



Credentials
and Standards



Claim Your Place at the Highest Level of Coaching Excellence

Are you ready for the next step? Maximize your potential.

The world is eager for your gifts! Upgrade from a PCC to an MCC credential and gain recognition for your skills and experience.



Claim the Highest Level of Coaching Excellence

“ You don’t get to this destination to stop. You get this destination to look around so you can see where exactly you want to go next. The MCC credential has given me confidence [and] has given me an opportunity to work with a lot of different people.”

- Ken McKellar, MCC

Every moment you invest in expanding your expertise and honing your skills is a powerful step toward coaching mastery.

As you work towards your Master Certified Coach (MCC) credential, you’re not just advancing your own growth — you’re positioning yourself to create profound, life-changing breakthroughs for your clients and yourself.

Your dedication to continuous learning and real-world application sets you apart as a top-tier leader in the coaching industry.

Every hour you dedicate now propels you closer to the extraordinary success and fulfillment that awaits at the summit of your coaching career.

The Pinnacle of Coaching Success



Coaches who invest in continuing education and professional development report higher client satisfaction and are more likely to achieve greater career success, including tangible revenue benefits and career fulfillment.

“ICF is a body that truly focuses on equipping coaches with the best tools and competencies that you can find. It’s the gold standard in its certifying process. That’s why I chose to work for my MCC credential.”

- Astha Sharma, MCC

With the MCC credential, you demonstrate your advanced skills, knowledge and leadership in the art of coaching.

Take the next big step in your career. Inspire and resonate with clients who value long-term commitment to professional excellence and ethical practice.

Activate a higher version of yourself to achieve greater visibility while demonstrating the credibility your clients and community are searching for.

Take your coaching practice to a level of mastery with the highest professional credential from ICF.

It's Your Time to Level-Up

According to our 2023 Credentialing Survey, 91% agree or strongly agree that earning an ICF credential demonstrates evidence of their professional commitment. Each new level not only enhances your perceived authority but also deepens your real-world expertise. Each new level you push yourself to compels you to accelerate your own growth and deliver even more value to your clients.

Achieving the MCC is more than just letters after your name—it displays your transformation to the top tier of coaching excellence.



- Enhance your credibility.
- Equip yourself with refined knowledge and skills.
- Deepen your personal growth.
- Open doors to new opportunities.
- Attract higher-level clients.
- Stand out as a leader in the industry.

**Seize this opportunity —
Start with the Credential
Path Survey:**

[Credential Path Survey](#)





You Are Unstoppable. Reach Your TRUE Potential!

The MCC is designed for seasoned, expert coaches who are committed to demonstrating their mastery and depth of knowledge in coaching.

This prestigious credential signifies excellence in applying the ICF Core Competencies and ICF Code of Ethics, showcasing your ability to work in full partnership with clients to deliver exceptional service.

- Highlight your advanced level of coaching education.
- Showcase your leadership capabilities.
- Provide proof of your depth of experience.
- Become a recognized leader in the coaching profession.

MCC coaches are not only experts in their field but are also dedicated to continuous professional development to maintain their status and drive excellence in their practice.

“I want to be the best possible coach that I can be and, in a world, awash with people who call themselves coaches. I think that it’s helpful to distinguish myself from the crowd.”

- **John Sigmon, MCC**

To be eligible, you must complete at least 200 hours of coaching education and gain 2,500 hours of client-coaching experience. By holding a PCC, you are already on your way to the top level of coaching professionals!

View Specific Requirements for MCC:

[coachingfederation.org/credentialing/icf-credentials-overview/mcc](https://www.coachingfederation.org/credentialing/icf-credentials-overview/mcc)

Education Requirements:

Prerequisite:

Holds or have held a PCC credential

Total Hours Required:

200 hours of coach-specific education

Eligible Programs:

ICF-accredited (Level 1, 2, 3) or non-ICF-accredited programs



Application Paths

Level 3 Path

Education Provided: Completion of a Level 3 accredited coaching education program.

Additional Requirements: Two recorded coaching sessions and accompanying transcripts for performance evaluation and 2,500 hours of coaching experience

Application Price:

- ICF Member: \$675 USD
- Non-Member: \$825 USD

Review Time: 18 weeks

Next Step: Upon passing the performance evaluation, take the ICF Credentialing Exam.

Portfolio Path

Education Provided: 200 hours of coaching education.

Additional Requirements: Separate verification of mentor coaching and two recorded coaching sessions and accompanying transcripts

Application Price:

- ICF Member: \$675 USD
- Non-Member: \$825 USD

Review Time: 18 weeks

Next Step: Upon passing the performance evaluation, take the ICF Credentialing Exam

Experience Requirements

Total Hours Required: 2,500 hours of coaching experience

Clients: Experience must be included with at least 35 clients

Paid Hours: At least 2,250 of the 2,500 hours must be paid.

Mentor Coaching Requirements

Total Hours Required: 10 hours of Mentor Coaching

Timing: Sessions must be spread over at least three months

Format: At least three of the 10 hours must be one-to-one with the mentor coach; the rest can be one-to-one or in a group

Mentor Qualification: The mentor must be an active ICF credential-holder at the MCC level

Duration: Must occur over three months or longer, with at least three one-on-one sessions

Performance Evaluation Requirements

Evaluation Needed: Candidates must pass a performance evaluation

Evaluation Method: ICF Assessor reviews two recorded coaching sessions (20-60 minutes) with transcripts

Exam Requirements

Exam Type: Computer-based written exam

Exam Provider: Pearson VUE offers on-site or online proctored options

Exam Content: Measures knowledge of the ICF definition of coaching, Core Competencies, and Code of Ethics

If you apply for a higher-level credential within one year of your current expiration date, you can maintain your current credential status for up to 12 months while your new credential application is being reviewed. This means there is no need for a separate renewal application or fees, allowing you to focus on your upgrade without interruption.

To get started leveling up your credential, please complete the [Credential Path Survey](#). Based on your responses about your coaching education and experience hours, the survey results will indicate the application pathway for which you are qualified. You will then be able to create and complete the MCC credential application.

We are here for any help throughout your journey. If you have any questions, please contact support@coachingfederation.org.



Tips for Success

Upgrading to the MCC is a journey that rewards dedication and incremental progress across a coaching career. By investing effort into this process, you're stepping into a higher level of leadership and influence. You are ready to make an even bigger difference in the lives of those you coach!

Here are five encouraging tips to help you reach your goal:

1. Stay Consistent to Build a Strong Foundation: Each hour you spend completing your coaching-specific education brings you closer to mastering your craft and gaining the confidence to excel. When prepping for your exam or working on your education program, it helps to craft a study schedule. Set dedicated time blocks in your calendar for every week, and keep it a top priority! It makes a huge difference when you can learn a little bit each day instead of trying to cram everything in at once.

2. Accumulate Experience Gradually: Remember: you don't have to reach your required number of coaching hours overnight. Celebrate each milestone, knowing that every session brings you closer to the finish line while deepening your coaching expertise.

3. Mentor Coaching for Growth: Embrace the mentor coaching process as a powerful opportunity to refine your skills and build powerful relationships. Be sure to spread your mentor coaching hours over three months or more, allowing yourself the time to absorb feedback and grow steadily.

4. Prepare for Success in the Performance Evaluation: Recording coaching sessions and preparing for your performance evaluation can be done step by step. With each session, you're not just ticking a box—you're proving your proficiency and readiness to be recognized as a top-tier coach. Reflective, intentional practice helps to reinforce the skills you are learning.

5. Stay Ethical and Motivated: Upholding ICF's Code of Ethics isn't just a requirement; it's your commitment to excellence. Every action you take to maintain high standards strengthens your professional reputation and sets you apart in the coaching community.

Remember, Growth Takes Time: Stay focused on your goals and remember your why. By leveling up your coaching experience and credential, you are expanding what you can offer clients and the difference you can make in the world.

Upgrade Your Coaching Credential to the MCC Level:

coachingfederation.org/credentials-and-standards/credentials-paths/mcc-credential



“ MCC is a pledge to the whole world that I coach by the highest level of professional standards, ethical rules and competence as set forth by the ICF. And it's also a commitment to myself and to those that are engaging me as a professional coach that I will seek the highest level of competence and professional standards in engaging with my clients.”

- **Giuseppe Totino, MCC**

Upgrading your coaching credential is a powerful step in advancing your career and expanding your impact. Embracing this challenge is a testament to your commitment to excellence and personal growth. You have what it takes to make big shifts and lasting influence. Start today: you are more than ready to elevate your coaching practice.

