



Insurance Regulator Professional Designation Program

Frequently Asked Questions

January 2020

Q: [What is the NAIC Designation Program?](#)

A: NAIC's Insurance Regulator Professional Designation Program provides regulators with the knowledge and skills needed to meet the immediate demands of an increasingly demanding regulatory marketplace. It is unique in providing professional development paths for all insurance regulators regardless of their roles within NAIC's member departments. NAIC Designees hold positions as varied as Chief Insurance Regulator, Analysts, Examiners, Consumer Service Representatives, Staff Counsel, Investigators and Deputy/Assistant Commissioners. The Designees may have earned credentials within their own specialty areas as well. However, an NAIC Designation signifies that a regulator has mastered a broad range of regulatory competencies—defined by the membership in collaboration with NAIC staff—at all stages of his or her career. The Designation Program itself demonstrates to Congress, consumer advocates, and others, that state-based regulators have access to a formal, centralized professional curriculum.

Q: [Who is eligible to participate in this program?](#)

A: To qualify for a designation, you must currently be an employee with a state insurance department. State contract employees cannot receive an insurance regulator professional designation.

Q: [How do I enroll in the NAIC Designation Program?](#)

A: Enrollment can be completed online in myNAIC. Your state IT Liaison must allow access to myNAIC and the Professional Designation Program icons. Select Professional Designation Program – New User and complete the enrollment steps.

Q: [What methods of payment are accepted?](#)

A: Payment may be made by credit card, Zone or Grant funds, or by invoice billed to your state department. All are to be made within the Program management site along with your enrollment.

NOTE: All enrollments are pending until payment has been received.

Q: [I just started with the department; can I start working on my APIR Designation now?](#)

A: Yes, you may enroll and begin taking the required courses and exams.

Q: [What are the benefits to regulators of obtaining the designation?](#)

A: The designation program provides insurance regulators with an NAIC-sponsored professional

Q: [Is there a test-out option for the APIR?](#)

A: There is a test-out option for the APIR, the APIR Comprehensive Exam. The exam is rigorous, addressing concepts in the areas of market regulation, rate and form regulation, and solvency regulation. Candidates are given one opportunity to take the comprehensive exam (no retakes are permitted for this exam). The enrollment fee for the APIR and the APIR comprehensive exam fee must be paid in order to schedule the exam. Candidates who pass the comprehensive exam will be awarded the APIR Designation. Enrollment and exam fees are non-refundable.

Q: [How do I know if I qualify for the IPIR?](#)

A: To be eligible to enroll in the IPIR you must meet the following pre-requirements:

- < IPIR Candidates must be NAIC PIR Designees in good standing, meaning they have met all existing PIR requirements and their PIR Designations are current and active.
- < Completed the course/exam for Introduction to Financial Regulation, Regulating for Solvency, How to Analyze Insurer Portfolios and The Basics of Investing (

- < Must provide documentation of completion of a college accounting course or achieve of a score of 80% or better on the pre-entry exam (set up through the NAIC Education & Training Designation Specialist).
- < Once pre-requirements have been met, enroll in the IPIR and pay the enrollment fee.

Q: [Who was involved in designing the NAIC Designation Program?](#)

A: An Advisory Board comprised of regulators representing each of the four NAIC zones designed the NAIC Designation Program. The Advisory Board is chaired by a state insurance commissioner and continues to oversee the program and enforce program policies.

Q: [Can I receive credit toward an NAIC Designation for courses I take through other organizations?](#)

A: Yes, there are elective credits awarded from other organizations at the PIR and SPIR level. Courses that have been approved for credit by the Designation Advisory Board are listed in our Catalog of Electives.

Please note: To qualify for credit, non-NAIC courses must have been successfully completed within the last three years prior to application for the designation.

Q: [Will NAIC courses I completed prior to enrolling in the NAIC Designation Program be accepted as meeting the requirements of a designation?](#)

A: If you enroll and complete the applicable course exam within 60 days following the final day of the course, you may earn credit towards your designation. Candidates must be formally admitted to the Designation Program and be enrolled at the appropriate level to earn credit. Effective January 1, 2020: Candidates may enroll in that level within three years of successfully completing a course and its exam within 60 days of the final day of the course at that level before credits will be awarded.

