About the Commission

- On February 17, 2016, NCDA joined other trade associations that uphold standards for their own professions by credentialing people who have the skills to fill specific roles within their field. The NCDA Board resolved to set up and fund an initiative, thus the NCDA Credentialing Commission was born. The Commission was charged with making recommendations for implementing credentialing programs for a variety of roles in the career field.

Our Discussion Today

- Why NCDA credentialing?
- What are the credentials?
- When are they available?

Originally Commissioners were selected and appointed by the NCDA Board based on their experience, practice, educational preparation, and specialty. Beginning in 2017 and following each year, Commissioners will be elected from those qualifying for the credential they will represent.

Organizing Committee

- The National Career Development Association (NCDA) is the recognized leader in developing standards for the career development profession, for the provision of career counseling programs and services, and for the evaluation of career information materials.
- Members and the public-at-large have repeatedly asked for clarification among the distinctions between the variety of practitioners providing career services.
The Development of the Credentials
• The Commission has recommended five credentials. All of the new credentials contain an assessment component which will be scored by “blind reviewers” – experienced professionals who have been trained to score case studies and/or work samples.

The Development of the Credentials
• Applications for all of these credentials will be completed online, using any available computer. Like all credentials in our field, we will require continuing education for renewals. Our online process will allow recipients of certificates to update education as it is completed.

The Development of the Credentials
• The Commission has researched and thoroughly discussed credentialing in its process of creating the initial group of credentials. The Commission has worked in the direction of high standards and streamlined procedures.

How will the NCC’s credentials differ from existing/past credentials?
• NCDA believes the complexity in our field needs to be recognized by a variety of high quality credentials. NCDA has determined that setting up its own credentialing body will allow NCDA’s standards and ethics to be upheld most effectively.
• We believe that competency-based credentials provide a high level of consumer confidence. Those career professionals holding an NCDA credential will have met rigorous standards set by NCDA, the recognized leader in the career development profession.
Which professional credentials are being launched?

- Certified Career Services Provider™ (CCSP)
- Certified Master of Career Services™ (CMCS)
- Certified Career Counselor™ (CCC)
- Certified Clinical Supervisor of Career Counseling™ (CCSCC)
- Certified Career Counselor Educator™ (CCCE)
**Certified Career Services Provider™ (CCSP)**

The **Certified Career Services Provider™ (CCSP)** credential is intended for providers offering career services in an array of roles and settings, such as advisors, coaches, workforce practitioners, facilitators, trainers, recruiters, and resume writers. An applicant will need to demonstrate competency aligned with the current 12 competencies addressed by NCDA’s *Facilitating Career Development* curriculum.

**Certified Career Counselor™ (CCC)**

- The **Certified Career Counselor™ (CCC)** credential is intended for a career counselor with an advanced degree (master’s, educational specialist or doctoral level) in counselor education, counseling psychology or closely related counseling degree, engaged primarily in a career counseling practice or other career counseling related services. The Certified Career Counselor credential recognizes two important factors in training and experience, including both counseling and a specialization in career development, theory and practice.

**Certified Master of Career Services™ (CMCS)**

- The **Certified Master of Career Services™ (CMCS)** is intended for individuals who can successfully document the completion of a minimum of a Bachelor’s degree (any major/discipline) and 10 years of full time (20,000 hours) work experience OR a Master’s degree (or higher) and 5 years of full time (10,000 hours) work experience. The work experience used to satisfy this application requirement must be in the field of career services/development.
Certified Clinical Supervisor of Career Counseling™ (CCSCC)

- The **Certified Clinical Supervisor of Career Counseling™ (CCSCC)** credential is intended for individuals who serve as clinical supervisors to career counselors and other practitioners who provide career services.

When can I apply for a credential?

- The credentials are expected to be available August 1, 2017. Pilots to test each credential began in April and will be finishing up shortly.

Certified Career Counselor Educator™ (CCCE)

- The **Certified Career Counselor Educator™ (CCCE)** is intended for counselor educators whose primary focus is on the career development aspect of counselor preparation.

How do I apply for the new credentials?

- An online application process will be used for all NCDA credentials.
- All applications will be reviewed by a credentialed and trained reviewer.
- Applicants will be notified via email regarding their credential award.
What is a “Blind Review”?  
- When the applicant’s work samples and/or case studies are transferred to the “review” phase, the appointed reviewer will not have access to core identifying information on the applicant. This process is meant to address any potential bias on the part of a reviewer.

What happens if I don’t pass?  
- Those who do not pass their first attempt may retest with new assessment items within one month. If the retest is also unsuccessful, the applicant must wait one year to reapply.

How do I find continuing education relevant to career development?  
- The Commission will begin addressing this component within the year.

Research Commissioned by NCC
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- Go to NCDA.org
- Click on professional development
- Click on Training Programs and Credentials
- Scroll down to publication
- Click on title -- downloads are FREE!!!!