

Certified Community Supervision Professional (CCSP)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is CCSP?

The Certified Community Supervision Professional (CCSP) is a 25-hour, self-paced certification developed by APPA. It focuses on the core competencies that drive effective supervision practice: building supportive alliances, motivational mentoring, goal planning, skill building, and reflective, trauma-informed practice. This program is designed to strengthen how officers work with clients every day.

Who is this certification designed for?

CCSP is built for probation, parole, and pretrial professionals at all levels especially line officers, emerging leaders, and supervisors who want a structured, research-informed approach to effective supervision. It is also appropriate for agencies seeking to standardize practice and strengthen professional development pathways.

How long does it take to complete?

The course is 25 total hours. Participants have 90 days from enrollment to complete the program. Extensions may be requested when needed with the in-course tools.

Is this self-paced or live?

CCSP is fully self-paced and delivered online through APPA's learning platform. Participants move through modules on their own schedule within the 90-day window.

What is required to pass?

Participants must meet an 80% mastery threshold on module assessments. This is competency-based learning and reflects demonstrated understanding of the material.

What do participants receive upon completion?

Successful participants receive a digital certificate, APPA Contact Hours, and a Credly digital badge. APPA covers the cost of the badge. Credly integrates directly with the LMS, allowing participants to verify and share their credential and track active certifications.

How much does it cost?

\$850 for non-members

\$750 for APPA members

Agencies purchasing five or more seats automatically receive a 10% discount.

What payment methods are accepted?

CCSP enrollment can be purchased using major credit cards as well as Google Pay. Financing options such as Affirm, AfterPay, and Klarna are also available through the online store at checkout.

Can agencies purchase seats in bulk?

Yes. Agencies can purchase multiple seats at once, and the 10% discount is automatically applied at the store for purchases of five or more seats. This option supports team-based learning and culture alignment.

Does CCSP require agency approval?

Many agencies require approval prior to professional development purchases. Participants are encouraged to review the course overview and downloadable “Request” form and submit it to their supervisor or training manager for authorization before enrolling.

How long is the certification valid?

The CCSP credential is valid for three years. APPA is currently developing a structured re-certification pathway to ensure continued professional growth and alignment with best practices. Additional details will be shared as they are finalized.

How does this differ from a standard training course?

CCSP is structured as a certification. It defines core competencies, requires demonstrated mastery, and culminates in a recognized credential. It is designed to professionalize community supervision practice and create consistency in how evidence-based principles are applied.

Why should an agency invest in CCSP?

Agencies that invest in CCSP are investing in consistent supervision practice, improved communication and engagement skills, stronger case planning and behavior-change strategies, and professional development pathways that support retention. When practice improves, outcomes improve.