



CHILD & YOUTH CARE CERTIFICATION BOARD, Inc.

Promoting competent, caring, and compassionate Child and Youth Care professionals.

Certification Board Report to ACYCP ACYCP Annual Meeting June 2017

On ACYCP's 40th Anniversary this year, CYCCB marks its 10th Anniversary. CYCCB was created by ACYCP in August 2007 to oversee the implementation and development of the CYC Certification Program. This marked the conclusion of the work of the North American Certification Project (NACP).

The NACP, jointly sponsored by ACYCP, the Council of Canadian Child and Youth Care Associations (CCCYCA) and the International Leadership Coalition for Professional Child and Youth Care Work (ILC), for a 10 year period brought together over 100 practitioners from the US and Canada who: 1) created the Standards for Practice of North American CYC Professionals; 2) Competencies for Professional Child and Youth Work Practice (2001); and 3) CYC-P Professional Certification Program. The work of this group created the first widely endorsed definition of the field of CYC, competencies that described knowledge and skills needed for fully professional practice across settings, created a multi-method competency demonstration program, and completed a validation study that demonstrated the efficacy of the certification program and competencies upon which it was based. Since 2007 CYCCB has provided leadership to expand and further refine the certification program.

EXPANSION OF SYSTEM

CYCCB is currently working with the CYC Certification Institute to integrate the Institute's Entry and Associate Certifications into the CYCCB certification umbrella. The Institute's certification program pre-dated the CYCCB certification and is based on the same competencies and demonstration methods used by CYCCB. These certifications will help CYCCB offer a 3-level certification program beginning with entry level and extending through full professional practice. This work is in-process and is expected to be completed over the next two years. As part of the process, all of the certification requirements offered by both the Institute and CYCCB are being reviewed and updated to better align and simplify requirements. When the integration is fully accomplished the expanded certification system will offer a viable career development pathway that will benefit practitioners in all practice settings across their professional lifetime.

The CYCCB and CYC Institute certification programs are the primary CYC certification in the following states and provinces: Texas, Indiana, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Ohio, Maine, Ontario, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland/Labrador. Revenue sharing agreements are in place with local groups and associations in each of these states/provinces. Work is underway in the following states/provinces to establish the CYCCB certification program as the primary system: Oregon, Alaska, Nebraska, British Columbia, and New Brunswick.

Practitioners from across the US and Canada are certified by CYCCB. This includes practitioners in: California, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, Michigan, Alaska, Nebraska, Georgia, Missouri, Texas, Indiana, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Ohio, Maine, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland/Labrador.

The CYC Association of Alberta (CYCAA) operates a certification program in the province of Alberta that is widely recognized for its quality. The CYCCB and CYCAA Boards met over 2016 and 2017 to explore methods for granting reciprocity between the two certification systems. An agreement has been outlined that is currently being reviewed by the CYCAA Board. When this agreement is ratified, practitioners certified by either boards will have reciprocal benefits.

Over the past 10 years, CYCCB has become the largest international CYC certification provider. It has incorporated all of the CYC certifications offered by state CYC associations into its umbrella. Over the next 5 years, work will be prioritized to incorporate the 8 existing state sponsored after school certification programs into the umbrella. The goal of CYCCB is to offer a credible international credentialing program that is widely recognized, transportable and offers practitioners benefits.

CERTIFICATION STATS

Certified					Tested			
Certification Level	2015	2016	2017 Jan-June	TOTAL # Certified	Certification Level	2015	2016	2017 Jan-June
Entry	13	27	13	511	Entry	50	56	36
Associate	27	4	25	150	Associate	33	44	40
Professional	30	38	31	466	Professional	113	135	106

There are currently 45 applications in the approval process. Over the entire course of the testing program 3909 practitioners have been tested.

Over 2016 the CYCCB Office in Texas was expanded. Additional office space and additional staff were added. All computers were replaced and programs updated. This was in response to a dramatic increase in testing and application submissions over 2015-2016. CYCCB is planning additional expansions of staffing at the beginning of 2018 to address expected additional increases in demand.

COMPETENCIES FOR PROFESSIONAL CHILD AND YOUTH WORK PRACTICE (2010)

In 2010 a committee reviewed the competency document and made changes to update language so it better fit terminology in use across practice settings and to update the document to better represent practices that had changed since 2001.

This process will likely be carried out again in the next several years to keep the competencies up-to-date as the field evolves. Increasing numbers of university programs are using these competencies and the certification requirements as a framework to guide curriculum development. Many universities now offer certification testing and encourage their graduates to become certified.

EXAM DEVELOPMENT

In 2012 a committee of Canadian practitioners reviewed the Professional Exam. Exam language and ethnic groups described were modified to better represent practices in Canada. Beginning in 2012, all testing in Canada was based on the Canadian version of the exam.

Work is in the planning stages to increase the pool of test questions and scenarios in use. This will allow additional practice settings to be described on the exams. Work will likely go forward to make an additional revision to the Canadian version of the exam to better align it with Canadian practices and cultural context.

Work is under way to replace the on-line testing system implemented for 3 years and subsequently discontinued.

PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION

In 2009 provisional certification was implemented at the professional level to allow university students who met all certification requirements with the exception of work experience to become certified for 30 months while they worked in the field and acquired needed work experience. In 2017 provisional certification at the Entry and Associate levels was implemented to expand the number of community college graduates certified and to allow part-time practitioners to be certified during their initial year of employment in the field. In both cases the requirements mirror the provisional certification offered at the professional level.

CYC PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION WORKBOOK

In March 2017 CYCCB published a workbook designed to help child and youth work practitioners prepare and apply for professional certification (CYC-P). The workbook includes information on the history of the CYC certification effort, characteristics of certified practitioners, the testing and application process, forms, costs, and sources for a wide variety of articles, publications, and professional development supports useful to CYC practitioners working in any setting. The sections on test preparation and the professional portfolio offer sample exam questions and portfolio responses.

The workbook is in response to the need for a one-stop source of information that addresses applicant questions and needs. The workbook is expected to be used extensively in university programs that include certification and by employers supporting certification of their workforce.

CERTIFICATION HELP WEBINARS

Since 2015 the CYCCB office has sponsored monthly webinars that focus on answering questions relating to application submission, portfolio development, documentation, etc. These have increased the number of applications coming into the office complete and ready to approve.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In 2013 the CYCCB Board modified the constitution to double terms of membership on the board. It was felt that the 2-year terms were too short and led to too much time focused on holding elections. New terms were four years.

In 2017 the CYCCB Board expanded the number of board positions by 4 making the board 17 positions (including appointed positions). This was the largest expansion in board positions to date. It was done to increase representation and the number of board members available to help with committee work and officer responsibilities.

In May 2017 the first Canadian CYCCB president, Jeff Reid, took office. Almost half of the board positions are currently held by practitioners from Canada.

LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH ACYCP

In February 2008 ACYCP loaned CYCCB \$15,305.51 to help cover incorporation and startup costs. This loan was to be repaid over a 10 year period. The loan was fully repaid in 2017, one year early. The amount of \$1,302.00 was deducted from the loan repayment. This is money that was paid by CYCCB to revenue sharing partners for practitioners who were tested and certified during NACP (funds collected by NACP were paid directly to ACYCP).

According to the licensing agreement, ACYCP receives the following from CYCCB: 1) for each person testing \$10; 2) for each person submitting an application \$10; and 3) for each person renewing \$10. In 2017 CYCCB paid

ACYCP \$4,220.00 to cover licensing costs for 2015 and 2016. At this time, CYCCB still owes ACYCP for these licensing costs for the period of 2007 through 2014. CYCCB plans to fully pay this amount by the end of 2017.

FUTURE PRIORITIES

- 1) The 10 year licensing agreement between CYCCB and ACYCP lapses in March 1, 2018. The agreement calls for a review of the document and a renegotiation of the licensing terms at this time.
- 2) Full implementation of the ACYCP Ethics Committee to receive and respond to ethical complaints made against practitioners certified by CYCCB.
- 3) Continue the process of expanding exam scenarios and test questions.
- 4) Revise the Competencies for Professional CYW Practice (2010).
- 5) Implement on-line testing to eliminate the use of booklet-based testing.

Respectfully submitted,
CYCCB Board of Directors