Why get the ABV credential?

As an ABV credential holder, you’ll establish instant credibility with employers and clients and gain confidence in knowing the most recognizable credentialing body in the market issued your credential. It tells your employer and clients you:

- Are an expert in business valuation — the AICPA.
- Have expertise backed by the world’s most recognizable credentialing body in the market issued your credential. It tells your employer and clients you:
- Are qualified and confident in the subject matter and are recognized by others in your line of work.
- Are distinguished from other valuation professionals through your training, experience, and education.
- Have access to a community of like-minded professionals and the latest tools, resources, and learning opportunities — and more — to be successful.
- Have demonstrated your expertise in the specialized topic of business valuation.

The pathway to the credential

Accredited in Business Valuation

**Step 1: Learn.** The AICPA offers both self-study and classroom-based learning opportunities:

- Intro to BV
  - Text: 19.5 CPE credits
  - Online: 17.5 CPE credits
- Understanding BV
  - Text: 33.5 CPE credits
  - Online: 27.5 CPE credits
- BV School
  - AICPA Business Valuation School: A five-day intermediate-level course of 200 to 250 hours per year
  - Live: 60 CPE credits
- Review Course
  - AICPA Exam Review Course: A self-study prep course on 30 exam topics offered annually before our Fall Conference
  - Live: 16 CPE credits

**Step 2: Pass the exam.**

Take the two-part ABV Exam based on your schedule. Candidate may take the exam in person at one of 300 locations nationwide, or online in a remotely proctored environment. Exam assesses candidate’s knowledge of the CSO which requires competency in the following areas:

1. **Foundation of Valuation Theory**
   - The conceptual underpinnings of business valuation
   - Business valuation as a self-standing, introductory-level course
   - Text: 8 CPE credits
   - Online: 6 CPE credits
2. **Implementation of Valuation Methods**
   - Understanding BV: A 14-week self-study intermediate-level course of 2-3 hours per week
   - Live: 30 CPE credits

**Step 3: Gain experience.** An ABV candidate must meet one of the following business experience requirements within the five-year period preceding the date of the ABV credential application:

For CPA’s: 1,500 hours of business valuation experience

For Valuation Professionals: 4,500 hours of business valuation experience

**Step 4: Get credentialed.**

Get more referrals and advance your career with the ABV credential.

The demand for valuation services is high!

>100,000

The number of employee-driven businesses predicted to successfully sell in 2018

62%

Potential sellers who are either actively engaged in an M&A transaction or are open to one in 2019

Learn more! Visit aicpa.org/ABV to find out more about the ABV credential.