

In April 2005, the National Certification Commission (NCC) of NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) and the Society of Credentialed Addiction Professionals (S.CAP) began discussions on a proposal to unify their independent credentials for addiction counselors into one national credential.

Addiction Professionals have responded with interest to the proposed changes. For more information on the process, please read the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section below or click on the links to read background information on the discussions.

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### **Here is a quick update to keep you informed of developments in the NAADAC/IC&RC discussions:**

Representatives from NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, the NAADAC National Certification Commission and the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Inc. (IC&RC/AODA), participated in a series of interviews to discuss issues, barriers and opportunities for increased collaboration or possible merger between the two organizations.

A non-binding report has been presented to both organizations, which is now under discussion by both the IC&RC and NAADAC.

If you have any questions about the IC&RC merger, please contact Cynthia Moreno Tuohy at [c  
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[Read more about the proposal](#)

[December 2007 NAADAC/IC&RC Update](#)

### Press Releases

November 8, 2006: [NAADAC and IC&RC Leaders Discuss Potential Collaboration](#)

August 8, 2005: [IC&RC and NAADAC Commit to Transparent Merger Discussions](#)

June 15, 2005: [NAADAC and IC&RC Move Toward Unification](#)

April 12, 2005: [NAADAC and IC&RC Propose Credential Consolidation](#)

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### Frequently Asked Questions

*NAADAC and IC&RC are committed to ensuring that the merger discussions are as open and transparent as possible. Below is a list of pertinent questions raised by members of both organizations.*

#### **1. Will the local credentialing jurisdictions continue to certify individuals or will they be required to apply directly to the new certification organization?**

Yes, the individuals will continue to be certified by existing local credentialing jurisdictions.

#### **2. I have a national or international credential. What happens to this certification?**

You will be issued a new certificate from the new certification organization at the time of renewal. The national and international certification process will continue to be administered by the new credentialing organization.

#### **3. Will my certification renewal fees go up?**

We will keep the cost of certification as low as possible. We do not have enough information at this time to set a fee structure.

**4. Will local jurisdictions have control over fee structure?**

Yes. The certifying jurisdictions will have authority over their fee structures. The new certification organization will set fees on the international certificate.

**5. How will examinations be administered to new applicants?**

We will utilize existing testing infrastructures until such time as we can transition to a single system.

**6. Who will collect the money from new applicants at the local jurisdictional level?**

There will be no change to the current infrastructures.

**7. What will happen in a jurisdiction where there are two existing certification boards?**

We will continue to service each certification board individually as we do now. In the instance that the boards wish to merge, we will also aid in this process.

**8. Will an applicant for certification be required to be a member of the new organization?**

No.

**9. Will an applicant for certification be required to be a member of a state organization?**

That is not a requirement of the new certification organization.

**10. Will there be a new set of standards?**

There will be unified model standards available for local jurisdictions.

**11. How will this merger affect a state where ICRC or NCC testing is legislatively mandated?**

During the transition period, we will continue to conduct business using “DBA.” The long-term solution will be to work with NASADAD and each jurisdiction to solve this problem individually.

**12. Will the structure of individual certifying boards change?**

No.

**13. How will local boards be represented?**

The plan is to have continued representation from local jurisdictions; however, the details have not been finalized.

**14. Will the new certification and member organizations be located in the Washington, DC area?**

The new organization, which includes the new certification and member organizations, will all be housed in the same office. Currently, ICRC has a six month lease. The new organization will look at the most cost effective and operationally sound location for an office. However, the present ICRC location would not be adequate, while the NAADAC offices could accommodate.

**15. Will the combined credentials protect my SAP qualification?**

The DOT will recognize the merged credentials.

**16. How will the merger ensure enhanced consumer protection and professional advocacy?**

By providing unified and consistent standards, which will be applied and available internationally. The missions of both organizations are recognized and valued as part of the new organization, and the two boards will be firewalled from each other separating these two missions.

**17. What will be the status of the CPM since some state have ICRC oral exam written into legislation?**

The new certification organization will continue to assist jurisdictional boards in the maintenance and review of the oral exam process. However, the process of merging ICRC and NCC's credentials has not yet begun.

This process is still evolving and is still just in the proposal stages. NAADAC and IC&RC will continually update both websites with further questions as answers as the discussions progress.