



PROFESSIONAL
CERTIFICATION
COALITION

FY 2026 Accomplishments FY 2027 Priorities

Professional certifications benefit consumers and strengthen careers, businesses, industries, and professions. The Professional Certification Coalition (PCC) advocates for policies that promote certifying organizations, certified professionals, and all who rely on the expertise and experience demonstrated only through professional certification.



Professional Certification Coalition: 101



90+

Member
Organizations



50+

Industries and
Professions



47

Bills monitored
in 21 states



Federal & State Advocacy



Legislative & Regulatory Analysis



Member Education

PCC Accomplishments During the Last Year

- Led engagement with the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the IRS following enactment of PCC-drafted legislation expanding qualified 529 plan funds to include professional certification expenses.
- Led opposition to harmful state-level legislation threatening professional certification.
- Developed and delivered proposed amendments to improve state legislation affecting the certification community and drafted provisions that were incorporated into model legislation related to commercial cheating.
- Built relationships with regulators and prominent stakeholders across the U.S. to raise the PCC's profile.
- Spearheaded advocacy efforts to support adequate funding and harmonization of military credentialing assistance to permit servicemembers to pursue credentials that support military readiness, retention, and post-service career opportunities.
- Hosted outside experts briefing members on developments in antitrust law, military credentialing, tax issues, workforce development programs, Supreme Court rulings and other relevant credentialing issues.

Interested in becoming a PCC member? Please contact us at info@profcertcoalition.org or visit profcertcoalition.org to learn more

FY 2027 Priorities

State Advocacy



Threats to Certification Self-Governance

Opposing legislation that seeks to dictate certification program content and restrict enforcement of conduct codes.



Occupational Licensing Reform

Defending state recognition of credentials and training programs in state licensing laws.



State Credentialing Loopholes Undermining Certifications

Opposing legislative efforts to permit out-of-state applicants to bypass licensing law requirements for certification.

Federal Advocacy



Implement 529 Expansion

Continue engagement with the Treasury Department, IRS, Congress, and external stakeholders to support rapid implementation of our 529 legislation, consistent with the draft IRS Notice the PCC developed. This draft Notice would recognize industry-specific accredited certifications as "529 eligible," identify best practices for recognized credentials, and establish a comprehensive directory of high quality certifications.



Military Credentialing

The PCC will continue to advance federal policies that strengthen Department of Defense Credentialing Assistance benefits for servicemembers, including robust benefit amounts, harmonization across military services and with other federal credentialing programs, and proper cost controls.



Protect Federal Student Aid for Degrees Leading to Professional Credentials.

The PCC will monitor policies and litigation affecting federal student aid for professional degree programs, working with partners to support a robust pipeline for certificants in professions encompassed by our membership.

Coalition Building and Stakeholder Outreach

We continue to partner with the Credential Integrity Action Alliance (CIAA) on efforts to combat commercial cheating through the passage of model legislation that has been introduced in Ohio and Missouri and passed in Georgia.

We also continue to foster and expand relationships with federal agencies, congressional offices, state officials, and organizations nationwide to protect and promote the professional certification community in workforce policy.

The PCC Remains Committed to Protecting the Future of Professional Certification

The PCC will continue to monitor and engage on federal developments that may affect the certification community, including misuse of antitrust enforcement, legislative challenges to the autonomy of certification decisions, efforts targeting credentialing activities protected by the First Amendment, and U.S. Department of Education policies affecting the pipeline and preparation of candidates for professional certification.



The PCC addresses public policy that impacts certifications developed and/or offered by non-governmental organizations, educates stakeholders about the benefits of certification, and advances policies to help develop the workforce. The Institute for Credentialing Excellence, the American Society of Association Executives, and the Pillsbury law firm founded the PCC in 2018.