

HFMA Certification Programs Comparison

Summarized reference · Information current as of June 2026



Applies to every exam-based program: Access for 1 year from launch, 24/7 Retakes: 30-day wait, unlimited within access, no fee Digital badge on completion

	CORE CERTIFICATIONS		SPECIALIST CERTIFICATIONS					
	 CRCR Certified Revenue Cycle Representative	 CHFP Certified Healthcare Financial Professional	 CSAF Certified Specialist Accounting and Finance	 CSBI Certified Specialist Business Intelligence	 CSPR Certified Specialist Payment and Reimbursement	 CSPPM Certified Specialist Physician Practice Management	 CSAPM Certified Specialist Ambulatory Practice Management	 CHCRS Certified Hospital Cost Report Specialist
Focus	The contemporary, patient-centric revenue cycle: increase receivables, reduce denials, improve the patient experience	Two modules: I HFMA Business of Health Care® and II Operational Excellence. Business acumen, collaboration, financial strategy, future trends	Reading and analyzing financial reports and statements, risk-sharing arrangements, managed care contracts, profitability ratios	Finding, cleaning, transforming and modeling data to support decisions and improve financial and operational performance	Managed care, payment rates, benefit coordination, reimbursement models, cost-control incentives, legislative change	Physician practice revenue cycle, budgeting, financial projections, cost accounting, information systems, payer contracts	Ambulatory practice revenue cycle, budgeting, financial projections, cost accounting, information systems, payer contracts	Key components of hospital cost reporting and the related financial and regulatory requirements
Recommended roles	Patient Access, Registration, Financial Counselor, Billing and Claims Specialist, Revenue Cycle Manager, Director PFS	Consultant, Finance Director, Director Revenue Cycle, Finance Manager, Director Reimbursement, Program Manager	Accountant, Controller, Finance Manager or Director, FP&A Analyst, Internal Auditor, Budget Manager	BI Analyst, Business Analyst, Clinical Systems Analyst, Financial Analyst, FP&A Analyst, Actuarial Informatics Analyst	Director Managed Care, Payer Contracting, Reimbursement Manager or Director, Case Manager, Claims Examiner, Consultant	Physician Practice Executive, Practice Leader, Healthcare Administrator, Health Services Manager, Billing and Collections Manager	Ambulatory Practice Executive or Manager, Practice Manager, Surgery Center Administrator, Clinical Operations Manager	Controller, Reimbursement Manager or Director, Cost Report and Budget Staff, Financial Planning, Consultant
Recommended experience	1+ year in revenue cycle	1–3 years in healthcare; familiarity with accounting and finance concepts	General accounting experience; familiarity with healthcare finance functions	3–5 years in data or statistical analysis (helpful)	1–2 years in payment, reimbursement or managed care	1–2 years in a physician practice	1–2 years in an ambulatory practice	1+ year in hospital cost reporting
How it's earned	Online course + exam	Module I exam, then Module II exam	Online course + exam	Online course + exam	Online course + exam	Online course + exam	Online course + exam	1. Two prerequisite courses (any order) 2. Cost report training (HFMA online or FORVIS) 3. CHCRS exam
Exam	75 questions, 90 min, pass 70%	I: 75 questions, 90 min, pass 70% II: 8 cases, 56 questions, 3 hrs, pass 65%	75 questions, 90 min, pass 70%	75 questions, 90 min, pass 70%	75 questions, 90 min, pass 70%	75 questions, 90 min, pass 70%	75 questions, 90 min, pass 70%	75 questions, 90 min, pass 70%
CPE (study hours)	14 CPE (14–20)	Module I: 14 CPE, 13.5 CME (14–20) Module II: no CPE	14 CPE (14–18)	10 CPE (10–13)	13 CPE (10–13)	11.5 CPE (11.5–15)	11.5 CPE (11.5–15)	Exam: 10 CPE Training: no CPE
ACE college credit	1 undergraduate credit hour	3 undergraduate credit hours	1 undergraduate credit hour	1 undergraduate credit hour	1 undergraduate credit hour	1 undergraduate credit hour	Not available	Not available
Cost †	Member: included Non-member: \$399	Member: included Membership required to hold	Member: included Non-member: \$399	Member: included Non-member: \$399	Member: included Non-member: \$399	Member: included Non-member: \$399	Member: included Non-member: \$399	Member: \$349 training; prerequisites and exam included Non-member: \$947 total
Recertification *	Every 2 years: 50-question exam, 90 min, pass 70%	Every 3 years: 60 education hours; active membership	Every 2 years: 50-question exam, 90 min, pass 70%	Every 2 years: 50-question exam, 90 min, pass 70%	Every 2 years: 50-question exam, 90 min, pass 70%	Every 2 years: 50-question exam, 90 min, pass 70%	Every 2 years: 50-question exam, 90 min, pass 70%	Every 2 years: 50-question exam, 90 min, pass 70%
Recertification cost	Member: included Non-member: \$100	No fee	Member: included Non-member: \$100	Member: included Non-member: \$100	Member: included Non-member: \$100	Member: included Non-member: \$100	Member: included Non-member: \$100	Member: included Non-member: \$100

* Maintenance follows HFMA's fiscal year (June 1–May 31), so every due date is May 31. The first cycle may run slightly shorter or longer than 2 or 3 years; after that, each cycle runs a full term. No new certificate is issued on recertification.

Leadership Designations

Awarded by application, no exam · Information current as of June 2026



	 FHFMA Fellow of the Healthcare Financial Management Association	 EHRC Executive of Healthcare Revenue Cycle
Recommended for	Financial management executives and healthcare finance professionals who meet the requirements	Executive-level revenue cycle professionals in provider and business partner organizations
Credential required	CHFP	CRCR
Membership	5+ years professional membership (student years don't count)	5+ years professional membership, currently active
Experience and education	Bachelor's or master's degree, or equivalent experience (10+ years in healthcare)	10+ years in healthcare, including 2+ years in a revenue cycle management position
Recommendation	Letter from an active Fellow or chapter leader	Letter from an industry leader, chapter leader or national volunteer
Activity (last 3 years)	One volunteer contribution: published article, adjunct teaching, chapter or national committee role, or 10+ hours of speaking, staff education, presenting or mentoring	One professional option (providers: PFC adopter, MAP Award or MAP App; business partners: Peer Reviewed or council sponsor) or a volunteer contribution
What it signifies	Fellows act as ambassadors to the profession through professional development and service to the healthcare finance industry	Leadership and revenue cycle excellence; distinguishes the holder as a role model in the revenue cycle industry
Application fee	None	None
Maintenance *	Every 3 years: 60 education hours; active membership; no fee	Every 3 years: 45 education hours; active membership; no fee

* Maintenance follows HFMA's fiscal year (June 1–May 31); every due date is May 31. Education hours can combine member-entered education and HFMA National CPE. No new certificate is issued on recertification.