

Frequently Asked Questions About The Certified Medical Electrologist (CME) Exam

1. What is the CME and for whom is it written?

The Certified Medical Electrologist (CME) is intended for experienced electrologists who also practices laser hair removal. About 40% of this exam is in regards to lasers and their use, 60% of this exam consists of advanced electrology questions. Those areas include dermatology, pre and post treatment care, and patient assessments. The CME is currently the ONLY certification that demonstrates an electrologist's knowledge of laser and light-based hair removal technologies.

2. What are the eligibility requirements of becoming CME-certified?

The International Commission for Hair Removal Certification (ICHRC), the Society for Clinical and Medical Hair Removal's certification committee, strongly recommends that one be a practicing electrologist or have recently completed electrology training prior to taking the CME examination. It is recommended that an electrologist be in active practice for one year before sitting for the examination.

In order to sit for the CME you must be a current Certified Clinical Electrologist (CCE). You may not apply for the CME exam without providing proof of your CCE status.

3. What should I expect from the exam?

The CME consists of 100 multiple-choice questions. Content assessments for this exam is available in the exam study guide, by contacting the home office, or on SCMHR's website. Practicing electrologists, physicians, nurses and educators from the United States and Canada developed the exam questions. The ICHRC hand-picked these exam writers based on their expertise in the field.

This exam must be administered by an SCMHR proctor or an agent of SCMHR. This exam cannot be proctored at a community college or learning center.

4. Can I study for the exam?

The areas tested include knowledge and skill you develop from being in practice, as well as those learned from initial training. If you are a good practitioner and have had appropriate training, you should have no difficulty passing the examination. The examination is designed to recognize competent practitioners. Prior to most exams proctored by a SCMHR proctor, a 3-hour Certification Preparation Seminar (CPS) is offered. This session is based on the examination outline and study guide. Anyone who purchases the study guide (\$125) will receive a coupon to take the CPS free.

5. After I take the exam, how will I know the results?

Those successfully completing the exam will receive a score and certificate from ICHRC. It takes approximately 4-6 weeks to receive the certificate due to the processing time involved with obtaining test results, printing and mailing. You may begin to use the designation as soon as you have been notified that you have passed the exam.

Those who do not pass the exam will receive a letter detailing scores in each specific exam area.

6. Does my certification expire?

Certification expires five years after the date of the original certification. You must be recertified every five years by either retaking the examination or by accumulating and registering 7.5 (75 hours) of CEUs.

7. What does CEU stand for?

CEU stands for Continuing Education Unit. One CEU is equal to 10 contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction. Up to 2.4 CEUs (24 hours) may be home studies. CEU certificates should be mailed, faxed or emailed to the home office within six months of completion. CEUs will NOT be granted without the proper documentation.

8. What is the purpose of the recertification requirements?

The ICHRC enforces these requirements to ensure that each certified person obtains current information in professional development, explores new knowledge in specific content areas, masters new skills and techniques, and conducts his or her professional practice in a safe and ethical manner.

9. How can I be recertified?

You must either meet the CEU requirements or pass the current applicable examination. You must submit application for recertification (along with payment) at least 2 weeks before your certification expires.

PLEASE CONTACT THE HOME OFFICE TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION (HomeOffice@scmhr.org).