

CFM® Program Reciprocity Policy

Reciprocity

The Association of State Floodplain Managers believes that Certified Floodplain Managers, through education, training and examination have a core body of knowledge upon which they base their professional services and actions. Professional Floodplain Managers protect the public's health, safety and property through their advice and service. Requirements for professional reciprocity must be reasonable and flexible and should allow for individual state variations in response to state-specific public health, safety or welfare issues, such as climate conditions. Reciprocity should be founded on uniform criteria to ensure parity and consistency throughout the floodplain management profession.

Introduction

The Association of State Floodplain Managers has established a national program for professional certification of floodplain managers. The program recognizes continuing education and professional development that enhance the knowledge and performance of local, state, federal, and private-sector floodplain managers.

The ASFPM CFM Program is designed to encourage the development of National Certification programs with state questions where possible. It is recognized that local implementation of floodplain management programs often involves the coordination of local, state, and federal floodplain management program elements. The ASFPM CFM Program wants to be a catalyst in promoting this coordination. The State Accreditation Process of the CFM Program and the application has been created to support a greater understanding of this coordination.

A person granted certification under an accredited state program will be recognized as an ASFPM accredited CFM. This recognition is valid in all states except those with their own accredited CFM Program. States with their own accredited CFM Program will determine the conditions of reciprocity for certification in that state. Professional reciprocity among accredited states benefits the public and meets the ASFPM needs for a professional level of floodplain management practice throughout the nation. Uniform criteria for reciprocity will support mobility among professional floodplain managers, and enable accredited state programs to quickly and efficiently evaluate the qualifications of floodplain managers applying for reciprocity.

Reciprocity Criteria

- If a national or state accredited CFM moves into a state accredited program, the CFM must satisfy that accredited state's reciprocity criteria. If a CFM from accredited state moves to a non-accredited state, they must satisfy the criteria of the ASFPM certified program within 120 days of moving (if known or by the CFMs next renewal).
- Reciprocity is based on a CFMs principal home address, where applicable.
- An applicant must be a CFM in good standing of either an Accredited State Program or the Association of State Floodplain Managers Certified Floodplain Manager Program to be awarded professional reciprocity.

- All examinations for certification of floodplain managers will cover no less subject matter, in similar proportions and content, than the national Certified Floodplain Manager examination.
- State-specific requirements and criteria are permissible to address specific public health and safety issues or more stringent regulatory standards. Specific differences must be kept to a minimum to facilitate parity and consistency in the practice of floodplain management.
- Reciprocity will not be considered for any CFM that has lost their certification due to non-renewal or cause.
- If reciprocity is granted, an applicant will be responsible for sitting for any applicable examination; providing any needed information on work history, education, experience and current valid certification that the reviewing Board may require; and payment of all fees for examination and membership in the granting organization.

Decision Criteria

- Any person granted Certification under an Accredited State Program will be recognized as an “ASFPM accredited CFM.”
- Each accredited state shall determine the conditions of reciprocity for certification within their state, in accordance with the guidelines established by ASFPM Certified Floodplain Manager Program.
- In general, the Board of an Accredited State Program may grant reciprocity when they determine that an applicant has 1) passed an adequate written examination or met other approved conditions; and 2) is currently certified by a State Accredited or ASFPM Floodplain Manager Certification Program that has education requirements that are consistent with or more stringent than those of the ASFPM CFM Program.