

## **CEcD for Canadians Frequently Asked Questions**

**1) Do you have to surrender your EcD in order to be grandfathered into a CEcD?**

Professionals can carry two designations as long as they continue to meet the requirements for both in terms of meeting recertification requirements. At the time of recertification, you may choose to carry both through the appropriate channels (IEDC/EDAC)

**2) How does grandfathering work? What is the cost?**

Professionals with the EcD in good standing can apply and receive the CEcD, as of now, and prior to September 30, 2015. If they apply prior to September 30, 2014 there is no cost to add the CEcD. During the second year (Sept 30, 2014 to Sept. 30, 2015) the cost will be \$200. So anyone considering a reciprocal CEcD can save themselves some money by applying in the first year.

Between September 2015 and September 2017, EcD's may request the reciprocal CEcD, but it will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.

**3) How does the recertification process work?**

Like the EcD, recertification must take place every three years, and it is based on a points system.

You can see the existing [Recertification Form](#) here.

There will soon be more recertification opportunities available to Canadians, but which will allow for points to be earned in Canada, and through attendance at training and conferences offered by IEDC's Canadian partners. Level One points will continue to be earned only for attendance at IEDC events.

**4) Do I have to be a member of IEDC to become a CEcD?**

No, you do not need to be a member of IEDC to hold the CEcD. However, it is less expensive to attain recertification as an IEDC member because members' attendance at training and conferences is discounted, and the recertification fee is lower for IEDC members.

**5) What are the benefits of becoming a CEcD? Is it better than the EcD?**

The CEcD is being offered as another option for Canadians looking for training and certification. It is not necessarily better, although it is at least as rigorous as the EcD. Those with a CEcD carry a designation that is recognized in the international marketplace.

**6) If I am not already an EcD, what are my options for becoming a CEcD?**

If you have not been granted the EcD you have a variety of options.

If you have begun your EcD and hope to apply for the CEcD, you have the option to complete your EcD and apply for a reciprocal CEcD, within the timeframes for reciprocity discussed above.

If you have not begun the CEcD, we would recommend that you begin training through the IEDC professional development training system to ensure you qualify within the specified timeframes. That means taking four core courses and two elective courses and successfully passing the “Canadianized” CEcD exam.

**7) I can't afford to do all my training in the U.S. Will I be able to do the training in Canada?**

Both IEDC and its partners are committing to offer as many of IEDC's courses in Canada as there is market demand for. For example this year EDCO and IEDC are offering IEDC's Business Retention and Expansion course in Toronto. We expect to offer many more courses in Canada. Also, IEDC runs 25-30 courses per year and these are spread throughout the U.S.

**8) Does this mean that BCEDA does not support the University of Waterloo/EDAC program and is pushing its members to only go for the International Designation?**

No. BCEDA has always believed that our members should have the opportunity to get certification wherever they so choose. If you select the Canadian Certification (EcD) over an International Designation (CEcD) that is your choice – not BCEDA. Over the past number of years many of our members have encouraged us to strengthen our partnerships to include IEDC and others. This certification program builds on the successful, and mutually beneficial, MOU that BCEDA negotiated and signed with IEDC in 2010. Our members have also been asking us to work towards allowing IEDC certification in Canada. This is now achieved. Our intent is to provide highly informative professional development opportunities for our members and we encourage our members to choose whichever option they want.