



## ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR THE CERTIFIED PACKAGING PROFESSIONAL CPP® PROGRAM?

### ABOUT CERTIFICATION

Since 1972, IoPP has awarded qualified applicants the designation 'Certified Packaging Professional (CPP)®'. To date, nearly 2,000 packaging professionals have attained CPP® status, and with good reason, it is the premier designation in the industry signifying excellence as a professional. The most recent IoPP salary survey revealed that CPP®s earn between 7% and 10% more than their non-certified co-workers! The IoPP is now collaborating with the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) to bring this international recognition to Australasia. The Certified Packaging Professional (CPP)® designation is a registered trademark of the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IoPP) and is now internationally recognised by both IoPP and AIP.

Candidates achieve the Certified Packaging Professional (CPP)® designation by demonstrating significant industry expertise and experience, measured through a flexible applicant testing process. CPP®s are in demand as speakers and as leaders on their packaging teams.

### RECOGNITION

Attaining the CPP® designation is an excellent investment in your professional development. Yet among the benefits of having qualified is the public recognition that comes with the achievement.

The industry recognises the CPP® designation as a commitment to excellence in the packaging profession.

Those earning the CPP® designation are permitted and encouraged to use the suffix 'CPP®' after their name on business cards and letterhead, to wear the AIP/ CPP® lapel pin, and to display the AIP/ CPP® Certificate, which is suitable for framing.

### CPP® QUALIFICATIONS

Only AIP members in good standing may apply for accreditation and recognition as a Certified Packaging Professional in Australasia. Please join the AIP if you are not a member.

Once you achieve your CPP®, you must keep your AIP membership up-to-date each year in order to retain certification. If you lose your certification, you must start the certification process over.

Currently, a candidate is qualified to begin the process if he/she has six years' experience in packaging or a closely related technical discipline.

The six-year requirement can be satisfied in the following ways:

- Six years actual work experience, or;
- Diploma in Packaging Technology plus two years of work experience or;
- Masters in Food & Packaging plus two years of work experience or;
- Bachelor Degree in Food Science plus two years of work experience or;
- Bachelor Degree in Engineering plus two years of work experience or;
- Bachelor Degree in Packaging related area, plus two years of work experience, or;
- Bachelor of Science Degree in packaging related area, plus one year for Masters Degree, plus one year of actual work experience.

Completion of all four semesters of the Fundamentals of Packaging Technology series constitutes one year of experience, and is recommended as preparation for the CPP® exam.

Others who pass the requirements as set forth, but who have not yet obtained the six years of experience, can earn the Certified Professionals in Training (CPIT) designation.



## **CPP® REQUIREMENTS**

### **Multiple-Choice Exam:**

IoPP's multiple-choice test is mandatory for every candidate entering the program. The test is comprised of 150 questions on packaging machinery, materials and technology. This is an 'open book' test. An 80% correct score is considered passing. Test is presented in an online, Internet-based format. Candidates demonstrate their command of applied packaging technology by successfully completing the MANDATORY Multiple-Choice Exam and one of the following options:

### **1. NARRATIVE EXAM:**

Alternatively, candidates may choose to answer three narrative, 'essay-type' questions from a list of 10 such questions formulated by other Certified Packaging Professionals. The narrative questions are general in nature in order to permit and encourage appropriate responses drawn from each candidate's own background, whether that is in consumer or industrial packaging, in engineering or design, in technical disciplines or management. Reference to various texts is encouraged. The answers are evaluated by a committee on a 'pass/fail' basis. This exam is a timed test due within a 4 day window. The questions are emailed to the applicant.

### **2. RESUME OF ACTIVITIES:**

Candidates may complete a detailed resume form (supplied by AIP/IoPP) to document their past six (6) years of experience and active participation in packaging and/or related disciplines with a work resume attached. A Resume Review Committee awards points for continuous employment; participation in the AIP's affairs; presentations at conferences, seminars and meetings; publishing authored papers on appropriate technical and management topics; attending educational courses and industry exhibitions; teaching or lecturing; securing patents, and more.

### **3. WRITING A PAPER:**

A candidate may write a new paper or submit an unpublished paper written within the past two years on a technical or management topic of his or her choice. The paper will be graded anonymously, 'pass/fail', by three qualified peers. Submitted papers become the property of AIP/IoPP, and may be published on the AIP/IoPP websites. Papers must be submitted electronically via e-mail.

Work submitted must be solely that of the candidate. No co-authored work is accepted.

Professional paper guidelines are available by [clicking here](#). Candidates are encouraged to use published references in answering test questions and in writing papers.

### **4. PATENTS:**

The candidate may submit proof of a patent granted no more than five (5) years prior to their certification or recertification application.

Co-inventor patents cannot be submitted as one of the two requirements. If both the Resume of Activities and Patent options are chosen, the submitted patent cannot also be included in the Resume of Activity point total. Co-inventor patents may be included on the Resume of Activities, with 1/2 the allowed point credit issued.

The CPP® candidate can apply for the Certification Application as either an AIP member or as an IoPP member. The candidate must also satisfactorily complete the Multiple-Choice Exam and one other option in the order they desire, within twelve months from the date of application. Any questions about these requirements should be directed to IoPP prior to applying for certification.

### **CURRENT FEES:**

Certification Fee (CPP®): \$125 USD (Includes certificate and pin). This fee will be charged directly by the IoPP. You must be an AIP Member to be eligible for the CPP program.