



American Camp Association

Continuing Education Credits: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

If I'm not pursuing a certification of some type or a certificate of added qualification at this time, do I need credits? What is the benefit?

Continuing education credits provide you with an incremental way of setting personal professional development goals. ACA supports this process by providing documentation tools you can access. Although you may not be currently pursuing a certificate, your plans may change. Prospective employers will find your efforts to continue your development a plus as well. Employers in general may track professional development progress as part of performance evaluations.

I'm a teacher and need to log continuing education credits. Will ACA credits be accepted by my state?

You will want to check with your state's continuing education program, as these vary widely. Most states offer a petition process that you complete. We encourage you to keep all professional development program documentation in a file for the purpose of completing petitions as needed.

Is a CEC the same thing as a CEU?

CEUs are most often connected to certifications and licensure, while CECs are connected to continuing education programs like certificates of added qualifications (CAQs), and professional development in general.

Will ACA recognize credits I earned at non-ACA endorsed conferences?

Yes, provided you complete a simple petition process, which helps both learners and ACA filter for a quality educational experience. Once the petition has been approved, you may manually add the event to your transcript, beginning in Fall 2011.

Some events last longer than the total CECs available. Why?

ACA offers credits for actual educational contact hours. If you attend an event with a lunch with a break for sharing a meal/social time, that is a valuable activity, but not counted toward CEC hours. If the meal is followed with a keynote, the lecture portion is considered educational contact time.

I attended the ACA National Conference, but honestly, I didn't attend a breakout in every timeframe available. My ACA Portfolio says 19.25 hours, but realistically, it's more like 16 hours. What should I do?

The PDC and its various components are based on the honor system given the adult learning environment. You may go into your transcript and make this manual change beginning in Fall 2011.

To contact ACA for more information, visit www.ACAcamps.org or call 765-342-8456.