

# IEA Workers' Compensation Programs FAQ

## What are IEA's various workers' compensation programs?

- **Intro to Workers' Compensation Claims** – IEA offers two introductory courses on California workers' compensation claims. CA8 is offered as a four-week distance learning program and WC006 is offered as a two-day in-person workshop. Both programs offer a high-level overview on the basics of California workers' compensation claims.
  - Who should attend:
    - Those new to workers' compensation claims
    - Those considering a move to workers' compensation claims
    - Those employed by third party administrators
    - Those employed by self-insured employers
    - HR professionals
    - Benefit Professionals
    - Disability management professionals
    - Risk management professionals
    - Safety professionals
    - Staff of law firms handling workers' compensation claims
  
- **CPWC (Claims Practitioner in Workers' Compensation)** is a 24-module certificate program that delves more deeply into the practical aspects of California workers' compensation claims than other introductory programs. This certificate lays the foundation for a great start towards a successful career in workers' compensation claims and is especially designed to provide the requisite 120 hours of classroom time required for the CA-WC indemnity adjuster certification.
  - CPWC has three track options
    - IND: Indemnity Workers' Compensation Adjustor
    - MO: Medical Only Adjustor
    - MBR: Medical Bill Review Adjustor
  - Who should attend:
    - Workers' compensation claims professionals with less than one year of experience
    - Workers' compensation claims professionals with more than one year of experience and who could benefit from a refresher on specific subjects
    - People considering a career transition into workers' compensation claims
    - HR professionals who would like to improve bottom line results through knowledge of the workers' compensation system and workers' compensation claims
    - Anyone who needs the CA-WC initial certification or CA workers' compensation CE credits

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- **WCCA (Workers' Compensation Claims Administration)** is a certificate program, offered by The Institutes and taught by IEA, consisting of five semester length courses. The curriculum provides a comprehensive overview of California workers' compensation claims.
  - Who should attend:
    - IEA suggests that this program be taken by workers' compensation professionals who have completed the Intro to Workers' Comp, CPWC or have more than one year experience in Workers compensation
    - Anyone who needs the CA-WC initial certification or CA workers' compensation CE credits
    - Workers' compensation professionals, including those employed by insurance companies, third party administrators and self-insured employers
- **WCCP (Workers' Compensation Claims Professional)** is a designation program, offered by The Institutes and taught by IEA, intended for candidates seeking an advanced professional credential in California workers' compensation claims. It consists of four semester length courses providing in depth technical knowledge of claims practices, labor codes and current case law.
  - Who should attend:
    - The WCCP is an advanced professional designation. While the WCCA is not a specific pre-requisite for WCCP candidates, IEA recommends it in lieu of comparable experience.
    - Workers' compensation professionals, including those employed by insurance companies, third party administrators and self-insured employers
    - Anyone who needs CA workers' compensation CE credits
    - Workers' compensation professionals that want the gold standard designation in California workers' compensation claims

## **What is the difference between IEA's new CPWC program and the WCCA program?**

Both programs provide a solid foundation in California workers' compensation claims handling.

- **Claims Practitioner in Workers' Compensation (CPWC)** is a 24 module certificate program that was developed to meet the need of new claims practitioners as they move toward becoming a certified California WC Claims Adjuster (120 classroom hours). The program is presented at a practical desk level and provides learning opportunities through case studies and incorporating exposure to soft skills along with the technical information. Components of the CPWC will also help fulfill certification requirements for California WC Medical Review or Medical Only adjusters. The CPWC is complementary to the California Workers' Compensation Claims Administration (WCCA) certificate and an optional foundational program for the California

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Worker's Compensation Claims Professional (WCCP) designation, both offered by The Institutes and taught by IEA.

- What are the different CPWC tracks?
  - Indemnity Workers' Compensation Adjuster
  - Medical Only Adjuster
  - Medical Bill Review Adjuster

CPWC is available via LIVE Webinars with the ability to ask questions as well as in On-Demand Recorded Webinars.

- **WCCA** is a five course certification program, offered by The Institutes and taught by IEA. There is emphasis on industry wide educational objectives and knowledge solutions that are in keeping with The Institutes' high standards of professional development.
  - WCCA is currently available through live, in person classes or Online classes offered by IEA, or as a 24/7 on-line self-study class or textbook offered by The Institutes.
  - Passing The Institutes' proctored exam for each course is required to earn the WCCA Certificate.

## **How is the WCCP program different from CPWC or WCCA?**

The **WCCP** (Workers' Compensation Claims Professional) is an advanced designation program offered by The Institutes and taught by IEA. Passing The Institutes' national exam for each course at a Prometric Center or at an-site testing center is required to earn the WCCP designation.

## **If a person has started taking the WCCA, should they switch to the CPWC?**

We recommend completing the WCCA to reap the full benefit of the program. Individual component workshops of the CPWC program can be taken alongside the WCCA or after completion as supplements to the WCCA.

## **If a person already has the WCCA or WCCP, do they need the CPWC?**

The CPWC can be a refresher to those who have already earned their WCCA or WCCP. Individual component workshops of the CPWC program can be taken and will provide CA-WC CE.

## **Can a person take individual parts of the CPWC?**

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Yes, that's a benefit of this new program. Individual module topics can be taken a la carte, and there is a pricing discount for purchasing bundled packages of classes. In order to earn a certificate, all modules for the available tracks must be completed.

- What are the different CPWC tracks?
  - Indemnity Workers' Compensation Adjuster
  - Medical Only Adjuster
  - Medical Bill Review Adjuster

## **What are the modules that comprise the three different CPWC tracks?**

Please click the tracks below to see the specific modules that are required for each track

[IND: Indemnity Workers' Compensation Adjuster](#)

[MO: Medical Only Adjuster](#)

[MBR: Medical Bill Review Adjuster](#)

## **If a person has already earned the WCCA or WCCP, can they earn the CPWC by testing out of individual modules?**

Candidates who have earned the WCCA or WCCP are well positioned to progress toward more advanced designations such as CPDM or CPFI. IEA encourages this path in your professional development. As such, testing out of the CPWC by WCCA and WCCP professionals is not available.

## **Is there an on-going CE requirement for CPWC, WCCA or WCCP?**

CPWC requires six hours of CE per calendar year beginning the year AFTER the certification is completed. Participation in any IEA workers' compensation, disability management, fraud, insurance or risk management program will qualify for this requirement.

WCCA and WCCP do not require annual CE.

## **What is your relationship with The Institutes?**

The Institutes, [www.theinstitutes.org](http://www.theinstitutes.org), provides professional development opportunities in insurance, risk management, and workers' compensation. IEA has had a close relationship with The Institutes for over 100 years and are proud to teach their courses (CPCU, ARM, AINS, WCCA, WCCP), gearing students to be fully prepared to take and pass The Institutes' national exams.

## **IEA Workers' Compensation Programs FAQ**

We are also proud to be their marketing representative in California.