



PROFESSIONAL  
CERTIFICATION  
COALITION

## FY 2025 Accomplishments FY 2026 Priorities

Professional certifications benefit consumers and strengthen careers, businesses, industries, and professions. The Professional Certification Coalition (PCC) advocates for policies that promote certifying organizations, certified professionals, and all who rely on the expertise and experience demonstrated only through professional certification.



### Professional Certification Coalition: 101



**90+**

Member  
Organizations



**50+**

Industries and  
Professions



**68**

Bills in  
27 states



Federal & State Advocacy



Legislative & Regulatory Analysis



Stakeholder Outreach

### PCC Accomplishments During the Last Year: Final Passage of 529 Expansion Law!

- Secured passage of PCC-drafted legislation to allow 529 college savings plan funds to cover costs of obtaining and maintaining professional certifications.
- Hosted PCC's third annual Legislative Advocacy Day, increasing bipartisan Congressional support for PCC's federal workforce development policies.
- Delivered 41 amendment proposals via letter and testimony to improve state legislation impacting the entire certification community.
- Partnered with on-the-ground advocates to oppose harmful legislation and built relationships with regulators and prominent stakeholders across the U.S. to raise the PCC's profile.
- Led advocacy to restore funding for military servicemembers to pursue credentials that support military readiness, retention, and post-service career success.

# FY 2026 Priorities

## STATE ADVOCACY



### Threats to Certification Self-Governance

Opposing legislation that seeks to dictate certification program content and restrict enforcement of conduct codes.



### Occupational Licensing Reform

Defending state recognition of credentials and training programs in state licensing laws.



### State Credentialing Loopholes Undermining Certifications

Opposing legislative efforts to permit out-of-state applicants to bypass licensing law requirements for certification.



### Leveraging Federal Progress

Building on 529 expansion success to promote more robust state level recognition and support for quality professional certifications.

## FEDERAL ADVOCACY



### Restore Department of Defense Credentialing Program Benefits

The DOD Credential Opportunities Online (COOL) programs provide funding for servicemembers to pursue high-quality occupational credentials aligned with their military occupational specialties and professional aspirations. The PCC will work to ensure robust benefit levels for DOD COOL programs, including programs for which benefits were recently reduced.



### Establish a Federal Directory of Quality Certifications

The PCC will continue to advocate for the federal government to establish a comprehensive national directory of high-quality certifications.

## Coalition Members Certify the PCC's Quality, Impact, and Expertise:

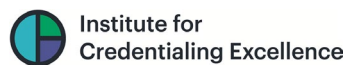
*"One of the first actions I took as the new head of U.S. Government Relations for my organization was to connect with the PCC. It has been great working with the PCC on its successful lobbying and policy efforts and I know the PCC will continue to protect and promote the certification community in the public policy arena in the years to come."*

*"The PCC continues to be one of the most relevant and value-added coalitions we have ever been a part of."*

*"PCC is doing an excellent job and we appreciate the various outlets for reaching state and federal decision makers."*

## PCC Will Remain Vigilant About Threats to the Certification Community

The PCC will continue to monitor and engage with federal level threats, including misuse of antitrust enforcement and targeting of credentialing activities that are protected by the First Amendment.



The PCC addresses public policy that impacts certifications developed and/or offered by non-governmental organizations, educates stakeholders about the benefits of certification, and advances policies to help develop the workforce. The Institute for Credentialing Excellence, the American Society of Association Executives, and the Pillsbury law firm founded the PCC in 2018.