

Why Become BCCI Certified?

It is the best track for continual professional growth in chaplaincy.

- Within the discipline of chaplaincy:
 - As iron sharpens iron, colleagues within the chaplaincy profession sharpen each other toward best practice.
 - Practitioners are always looking for good ideas; within our collegial relationships, shared ideas flow freely.
 - We are all in need of mentors to help us with challenging practice environments, while also having the chance to mentor others toward best practice.
 - Fellowship of colleagues helps keep our spirits up and passions stirred to face the challenges of our ever-changing professional practice and environment.
 - Motivation for ongoing professional growth through maintenance of certification annual continuing education and five-year peer review requirements.

- Outside of our discipline of chaplaincy:
 - Parallel professionalism with our interdisciplinary colleagues, especially in health care, who have certifications and licenses.
 - Impressive certification process comparable to other disciplines – not just a test, but a personal meeting with colleagues to demonstrate competencies.

- Marketability of certification with a credible professional association. More organizations are looking to APC/BCCI as the standard.

- Greater earning power. (Organizations that require lower standards generally pay less.)

If not seeking professional chaplaincy certification, does studying a track that leads toward certification have value? Take a look at the [Common Standards for Professional Chaplaincy](#) and ask, “Will these standards or competencies help one become more holistic in one’s ministry?” If the answer is yes, then they have value to all who seek ministry to persons who are struggling to make meaning in the midst of suffering.