



National Wellness Institute (NWI) Certified Wellness Practitioner (CWP) Certification Exam FAQs

What is CWP?

The CWP credential is awarded to successful applicants from multiple disciplines and backgrounds such as health promotion, counseling, wellness coaching, nutrition, social work, nursing, worksite wellness, public health, education, and more.

In alignment with the [NWI Wellness Promotion Competency model](#), the Certified Wellness Practitioner (CWP) designation has transitioned to a certification examination with revised eligibility standards. [Click here to see if you are eligible.](#)

What is a certification exam and why is it being offered for CWP?

The CWP certification exam is made up of 150 questions that cover the 5 domains of the NWI Wellness Promotion Competency Model. Candidates must meet eligibility requirements and pass the CWP certification exam to become certified.

Why should I earn my CWP designation by taking the certification examination?

- Gain international recognition for your competence in the five domains of the NWI Wellness Promotion Competency Model
- As a leader in the field, you will help to advance the professionalism of the wellness field overall.
- Earning your CWP will set an example for others to follow in your footsteps.
- Further demonstrate your dedication to the wellness field.
- As an active CWP, you receive NWI member benefits, including access to CWP-exclusive networking opportunities, continuing education, and an online Certification Journal for CEC tracking.

What if I'm already a CWP?

As an existing CWP, you are not required to take the certification exam. See NationalWellness.org/certified for details on maintaining your certification.

When are CWP exam windows?

The CWP examination is offered during two-week examination periods, three times per year: in January, May, and September. Registration typically opens at least three months prior to the exam window start date and closes the Friday before.

What is the certification timeline?

Candidates who take and pass the CWP certification exam will start their 5-year certification cycle on the 1st of the following month.

Where do I register to take the CWP exam?

Register for the CWP exam at NationalWellness.org/CWP

How much does the CWP exam cost?

The CWP certification exam is \$350, which includes the \$50 application fee. Full payment must be received before certification examination access is granted.

After the first year of certification, certified individuals must pay a \$75 annual fee to maintain active status. Every five years, in addition to the annual fee, proof of 50 continuing education credits (CECs) earned will be required to re-certify for another five years.

Is NWI membership required to register for the exam?

No, a paid membership is not required to register for or take the CWP certification exam. If a CWP candidate does not have an active membership with the National Wellness Institute, they will be prompted to purchase a membership or create a free Guest account to register for and complete the CWP certification exam.

Is NWI membership included in the CWP certification exam registration fee?

Individuals who pass the CWP certification examination and earn their CWP credential receive access to all NWI member benefits, effective on their initial certification date and as long as their certification remains in active status. Membership benefits include access to an online Certification Journal to track continuing education credits (CEC's) earned toward recertification of their CWP, CWP-exclusive networking opportunities, discounts on continuing education, and more. Beginning at the start of the second year of certification, certified individuals must pay a \$75 annual fee to maintain active status.

When will I receive my CWP certification exam results?

Results are typically available by the 1st of the month following the examination period.

What happens if I pass the CWP certification exam?

You become a Certified Wellness Practitioner and may use the CWP credentials as long as you maintain active status during your five-year certification cycle. After the first year of certification, certified individuals must pay a \$75 annual fee to maintain active status. Every five years, in addition to the annual fee, proof of 50 continuing education credits earned is required to re-certify for another five years.

What happens if I do not pass the CWP certification exam?

You will receive a score report indicating your proficiency in each Wellness Promotion Competency domain to help you create a professional development plan. You will also be emailed details for re-taking the certification exam at a reduced rate of \$125. The retake exam must be completed during one of the two exam periods following your original exam period.

What is the best way to prepare for the CWP certification exam?

Download [this list of resources](#) to prepare for content featured on the CWP certification examination. This list is not intended to be exhaustive; you are encouraged to seek out additional resources and training that align with the [NWI Wellness Promotion Competency Model](#) to prepare for the certification examination. You can also review [sample exam questions](#) and explore courses and webinars in [LearnWELL](#), NWI's online learning center.

If I change my mind about taking the CWP exam, will my money be refunded?

Yes, if you have provided sufficient notice (at least two weeks) prior to the CWP certification examination window, you may receive a refund. Exceptions are only made in unusual and extenuating circumstances and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. See the [NWI Event Transfer & Cancellation Policy](#) for full details.

How many questions are on the CWP certification exam?

The certification exam includes 150 scored multiple-choice and true-false questions covering all tested competencies. Additional questions that are not scored may be included for testing purposes as NWI continues to ensure the quality and validation of the examination.

Do all applicants have to agree to any codes of ethics or confidentiality?

Yes, this is a condition of certification. This CWP Statement of Understanding can be found in the [CWP Examination Handbook](#) and must be agreed to at the start of the exam.

