

CMCI believes the PMP recognizes basic project management skills and can provide a strong start toward earning the more selective and specialized CCM. We urge the industry to use the two credentials in a complementary way.

What Is It?

The CCM is administered by the Construction Manager Certification Institute (CMCI), an affiliate of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA). It is based on the CM Body of Knowledge, which includes CMAA's CM Standards of Practice and a library of other publications, among them the Construction Industry Institutes's (CII) Construction Best Practices.

The PMP credential is administered by the Project Management Institute (PMI) and is based on the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK).

Accreditation

Both credentialing programs are accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) under the ISO 17024 standard for personnel certification programs.

How Many Are There?

The CCM has been granted to nearly 4,000 professionals as of the end of 2017. These numbers highlight what CMCI sees as the key differences between the two credentials.

PMI is held by some 750,000 practitioners worldwide.

Strengths

The CM Standards of Practice contains entire chapters devoted to Project Management, Cost Management, Time Management, Quality Management, Contract Administration, Safety Management, Program Management, Sustainability, Risk Management and Building Information Modeling.

The strengths of the CCM are that it is specific to construction issues, is based on the industry's most recognized standards and best practices, and emphasizes responsible-in-charge (RIC) experience as its key qualification. This key element of leadership on the construction project is an important factor in meeting the CCM requirements.

The PMP evolved as a credential for general practitioners of project management. The PMP is primarily recognized within the information technology industry. However, in recent years, PMI has worked to expand its coverage to other fields.

For example, PMI publishes a "Construction Extension" for the PMBOK, covering a variety of topics it notes are not covered by the PMBOK or the PMP credential. Among these are construction-related health, safety, security, and environmental management; claims management; financial management in addition to cost; and management of all construction project resources, over and above human resources.

Eligibility

To qualify for the CCM, a practitioner must have a relevant college degree and extensive industry experience, including 48 months of responsible-in-charge experience spread over all project phases.

The CCM also requires a qualifying degree in an accredited construction related degree program or additional practical experience and mastery of the CM Standards of Practice.

The PMP requires a minimum of 36 months of project management experience, including 4,500 hours leading/directing projects. The distinction between leading/directing and being responsible-in-charge is critical.

Additionally, the PMP requires 35 hours of classroom PM education.