



The 11 Things You Need To Know About CPCU

Facts about the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU®) designation

Are you ready to take your career to the next level? When you earn your CPCU, you show everyone your professional commitment, set yourself apart from your colleagues, and stay up-to-date with the changes and challenges of the insurance and risk management industry.

But first you may have some questions. So we've gathered a list of our most frequently asked questions to help you take your first steps towards turning "one day" into **Day One**.

1

How will earning the CPCU designation benefit my career?

Only 4% of insurance professionals hold the elite distinction of the CPCU designation. Through becoming a CPCU, you will:

- Gain in-depth knowledge in risk management and insurance
- Obtain practical skills that you can put to work immediately
- Learn how to make better decisions on the job
- Learn about the financial, legal, operational and technical aspects of risk management and insurance
- Earn industry-wide respect

CPCU designees are insurance professionals just like you. They are claims adjusters, underwriters, risk managers, brokers, agents, regulators, consultants, attorneys and educators.

Here's how the program benefited one CPCU designee:

"I was able to quickly move up in my career after obtaining my CPCU. I started out as an assistant to the assistant account manager in 2012. After that, I was promoted to analyst (assistant to the account manager), then small business unit account manager, and now I'm an account manager on a large book of business with a variety of clients."

Susan Jock, CPCU, CIC,
Commercial Account Manager

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Why should I earn the CPCU designation rather than an MBA?

The CPCU program is considered akin to a master's in insurance. You will gain a strong background in risk management and insurance and focuses on insurance-specific case studies and examples that are relevant to your line of work.



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What's the average time it takes to earn the CPCU designation?

The average completion time is 2 to 3 years; however, this depends on how you schedule your study time.

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How does the CPCU material stay current?

Our educational material is written by subject-matter experts with many years of experience in instructional design and with relationships in the top insurance and risk organizations. Our subject-matter experts tap into valuable resources such as:

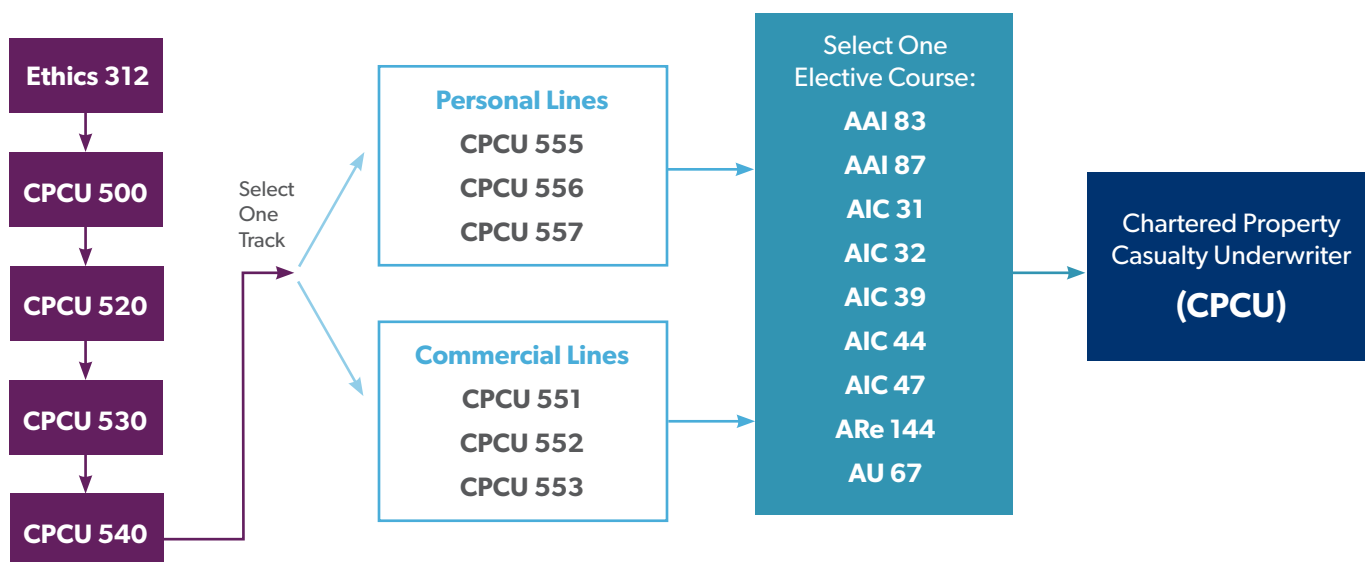
- Publications focused on emerging trends
- Customer feedback
- Collaboration with external subject-matter experts
- Insights from practitioners and industry associations
- Research and data analysis

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What course path should I follow?

The CPCU completion path gives you the flexibility to choose the order of courses. A great place to start is with *CPCU 500—Foundations of Risk Management and Insurance*.

Here's the current completion path:



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How should I study for The Institutes' exams?



Independent study

The most popular method, with the greatest flexibility.



Traditional classes or study groups

Offered by third-party providers and may include workplace classes, study groups or virtual classrooms. [Find a class in your area.](#)



Although each student studies at a different pace, 85% of students study two assignments per week. The average study time for each assignment ranges from 4 to 6 hours.

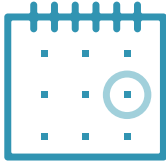
To see a personalized view of our recommended study and exam-taking schedule, visit TheInstitutes.org/Students/study_calc/



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How do I schedule my exam?

You can schedule to take your exam during one of the quarterly testing windows:



January 15–March 15

April 15–June 15

July 15–September 15

October 15–December 15

The Institutes administer exams at two distinct kinds of testing centers:

- Prometric testing centers (at locations worldwide)
- Institutes-approved on-site testing centers

[Visit our website to register for your exam.](#)



Give yourself a goal: Schedule your exam when you purchase your study materials.

9

Do other professional designations count toward the CPCU program requirements?

Yes! Other designation courses as well as advanced degrees can serve as equivalent credits in the CPCU program or vice versa.

See our [CPCU Equivalency chart](#) for more details.

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How are the exam questions created?

The Institutes' exams include a balanced representation of all the assigned study material.

- Industry experts review all objective questions before they're used in an exam.

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What should I expect on exam day?



Allow yourself ample time to find parking.



Bring a valid photo ID with signature. Your ID must exactly match the name on your exam confirmation.



If testing at a Prometric center, read its policies and procedures before exam day.



Read up on proven exam prep techniques in our How to Prepare for Institutes Exams handbook.



Complete information on exam registration can be found in The Institutes' Exam Registration Booklet.



After your exam:

- You will receive immediate results of a pass or non-pass outcome.
- Within two weeks of your exam, you will receive an email with a link to your grade report.



What happens after I earn my designation?

Celebrate at The Institutes' Conferment Ceremony because you deserve it! Then continue to learn, lead, network and grow with The Institutes CPCU Society.

Conferment Ceremony

Attend the annual Institutes Conferment Ceremony to join other new CPCU designees in celebrating your hard-earned accomplishment. The ceremony takes place on the first day of The Institutes CPCU Society's Annual Meeting. Check out the [CPCU Society website](#) for upcoming meeting dates and locations.



The Institutes CPCU Society

You don't have to wait until you receive your CPCU designation to join the CPCU Society! Candidate members who have completed at least two CPCU exams receive a discounted rate and enjoy many of the same benefits of a full CPCU Society membership, such as:

- The CPCU Society Knowledge Center, which features carefully selected online educational materials
- CE credit hours through CPCU Society events and activities
- Specialized interest groups
- Mentoring programs
- Over 120 member chapters
- Complimentary webinars
- Volunteer and leadership opportunities



We wish you the best in your CPCU studies!

For any additional questions, please reach out to [Customer Success](#) at (800) 644-2101.