



ACTION CERTIFICATION GOVERNING BOARD

2023 RECERTIFICATION GUIDE

ACTION-CPT Program

Updated April 2023

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Introduction

About the ACTION Certification Governing Board

Mission Statement

The ACTION Certification Governing Board is committed to increasing consumer fitness and safety by providing innovative and affordable certification for aspiring and experienced personal trainers working in individual and group settings.

The ACTION Certification Governing Board was created to:

- Establish and implement the standards and procedures for the development and administration of certification programs;
- Establish and implement requirements for continuing education and recertification for credential holders;
- Bestow public recognition to those members who successfully complete the ACTION-CPT Certification examination and who fulfill continuing education and recertification requirements established by the Governing Board;
- Establish and implement a Code of Professional Conduct (including the Standards of Professional Practice) including but not limited to credentialing, review of credentials, and discipline for ACTION-CPT certified individuals;

The ACTION Certification Governing Board is responsible for developing and maintaining all certification and recertification activities related to the ACTION-CPT certification program, including eligibility, exam criteria and administration, overseeing program policy and implementation, and maintaining national standards for certification programs.

ACTION Certification, LLC, a separate entity, develops education and training for personal trainers and offers additional credentials.

Scope of ACTION-CPT Certification

ACTION Certified Personal Trainers have the skills necessary to train, educate, and motivate fitness clients and deliver safe and effective personal training. Certification as an ACTION-CPT demonstrates an understanding of the foundational knowledge necessary for entry-level personal trainers working in individual and group settings with healthy clients.

ACTION Certified Personal Trainers have the skills and abilities to:

- Perform subjective and objective fitness assessments.
- Develop safe and effective exercise programs based on principles of exercise science, anatomy, and biomechanics.

- Design comprehensive, progressive, and customized exercise programs for a variety of fitness populations (i.e. pregnant women, seniors, youths, injured, etc.).
- Assist clients in the identification and selection of fitness related goals.
- Educate clients on the importance of a balanced diet and the general dietary recommendations for weight loss and performance/strength gains.

Impartiality Regarding Training

As the governing body of a certification program, it is within the ACTION Certification Governing Board's (Governing Board) role to develop and administer certification examinations to determine the qualifications of candidates for certification. The Governing Board does not require, provide, approve, accredit, or endorse any specific study guides, review courses, or other examination preparation products.

The Governing Board does not accredit, approve, endorse, or recommend any education or training programs and/or products designed or intended to prepare candidates for certification. The Governing Board has no involvement in the development or delivery of such programs or products.

Section 1: Maintaining Your Certification

Recertification

Recertification is a mandatory process designed to ensure that ACTION-CPTs continually enhance their competency level. For this purpose, ACTION recertification guidelines require applicants to obtain continuing education throughout the renewal cycle. This consistent focus on continuing education will allow CPTs to stay abreast of the latest scientific research, professional standards, and personal training strategies.

ACTION Certification Trainers are required to renew their certification every two years. This time interval was chosen by the ACTION Governing board due to the rapid change in scientific knowledge and evolving practices of personal trainers. Continuing education is required as it allows trainers to receive an ongoing and expanded understanding of developments in the exercise sciences. Further, continuing education benefits consumers as it helps trainers provide better designed exercise programs.

Recertification Requirements

All ACTION-CPT certificants must complete the following requirements during each two-year recertification cycle:

- 1) Complete 2.0 CECs
- 2) Submit proof of current CPR/AED certification
- 3) Pay the recertification fee

CECs

ACTION Certification requires Personal Trainers to obtain 2.0 Continuing Education Credits (CECs) (20 hours) every two years. Each 0.1 CEC is worth one contact hour, contact hours are based on the amount of time spent participating in a structured fitness-related educational format.

Eligible contact hours include ACTION Certification online courses, collegiate coursework, industry contributions, and ACTION approved provider offerings.

All CECs obtained within the two-year time frame will be applied to the current recertification application.

ACTION Certified Personal Trainers have the option of obtaining these CECs through the following CEC Categories:

1. ACTION Certification Online Courses – a maximum of 1.9 CECs will be accepted from this category. Courses from this category can be found here:
<https://actioncertification.talentlms.com/catalog>

2. University/College Coursework – a maximum of 1.5 CECs will be accepted from this category
3. Industry Contributions - a maximum of 1.5 CECs will be accepted from this category
4. Approved Provider Offerings - a maximum of 1.0 CECs will be accepted from this category
5. CPR/AED Certification – a minimum of 0.1 CECs will be accepted from this category

CPR/AED Certification

Recertification also requires proof of a current CPR/AED certification card.

CPR/AED certification must be obtained from an in-person course. Online courses are not accepted.

Rationale for Recertification Requirements

The Governing Board determined that 2.0 credits (or 20 hours) every two years, is adequate to encourage ongoing learning and professional development through participation in activities designed to increase an individual's knowledge, awareness, and/or skills in personal training. The requirement is consistent with the perception that the practice of personal training changes over a fairly short amount of time, while ensuring that certificants are continually exposed to new learning.

Designated continuing education activities are required to correspond to the identified knowledge areas which are representative of the content domains identified by the job analysis. Because adult learning and professional development occur through a variety of learning experiences, continuing education hours may be earned through a variety of activities, as outlined above.

Reinstatement

Once certification expires, the ACTION-CPT credential cannot be used until it is successfully reinstated.

Certification can be reinstated within 60 days of the ACTION-CPT expiration date by submitting a complete recertification application.

ACTION Certified Personal Trainers that fail to recertify within 60 days of their certification expiration date will be required to retake and pass the ACTION-CPT exam.

ACTION Certified Personal Trainers that miss the recertification deadline due to serious illness, bereavement, natural disasters, or other emergencies should contact ACTION Support at actioncertification.org/contact-us.html as soon as possible to request a one-time extension. Extensions of up to 6 months may be granted if approved by the Governing Board. Individuals granted an extension must still meet all recertification requirements. The individual's next expiration date will not be extended, therefore a shorter time period will be available to meet the requirements for the next recertification deadline.

Recertification Applications

Recertification applications are available online at

<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/H05N6Zu3IV73v0>

A complete recertification application includes:

- 1) Non-refundable \$65 payment of the recertification fee
- 2) Proof of Complete 2.0 CECs
- 3) Submit proof of current CPR/AED certification
- 4) Completed recertification application

ACTION recertification applications can be accepted and processed as early as 60 days prior to the expiration date. Late applications will be accepted up to 60 days after the expiration date.

The Governing Board reserves the right to verify any information provided on renewal applications. All recertification applications are reviewed to ensure that all requirements are met.

Incomplete Applications

Recertification applications are considered incomplete if any of the required information is missing and/or illegible, or the appropriate fee is not included. Recertification applications must be complete before they are processed and approved.

Fees

There is a non-refundable \$65 recertification fee included in the recertification process. Applications must be completed within 30 days of the certification expiration date to avoid a \$25 late fee.

Audit and Verification Process

In order to maintain the credibility and integrity of the certification process, the Governing Board reserves the right to verify any information provided on renewal applications. Requests for verification may be made prior to recertification or at a future time.

100% percent of certification renewal applications will be reviewed to ensure that all renewal requirements are met.

If any areas of non-compliance are identified within the recertification application, the individual will have 30 days to submit any required information. If the required information is not provided, the individual's certification will expire at the end of the allowed time or on the normal expiration date (whichever comes last).

Recertification Acceptance

The Governing Board will issue a renewal letter and new certificate to the certificant once all renewal requirements have been met.

Renewal applications will not be accepted from individuals whose certification is in a state of suspension or has been revoked.

Section 2: Ethics, Conduct, Complaints & Disciplinary Actions

ACTION Certification Governing Board's Certification Personal Trainer Code of Conduct applies to all individuals credentialed by ACTION Certification Governing Board.

All applicants will agree to adhere to the Certification Personal Trainer Code of Conduct and Certification Code of Ethics (Codes) as a condition of certification. Violation of any portion of the Code of Ethics may result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Disciplinary Policy.

The Code of Ethics is available on the ACTION website.

Certification Personal Trainer Code of Conduct

ACTION Certified Personal Trainers are expected to adhere to the following standards of practice:

- Stay abreast of the latest educational and regulatory issues within the health and fitness industry.
- Obtain 2.0 CECs (20 Hours) every two years.
- Maintain current CPR and AED Certification.
- Maintain confidentiality of all client information.
- Refer clients to qualified health or medical professionals when appropriate.
- Keep up-to-date records of exercise programs and weight selection.
- Provide personal training services in an honest, caring, and professional manner.

Certification Code of Ethics

Each ACTION-CPT must:

1. Abide fully by the ACTION Certification Code of Conduct
2. Treat each colleague and client with the utmost respect and dignity
3. Use appropriate professional communication in all verbal, non-verbal, and written transactions
4. Provide and maintain an environment that ensures client safety that, at minimum, requires that the certified and non-certified member must:
 - Not diagnose or treat illness or injury unless for basic first aid or if the certified member is legally licensed to do so and is working in that capacity at that time

- Not train clients with a diagnosed health condition unless the certified member has been specifically trained to do so, is following procedures prescribed and supervised by a valid licensed medical professional, or if the certified or non-certified member is legally licensed to do so and is working in that capacity at that time
- Not begin to train a client prior to receiving and reviewing a current health-history questionnaire signed by the client
- Hold a current cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) certification at all times

5. Refer the client to the appropriate medical practitioner when, at minimum, the certified member:

- Becomes aware of any change in the client's health status or medication
- Becomes aware of an undiagnosed illness, injury, or risk factor
- Becomes aware of any unusual client pain and/or discomfort during the course of the training session that warrants professional care after the session has been discontinued and assessed

6. Refer the client to other healthcare professionals when nutritional and supplemental advice is requested unless the certified member has been specifically trained to do so or holds a credential to do so and is acting in that capacity at the time

7. Remain in good standing and maintain current certification status by acquiring all necessary continuing education requirements.

Complaints and Disciplinary Actions

ACTION Certification developed its disciplinary procedures to ensure that the enforcement process remains expedient, consistent and fair for all participants and credible to the public.

In order to maintain and enhance the credibility of the ACTION-CPT certification program, the Governing Board has adopted the following procedures to allow individuals to bring complaints concerning the conduct of ACTION-CPT certificants to the Governing Board.

In the event a certificant violates the Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct, Governing Board certification rules, requirements, and/or policies the Governing Board may reprimand or suspend the individual or may revoke certification.

Grounds for Sanctions

The grounds for sanctions under these procedures may include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Violation of the established Code of Ethics, Governing Board rules, requirements, and/or policies.
- Conviction of a felony or other crime of moral turpitude under federal or state law in a matter related to the practice of, or qualifications for, services provided by an ACTION-CPT.
- Gross negligence, willful misconduct, or other unethical conduct in the performance of services for which the individual has achieved ACTION-CPT certification.

- Fraud, falsification, or misrepresentation in an initial application or renewal application for certification.
- Falsification of any material information requested by the Governing Board.
- Misrepresentation of ACTION-CPT status, including abuse of logo.
- Cheating on any certification examination.

Actions taken under this policy do not constitute enforcement of the law, although referral to appropriate federal, state, or local government agencies may be made about the conduct of the certificant in appropriate situations. Individuals initially bringing complaints are not entitled to any relief or damages by virtue of this process, although they will receive notice of the actions taken.

Complaints

Complaint Submission

Complaints may be submitted by any individual or entity. Complaints should be reported to the Governing Board in writing and should include the name of the person submitting the complaint, the name of the person the complaint is regarding along with other relevant identifying information, a detailed description of factual allegations supporting the charges, and any relevant supporting documentation. Information submitted during the complaint and investigation process is considered confidential and will be handled in accordance with Governing Board's Confidentiality policy. Inquiries or submissions other than complaints may be reviewed and handled by the Governing Board's or its staff members at its discretion.

Information regarding the complaint process, including a complete copy of this policy and forms, will be available to the public via the ACTION web site or other published documents.

Preliminary Review

Upon receipt and preliminary review of a complaint involving the certification program the Certification Manager in consultation with the Governing Board Chair may conclude, in their sole discretion, that the submission:

- contains unreliable or insufficient information, or
- is patently frivolous or inconsequential.

In such cases, the Certification Manager and Governing Board Chair may determine that the submission does not constitute a valid and actionable complaint that would justify bringing it before the Governing Board for investigation and a determination of whether there has been a violation of substantive requirements of the certification process. If so, the submission is disposed of by notice from the certification program staff member and Governing Board Chair to its submitter, if the submitter is identified. All such preliminary dispositions by the Governing Board Chair are reported to the Governing Board at its next meeting.

Preliminary review will be conducted within 15 business days of receipt of the complaint.

If a submission is deemed by the certification program staff member and Governing Board Chair to be a valid and actionable complaint, the Governing Board Chair will see that written notice is provided to the certificant whose conduct has been called into question. The certificant whose conduct is at issue

also will be given the opportunity to respond to the complaint. The Chair also will ensure that the individual submitting the complaint receives notice that the complaint is being reviewed by the Governing Board.

Complaint Review

For each complaint that the Chair concludes is a valid and actionable complaint, the Governing Board authorizes an investigation into its specific facts or circumstances to whatever extent is necessary in order to clarify, expand, or corroborate the information provided by the submitter.

Professional Practice and Discipline Committee

The Professional Practice and Discipline Committee will investigate and make an appropriate determination with respect to each such valid and actionable complaint; the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee may review one or more such complaints as determined by the Chair. The Professional Practice and Discipline Committee initially determines whether it is appropriate to review the complaint under these Procedures or whether the matter should be referred to another entity engaged in the administration of law. The timeline for responses and for providing any additional information shall be established by the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee. The Professional Practice and Discipline Committee may be assisted in the conduct of its investigation by other members of the Governing Board and/or ACTION staff or legal counsel. The Chair exercises general supervision over all investigations.

Both the individual submitting the complaint and the certificant who is the subject of the investigation (or his or her employer) may be contacted for additional information with respect to the complaint. The Professional Practice and Discipline, or the Governing Board on its behalf, may at its discretion contact such other individuals who may have knowledge of the facts and circumstances surrounding the complaint.

All investigations and deliberations of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee and the Governing Board are conducted in confidence, with all written communications sealed and marked "Personal and Confidential," and they are conducted objectively, without any indication of pre-judgment. An investigation may be directed toward any aspect of a complaint which is relevant or potentially relevant. Formal hearings are not held and the parties are not expected to be represented by counsel, although the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee and Governing Board may consult their own counsel.

Certificants who are found to bring frivolous complaints against other certificants or ACTION may be subject to disciplinary action by the Governing Board, up to and including revocation of certification.

Members of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee will be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the activities of the Committee.

Determination of Violation

Professional Practice and Discipline Committee Recommendation

Upon completion of an investigation, the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee recommends whether the Governing Board should make a determination that there has been a violation of

Governing Board policies and rules. When the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee recommends that the Governing Board find a violation, the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee also recommends imposition of an appropriate sanction. If the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee so recommends, a proposed determination with a proposed sanction is prepared under the supervision of the Chair and is presented by a representative of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee to the Governing Board along with the record of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee's investigation.

Governing Board Determination

Complaint Dismissal

If the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee recommends against a determination that a violation has occurred, the complaint is dismissed with notice to the certificant, the certificant's employer (if involved in the investigation), and the individual or entity who submitted the complaint; a summary report is also made to the Governing Board.

Determination of Violation

The Governing Board reviews the recommendation of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee based upon the record of the investigation. The Governing Board may accept, reject, or modify the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee's recommendation, either with respect to the determination of a violation or the recommended sanction to be imposed. If the Governing Board makes a determination that a violation has occurred, this determination and the imposition of a sanction are promulgated by written notice to the certificant, and to the individual submitting the complaint, if the submitter agrees in advance and in writing to maintain in confidence whatever portion of the information is not made public by the Governing Board.

In certain circumstances, the Governing Board may consider a recommendation from the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee that the certificant who has violated the certification program policies or rules should be offered an opportunity to submit a written assurance that the conduct in question has been terminated and will not recur. The decision of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee to make such a recommendation and of the Governing Board to accept it are within their respective discretionary powers. If such an offer is extended, the certificant at issue must submit the required written assurance within thirty days of receipt of the offer, and the assurance must be submitted in terms that are acceptable to the Governing Board. If the Governing Board accepts the assurance, notice is given to the certificant's employer and to the submitter of the complaint, so long as the submitter agrees in advance and in writing to maintain the information in confidence.

Sanctions

Any of the following sanctions may be imposed by the Governing Board upon a certificant whom the Governing Board has determined to have violated the policies and rules of its certification program(s), although the sanction applied must reasonably relate to the nature and severity of the violation, focusing on reformation of the conduct of the member and deterrence of similar conduct by others:

- written reprimand to the certificant;

- suspension of the certificant for a designated period; or
- termination of the certificant's certification.

For sanctions that include suspension or termination, a summary of the final determination and the sanction with the certificant's name and date is published by the Governing Board. This information will be published only after any appeal has either been considered or the appeal period has passed.

Reprimand in the form of a written notice from the Chair normally is sent to a certificant who has received his or her first substantiated complaint. Suspension normally is imposed on a certificant who has received two substantiated complaints. Termination normally is imposed on a certificant who has received two substantiated complaints within a two year period, or three or more substantiated complaints. The Governing Board may at its discretion, however, impose any of the sanctions, if warranted, in specific cases.

Certificants who have been terminated will have their certification revoked and may not be considered for Governing Board certification in the future. If certification is revoked, any and all certificates or other materials requested by the Governing Board must be returned promptly to the Governing Board.

Appeal

Request for Appeal

Within thirty (30) days from receipt of notice of a determination by the Governing Board that a certificant violated the certification program policies and/or rules, the affected certificant may submit to the Governing Board in writing a request for an appeal.

Disciplinary Appeal Committee

Upon receipt of a request for appeal, the Chair of the Governing Board establishes an appellate body consisting of at least three, but not more than five, individuals. This Disciplinary Appeal Committee may review one or more appeals, upon request by the Chair. No current members of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee or the Governing Board may serve on the Disciplinary Appeal Committee; further, no one with any personal involvement or conflict of interest may serve on the Disciplinary Appeal Committee. Members of the Disciplinary Appeal Committee may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the activities of the Committee.

Basis for Appeal

The Disciplinary Appeal Committee may only review whether the determination by the Governing Board of a violation of the certification program policies and/or rules was inappropriate because of:

- material errors of fact, or
- failure of the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee or the Governing Board to conform to published criteria, policies, or procedures.

Appeal Procedure

Only facts and conditions up to and including the time of the Governing Board's determination as represented by facts known to the Governing Board are considered during an appeal. The appeal will

not include a hearing or any similar trial-type proceeding. Legal counsel is not expected to participate in the appeal process, unless requested by the appellant and approved by the Governing Board and the Disciplinary Appeal Committee. The Governing Board and Appeal Committee may consult legal counsel.

The Disciplinary Appeal Committee conducts and completes the appeal within ninety days after receipt of the request for an appeal. Written appellate submissions and any reply submissions may be made by authorized representatives of the member and of the Governing Board. Submissions are made according to whatever schedule is reasonably established by the Appeal Committee. The decision of the Appeal Committee either affirms or overrules the determination of the Governing Board, but does not address a sanction imposed by the Governing Board. The decision of the Appeal Committee, including a statement of the reasons for the decision, is reported to the Governing Board.

The Disciplinary Appeal Committee decision is binding upon the Governing Board, the certificant who is subject to the action, and all other persons.

Resignation

If a certificant who is the subject of a complaint voluntarily surrenders his or her certification(s) at any time during the pendency of a complaint under these Procedures, the complaint is dismissed without any further action by the Professional Practice and Discipline Committee, the Governing Board, or a Disciplinary Appeal Committee established after an appeal. The entire record is sealed and the individual may not reapply for certification. However, the Governing Board may authorize the Chair to communicate the fact and date of resignation, and the fact and general nature of the complaint which was pending at the time of the resignation, to or at the request of a government entity engaged in the administration of law. Similarly, in the event of such resignation, the person or entity who submitted the complaint are notified of the fact and date of resignation and that Governing Board has dismissed the complaint as a result.

Section 3: ACTION Certification Governing Board Policies

Accommodations for those with Disabilities

The ACTION Certification Governing Board complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable accommodations provide candidates with disabilities a fair and equal opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skill in the essential knowledge being measured by the examination.

Reasonable accommodations are decided upon based on:

- the individual's specific request
- the individual's specific disability
- documentation submitted
- the appropriateness of the request

Reasonable accommodations do not include steps that fundamentally alter the purpose or nature of the examination.

Reasonable accommodations generally are provided for candidates who:

- have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits that person in one or more major life activities (e.g. walking, talking, hearing, performing manual tasks)
- have a record of such physical or mental impairment
- are regarded as having a physical or mental impairment

To apply for accommodation(s), the candidate must

- Submit the Request for Testing Accommodation form on the ACTION web site
- Submit documentation provided by an appropriate licensed professional on the professional's letterhead to the Governing Board which includes a diagnosis of the disability and specific recommendations for accommodations.
- Submit documentation at least 30 days prior to the testing date. All documentation is subject to verification.

Changes in Contact Information

Applicants and certificants are responsible for notifying the ACTION Certification Governing Board, in writing, of any changes in contact information, including email address. Certification renewal is the responsibility of each certified individual. The ACTION Certification Governing Board is not responsible for notices that fail to reach certificants.

Confidentiality

The Governing Board is committed to protecting confidential and/or proprietary information related to applicants; candidates; certificants; and the examination development, maintenance, and administration process.

To ensure the security of the examination, all test materials are confidential and will not be released to any person or agency.

Information about an applicant/candidate/certificant will only be released to that applicant/candidate/certificant unless release of the information is authorized in writing by the individual or is required by law. Personal information submitted by an applicant/candidate/certificant with an application or recertification application is considered confidential. Personal information retained within the database will be kept confidential.

All application information is confidential and will not be shared with any party other than ACTION'S examination development or administration vendors for certification processing purposes.

Examination scores are released only to the examination candidate unless a signed release is provided in writing by the individual or release is required by law.

Verification & Aggregate Data

Certification Status Verification

An individuals' certification status is not considered confidential. The names of certified individuals are not considered confidential and may be published by the Governing Board.

ACTION will provide confirmation of certification status to anyone who requests the information, and verification will be accessible via the certification program's web site. Verification of certification status will include the individual's name and current certification status.

Application status, information about whether or not an individual has taken the exam, and score information will not be released.

Aggregate Data

Aggregate exam statistics (including the number of exam candidates, pass/fail rates, and total number of certificants) will be publicly available and updated annually. Aggregate exam statistics, studies and reports concerning applicants/certificants will contain no information identifiable with any applicant/certificant.

Confidentiality Agreements

Applicants for certification will be required to read and acknowledge a confidentiality statement as part of the application process.

Each certified professional must respect the confidentiality of all client information. In his/her professional role, the certified professional must:

- Protect the client's confidentiality in conversations, advertisement and any other arena unless otherwise agreed upon by the client in writing or due to medical and/or legal necessity
- Protect the interest of clients who are minors by law or unable to give voluntary consent by securing the legal permission of the appropriate third party or guardian
- Store and dispose of client records in secure manner

Reconsideration Requests

Candidates whose eligibility for initial certification or recertification has been denied and who believe the denial is a result of an error in the application review process, a failure to follow application review policies, or a breach of policy during exam administration, may request reconsideration of the decision.

Reconsideration requests regarding the examination content outline (e.g., specific questions and the domain weights/specifications/blueprint that results from the Job Task Analysis) are not accepted.

The following items may be considered reasons for appealing exam results to the ACTION Governing Board:

- Improper behavior by test center staff
- Violations of exam administration procedures

In the case of adverse eligibility/recertification determinations, the appeal should clearly state the reasons why the candidate feels his/her application for certification/recertification was incorrectly denied and how s/he complies with the published requirements.

In the case of an exam administration policy breach, the appeal should clearly describe in detail the situation that occurred during testing and the policy violation(s). Supporting documentation should be provided when applicable.

In order to be eligible to appeal, the candidate must inform the test center manager of any exam-related incident that had a negative impact on their performance. Following the exam, the candidate must submit written notification of the incident to the ACTION Governing Board. This written statement must indicate why the incident negatively affected the candidate's performance. All appeals can be submitted by emailing support@actioncertification.org.

Submitting a Request for Reconsideration

The request for reconsideration must be submitted in writing to the ACTION Certification Governing Board within 45 days of the adverse decision.

In the case of adverse eligibility/recertification determinations, the request should clearly state the reasons why the candidate feels his/her application for certification/recertification was incorrectly denied and how they comply with the published requirements.

In the case of an exam administration policy breach, the request should clearly describe in detail the situation that occurred during testing and the policy breach. Supporting documentation should be provided when applicable.

Review Process

The Appeals Committee will review the applicant's request and supporting documentation and materials when reconsidering the adverse eligibility, recertification, or exam decision, and the Board Chair will notify the applicant in writing of the Appeals Committee's decision within 45 days of receiving the request.

All decisions by the committee are final.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

ACTION Certification shall admit candidates without regard to age, sex, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or marital status to all rights, privileges, programs, and examinations. ACTION Certification will not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or marital status in the administration of its certification and recertification policies.

Use of the Certification Mark

The ACTION-CPT credential may be used by individuals who have earned the ACTION-CPT designation as long as certification remains valid and in good standing. Individuals may not use the ACTION-CPT credential until they have received specific written notification that they have successfully completed all requirements, including passing the exam. Certificants must comply with all recertification requirements to maintain use of the credential.

Proper Use of Credentials

After meeting all requirements and passing the examination, individuals may use their credential in all correspondence and professional relations. The credential is typically used after the certificant's name following any academic degrees and licensure (e.g. Mary Smith, ACTION-CPT).

The credential may be used as:

ACTION-CPT

-ACTION Certified Personal Trainer

The certification mark(s) may be used only as long as certification is valid.