What is the CLP certification program?

The Certified Licensing Professional (CLP) program is a professional designation intended to distinguish those who have demonstrated experience, proficiency, knowledge and exposure to licensing and commercialization of intellectual property through active involvement in patenting, marketing, valuation, IP law, negotiation, business development and intellectual asset management.

What are the objectives of the CLP certification program?

The goal of the CLP program is to elevate the licensing profession by establishing a standard of knowledge that will differentiate professionals who have taken the steps necessary to become certified. The CLP program was designed to provide an inclusive environment for licensing professionals from varied backgrounds, therefore leveraging the multidisciplinary nature of the licensing field based on certain knowledge standards.

Why was the CLP credential established?

The CLP program was created to publicly recognize the licensing professional's experience and qualifications as well as their education and professional development. The CLP program focuses on the licensing professional's individual development on internationally applicable standards, ethics, and excellence while also providing greater visibility to the licensing profession with added credibility and prestige. The program was started as an initiative of LES (USA and Canada) and is now managed by a separately incorporated entity, Certified Licensing Professionals, Inc. (CLP, Inc.).

Why should I earn the CLP credential?

The CLP credential helps you to demonstrate that you have achieved a high standard of professionalism and shows current and potential future employers and colleagues that you are experienced in the licensing and commercialization of intellectual property. Certified Licensing Professionals may be viewed as credible, respected, and proficient. CLP, Inc. invites you to join the growing worldwide community of approximately 800 Certified Licensing Professionals.

Who is eligible to pursue the CLP credential?

The CLP credential is relevant for those candidates who are focused on the multi-disciplinary aspects of licensing and are in the professional development phase of their career. The certification is available to those who meet certain criteria and successfully pass the CLP exam.
who have received a bachelor’s degree or higher from an accredited university and have at least three years of professional experience in the licensing field. The CLP program is not limited to LES members, and it is available to eligible professionals worldwide.

How does one achieve the CLP designation?

Experience, education and knowledge are the backbone of the program. Applicants will rely upon work history and a blend of courses and materials available through various professional associations to prepare for the CLP exam. Applicants have access to a candidate handbook with sample questions and a list of study references to help prepare for the exam. A practice test (with 50 questions) is available at no charge by request.

Once a CLP designee, always a CLP designee?

Yes, through regular recertification. Recertification is required every three (3) years for all Certified Licensing Professionals. To recertify, CLP certificants are required to earn 40 “credits” by contributing to and/or attending industry-related meetings (including those offered by LES, AUTM, BIO and other organizations), by publishing licensing-related articles and by presenting sessions or workshops at IP-related meetings or conferences. [Note: this is not an exhaustive list. Visit the Recertification section of the web site for more information.] Recertification is a valuable process that supports continuing education and ongoing professional development. It demonstrates your contribution to the industry and your employer.

When is the CLP exam offered?

The three-hour exam is offered during two, month-long windows annually. It is offered throughout the months of April and October at more than 400 test sites worldwide.

When can I apply for the CLP exam?

You may apply any time. The online application is available at www.licensingcertification.org. Applications must be submitted no later than seven days prior to the candidate’s desired test date. The application fee of $995 includes two separate testing opportunities within a 13-month window.

What do I need to know about the exam?

The exam consists of 150 multiple-choice questions covering eight content areas or “domains” of knowledge related to the licensing field. A candidate handbook and study guide—prepared and distributed by Certified Licensing Professionals, Inc.—is available online. A practice exam is also available by request.

For more information about the CLP certification process, contact clpinfo@licensingcertification.org.