



The MBNA Certification Program was developed as a result of a three-year study program by some of the industry's most recognized leaders. It raises the professional standards to those engaged in the memorialization industry and awards the top level of competence and ethical conduct. The MBNA Certified Memorialist® (CM) designation is a highly regarded professional achievement available in the memorial industry. Certification is awarded to individuals, not a firm as a whole. Both members and non-members of MBNA can apply to become a CM.

To become a Certified Memorialist®, a candidate must:

- have at least two years of experience working full-time in the memorial profession
- be currently employed full-time in the memorial profession
- pledge in writing to adhere to MBNA Code of Good Practice
- [Earn a minimum of 50 points](#) through participation and activity in a broad range of fields recognized as indicative of professional interest and attainment in the memorial industry. Individuals have a maximum of 5 years immediately preceding and one year after completing the CM application to complete these requirements.

First, complete the [CM Application](#). Once you complete the registration form, you will be given access to the CM exam system along with the CM exam manual, which outlines the content covered on the CM exam. You have one year to complete the CM exam after being given access. The exam can be taken one section at a time (multiple choice, short answer, design). Please be sure to allow ample time to complete each section and be sure to work in an area with a strong internet connection.

Applicants have 12 months from the date they fill out their form to fulfill the CEU requirements and take the exam. Once both the CM exam has been passed and the [50-point industry participation requirement fulfilled](#), a Certified Memorialist® will be entitled to use the CM initials after their name on all forms of business correspondence.

Certified Memorialists also receive a number of benefits from MBNA including:

- 20% registration discount at MBNA conventions
- Recognition at MBNA events
- Engraved plaque for office/store display
- Listing in the Certified Memorialist® directory on the MBNA website

Certification lasts for a period of three years. In order to re-certify, CMs must [complete 30 points of industry participation within their certification period](#), and pay the appropriate re-certification cost.