 if all courses are preapproved. Should any course be non-preapproved, a recertification fee of $400 must be submitted. Information on Preapproved programs are listed on our website at www.ichcc.org.

II. Extension

Persons who have completed 30 of the 80 hours required for continuing education of the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner may request a review for extension. Each request will be reviewed individually. Documentation of the current continuing education hours must be completed and sufficient time must be allowed before the current certification expires. An extension is granted for up to six months.

An Extension Fee of $100 must be submitted in order for consideration of a six month extension.

III. Re-examination

The fee is $445 and covers both the examination fee and certification renewal.
It is the credentialed provider’s ultimate responsibility to renew the certification by the expiration date on the credential certificate. Reasonable efforts will be made to send the renewal information; however, it is the credentialed provider’s responsibility to renew the certification by the expiration date on the credential certificate.

Sources of Continuing Education

The International Commission on Health Care Certification never recommends one training program over another. The interested service provider candidate for any credential should review the preapproved training programs located on the ICHCC website at www.ichcc.org for a detailed review of training in this specialty field in health care.

Education and training for certification maintenance may be obtained from a number of potential sources including in-service training programs, seminars and workshops, college and university courses, national and regional conferences, as well as professional publications and presentations related to the focus areas of each respective credential.

ICHCC will approve continuing education activities for individuals on a post-attendance basis. Programs should be at least 60 minutes in length. They must be offered in accessible, barrier-free locations. The purpose of the program should be clearly defined in terms of objectives and expected outcome and designed to increase the participant’s knowledge in the focus areas outlined below.

Information required for approval includes each item under the following:

1. **In-services, Seminars, Workshops & National/Regional Conferences**
   - Submission of original documentation verifying participation
   - Submission of program agenda
   - Completion of Request for Approval form.

2. **Relevant College or University Courses**
   - Official transcript and course description
   - Completion of Request for Approval form.

3. **Professional Presentation: Development & Presentation**
   - Maximum Credit: 10 clock hours for each original 1 hour presentation
   - Reference Material/Bibliography utilized
   - Copy of printed program listing you as presenter
   - Copy of “Presenter Notes” from Overhead/Slide Presentation Software used in presentation
   - Completion of Request for Approval form

4. **Professional Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals**
   - Maximum Credit: 25 clock hours for each publication
   - Submission of a copy of the publication, including references
   - Completion of Request for Approval form
5. Other Publications serving Rehabilitation Professionals
   - Maximum Credit: 15 clock hours for each publication
   - Submission of copy of publication, including references
   - Completion of Request for Approval form.

6. Item Writing
   - Maximum Credit: 10 clock hours for each item accepted and utilized in the CANADIAN CERTIFIED LIFE CARE PLANNER examination
   - Submission of item with APA style references

Note: A letter or other form of written verification from workshop, seminar, and conference providers will also be accepted, providing information concerning content, clock hours, and attendance is included.

Academic credit is converted as follows:

- One quarter hour of academic credit equals 10 clock hours
- One semester hour equals 15 clock hours.

Appeals

An appeals process is available for any ICHCC certificant who feels his or her application for renewal was processed in an inaccurate or unfair manner. Any appeals procedure is administered by the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner /Certified Life Care Planner Board of Commissioners.
Standards & Guidelines: Revocation, Ethics, Confidentiality

The applicant acknowledges that the information submitted on a signed application is accurate. ICHCC retains the right to revoke or suspend certification if a certification is granted on the basis of false, misleading or inaccurate information if such information becomes evident upon inquiry. Failure to renew your certification will result in the revocation of your certified status.

Code of Professional Ethics

The International Commission on Health Care Certification has adopted the Code of Professional Ethics with direction and input from documents from the Codes and Standards of and statements from the following professional organizations:

- Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification
- National Association of Rehabilitation Professionals in the Private Sector
- National Rehabilitation Administration Association
- Virginia Board of Professional Counselors
- North Carolina Board of Professional Counselors

All certified health care professionals under the International Commission on Healthcare Certification (ICHCC) are expected to make fair and impartial assessments regarding the functional capabilities and needs of the referred individual, whether that individual is considered to be catastrophically injured or adventurously injured with a manageable orthopaedic or neurological diagnosis. Life care plans are required to be thorough with competent research conducted for each identified category of need, and opinions and conclusions structured without regard for personal reimbursement resources. Where the credentialed health care professional finds that a functional examination is required to complete their service delivery, administered examinations with conclusions and recommendations supported by tests or evaluation components that have established reliability and validity are expected to be utilized. Concluding opinions are based on the performance results over an entire test battery, and are not based on the results of one test within the examination protocol. Concluding opinions are rendered without regard for third-party reimbursement resource attitudes or biases.

Certified health care professionals under the ICHCC are obligated to perform activities within their respective certification areas which have been researched to suggest that these activities are an integral part of their roles and functions. For example, Canadian Certified Life Care Planners are responsible for collecting and processing intake information, and to assess the client's medical and independent living needs, assess their vocational feasibility and options, and to provide consulting services to the legal system. But above all, the certified professionals of the ICHCC must demonstrate adherence to ethical standards and must ensure that the standards are enforced. The Code of Professional Ethics is designed to serve as a reference for professionals who carry ICHCC certification credentials, thus ensuring that acceptable behavior and conduct are clarified, defined and maintained. The basic objective of the Code of Professional Ethics is to promote the welfare of service recipients by specifying and enforcing ethical behavior expected of disability examiners and life care planners.

The primary obligation of the certified health care professionals under the ICHCC is to the disabled person in question. Only when the certified health care professional is requested to perform an independent medical examination does the obligation of the disability examiner shift to that of the referring party since there is no physician/patient relationship. The same principle applies when the certified individual is approached by the third party funding source to critique a previously written report or care plan developed per the request of the disabled individual's legal representative. The certified professional is obligated to communicate to the third party referral source any discoveries which may benefit the disabled person in question regarding additional rehabilitation or vocational options.
The Code of Professional Ethics consists of two types of standards: Principles and Rules of Professional Conduct. The Principles are general standards which provide a definition of the category under which specific rules are assigned. While the Principles are general in concept, the rules are exacting standards which provide guidance in specific circumstances.

Certified health care providers who violate the Professional Code of Ethics are subject to disciplinary action. A rule violation is interpreted as a violation of the applicable principle and any one of its general applicable principles. The ICHCC considers the use of any of its certifications acronyms in a signature line and in one’s curricula vitae a privilege, and reserves unto itself the power to suspend or to revoke the privilege or to approve other penalties for a Rule violation. Disciplinary penalties are imposed as warranted by the severity of the offense and circumstances. All disciplinary actions are undertaken in accordance with published procedures and penalties designed to assure the proper enforcement of the Code of Professional Ethics within the framework of due process and equal protection of the laws.

When there is reason to question the ethical propriety of specific behaviors, persons are encouraged to refrain from engaging in such behaviors until the matter has been clarified by the ICHCC Ethics Committee. Persons credentialed under the ICHCC who need assistance in interpreting the Code should request in writing an advisory opinion from the International Commission on Health Care Certification.

Confidentiality

Canadian Certified Life Care Planner Test Candidates are prohibited from sharing information that may involve discussing, documenting, and in anyway revealing test content, particular items, or item choices that include the correct answer and the associated distracters.

Inquiries regarding a particular certificant’s certification status are provided the following information:

1. If the individual is certified or is not certified as an ICHCC credential holder.
2. If the individual is certified, the certifying date and renewal dates (if any) are provided
3. If the individual has been found to be in violation of any professional conduct or ethical violations, and what Principle(s) were violated

Test scores of all certification candidates are held in strict confidence within the ICHCC corporate office. Specific test scores are not released to any certification candidate; only their pass or fail status as determined statistically through the standard score protocol is released.

Scores are held in confidence by the ICHCC as a means to avoid the promotion of competitive embarrassment among life care planners seeking to gain a market-edge over their peers, and to avoid low test score applicants from being penalized through the referral process favoring those who scored higher on the examination. Test scores are not released to the public under any circumstances except through legal subpoena.
ICHCC Practice Standards and Guidelines

Please review the Information located in the *ICHCC Practice Standards and Guidelines* manual for a detailed description of ICHCC's Appeals Process, Confidentiality Policy, Ethical Complaints Process, Principles, and Associated Rules.

References


APPLICATION
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please use the following form to assist with your application for the CCLCP credential. Copies of the following must be included with your application. Please note that these will not be returned to you.

☐ Fully Completed Application

☐ Copy of diploma

☐ Copy of certificate from completed training course(s)

☐ Curricula Vitae

☐ Copy of sample Life Care Plan that was submitted for peer review*

☐ Copy of the peer reviewed critique of your sample life care plan.

☐ Test Fee of $445 payable to ICHCC

*If your program did not require you to submit a work sample (trial life care plan), then you must complete one for review by the CCLCP/CCCLP Board of Commissioners before you can sit for the examination. Our office will provide you with a sample case for which you will write a life care plan based on the medicals you receive specific to the case. A $350 fee will be charged for the peer-review. Please contact our office at (804) 378-7273 for additional information.

Applications may be faxed, mailed, or emailed to:

ICHCC
13801 Village Mill Drive, Suite 103
Midlothian, VA 23114
Office (804) 378-7273
Fax: (804) 378-7267
Email: icheccl@gmail.com

Credit card payments may be processed online at ichcc.org. If paying online, choose the shopping cart icon in the top right hand corner of the page. Payments outside of the US must be by money order or cashier’s check in United States Dollars, payable to ICHCC.

We look forward to the many possibilities ahead for you. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (804) 378-7273.

With best regards,

The International Commission on Health Care Certification
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
Canadian Certified Life Care Planner

INSTRUCTIONS
Date: __________________________

Print and complete all items that apply to you. Please DO NOT STAPLE. Make sure all documents are submitted with your application. Please note that these items will not be returned to you.

Please write clearly and legibly

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name ____________________________________________

Address _________________________________________

City ___________________________ State _______ Zip ________

Phone ___________________________ Email ______________________

Mailing Address (if different from above):

Address _________________________________________

City ___________________________ State _______ Zip ________

EDUCATION INFORMATION

Please attach a copy of your educational degree(s) and any other certification or credential you wish to have recognized by the Commission.

College/University ___________________________ Degree Awarded ___________________________

Bachelor's __________________________________

Master's ____________________________________

Doctoral ____________________________________

Nursing _____________________________________

_____ Diploma-RN _____ Associates-RN _____ BSN-RN _____ MSN-RN
ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Please use the following space below for additional certifications or credentials awarded. A copy of the credential must be attached.

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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Please list by most recent. Include only the past five years of employment. Attach additional information if necessary.

Current Professional Title __________________________________________
Employer Name ______________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________
City _____________________________ State _____ Zip ________________
Phone ___________________________ Time Employed ____________________

Professional Title ________________________________________________
Employer Name ______________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________
City _____________________________ State _____ Zip ________________
Phone ___________________________ Time Employed ____________________
Professional Title ____________________________________________________________________________

Employer Name ____________________________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State _______ Zip ____________

Phone __________________________ Time Employed ________________

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS AND TRAINING

A minimum of 120 hours is required to satisfy this section of the application. Certificate of Completion must be attached for each documented training program/course. Certification must be obtained within five years from graduation date. Include training and education units acquired within the last 5 year period.

120 LCP Program Attended: __________________________________________________________________

Completion Date: __________________________________________________________________________

TESTING INFORMATION

Please review the Examination Testing section of this handbook for additional information on options for scheduling your exam.

OPTION 1:

Our online administration of the examination is proctored by ProctorU. To register, please visit www.proctoru.com. Exam site is at the applicant’s discretion. Please note that ICHCC will contact you when your exam is available after you have registered with ProctorU.

Requested Exam Date ________________________________________________________________________

OPTION 2:

Exam must be taken at a university, community college, Sylvan Learning Center, or public library. The password key will be sent to your proctor, and the proctor will supervise your testing experience.

Exam Site _________________________________________________________________________________

Exam Date ________________________________________________________________________________

Proctor Information:

Name ____________________________________________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________ Province _______ Postal Code ________________

Phone __________________________ Email __________________________________________________________________________
EXAM FEES

- Canadian Certified Life Care Planner Examination Fee: $445

Payments by check or money order should be made payable to ICHCC. Credit card payments may be processed online at ichcc.org. Payments outside of the US must be by money order or cashier's check in United States Dollars, payable to ICHCC.

- Review books may be purchased online at ichcc.org for $60 plus shipping and handling

- Canadian Certified Life Care Planner Exam Review Webinar $150

See ICHCC.org website for dates and application form

DISCLAIMER AND SIGNATURE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the facts set forth in this application for the Canadian Certified Life Care Planner credential are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I am certified, false statements on this application shall be considered sufficient cause for dismissal and revocation of my credential. I authorize the Commission on Health Care Certification to provide validation to any organization on my certification status upon request.

I have read and fully understand the contents of this handbook and will abide by the standards and guidelines set forth by the Commission.

______________________________  ______________________________
Signature                                      Date

______________________________
Printed

Below, please print name and credentials exactly as they should appear on your certificate:
**Optional:**

The following is **not** required and is used for statistical analysis only.

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