



New Professional Right of Way Certification Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. If I hold an RWA or RWP under the Industry-Specific Pathways Program, will I still need to declare candidacy?
A. No, you will be automatically grandfathered into the Industry-Specific Pathways Program that you are currently on; however, you have the option to migrate to the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program.
2. If I migrate to the new program, will I still be required to submit a Declaration of Candidacy form and pay the applicable fee?
A. Yes.
3. If I do not hold an RWA or RWP and would like to be grandfathered into the Industry-Specific Pathways Program, will I need to complete and submit a Declaration of Candidacy form?
A. Yes.
4. What is the Declaration of Candidacy fee for those being grandfathered into the Industry-Specific Pathways Program?
A. There is no fee for those declaring candidacy under the Industry-Specific Pathways Program.
5. If I have not taken a class yet, can I still declare my candidacy and be grandfathered into the Industry-Specific Program?
A. Yes.
6. How long will I have to submit a Declaration of Candidacy form if I want to be grandfathered into the Industry-Specific Pathways Program but do not have an RWA or RWP?
A. December 31, 2022.
7. Where can I find the Declaration of Candidacy forms?
**A. 1. [Industry-Specific Pathways Program – Declaration of Candidacy form](#)
2. [New Professional Right of Way Certification Program – Declaration of Candidacy form](#)**
8. To whom do I submit my Declaration of Candidacy form?
A. Your local Chapter Professional Development Committee (PDC) Chair



9. If I do not have a Chapter PDC Chair, to whom do I submit my Declaration of Candidacy form.
 - A. **IRWA Credentialing Manager Francis Vicente at vicente@irwaonline.org**
10. What happens if I do not declare my candidacy by the December 31, 2022, deadline and I wish to obtain an RWA, RWP or SR/WA?
 - A. **You will need to migrate to the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program.**
11. How long will I have to complete all the requirements for the SR/WA if I am being grandfathered into the Industry-Specific Pathways Program?
 - A. **December 31, 2027 (5 years).**
12. How long are my completed courses applicable to my certification/designation?
 - A. **Courses are valid for 10 years from the date of course completion for the RWP and the SR/WA. There is no expiration on RWA courses except for the IRWA ethics requirement.**
13. Are the recertification requirements for the RWP and SR/WA changing?
 - A. **No, the recertification requirements will remain the same.**
14. Is recertification required for the RWA?
 - A. **No.**
15. If I earned my RWP or SR/WA under one of the four Industry-Specific Pathways and I recertify, will I lose the “GN,” “EU,” “OG” or “TN” letters that come after my RWP certification or SR/WA designation?
 - A. **No, you will have the option of keeping those distinctions when you recertify.**
16. What are the declaration of candidacy fees for those who want to pursue the RWA, RWP or SR/WA under the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program?
 - A. **\$25 for the RWA and RWP and \$50 for the SR/WA.**



17. If I obtained an RWA or RWP under the Industry-Specific Pathways Program and want to obtain the RWP or SR/WA under the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program, do I need to complete the additional IRWA coursework requirements for a certification I already obtained?
- A. No, you will only need to complete the IRWA courses for the certification/designation you have not already obtained.**
18. What's the difference in IRWA coursework credits between the Industry-Specific Pathways Program and the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program?
- A. The Industry-Specific Pathways range from 200 to 240 credits while the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program is 272 credits.**
19. Does the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program have a capstone exam requirement?
- A. Yes**
20. Is there a capstone exam required for the RWA and RWP?
- A. No, the capstone exam is only required for the SR/WA.**
21. Do I have to take all the required coursework for each level if I have a bachelor's degree and more than five years of right of way experience?
- A. Yes. A bachelor's degree and right of way experience cannot be used to replace the required coursework. These are two of the requirements in addition to the coursework and capstone exam (for the SR/WA).**
22. Where can I find the IRWA coursework requirements for the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program?
- A. [Coursework Requirements for the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program](#)**
23. Do I have to complete the requirements for the RWA and RWP level if I'm only interested in obtaining the SR/WA?
- A. Yes. This is a three-level program and the prerequisite to obtain the SR/WA is to complete all the requirements for the RWA and RWP.**



24. Where can I find list of intermediate or advanced level courses, so I know what my options are in terms of electives?
- A. [Overview of IRWA Courses](#)**
25. What are the changes that have been made to the new Professional Right of Way Certification Program?
- A. 1. The IRWA coursework requirements, which have increased to 272 total credits to be more inclusive of all right of way disciplines and better prepare you for application in your profession.**
- 2. The requirement to submit a Declaration of Candidacy form, which allows IRWA to track what you are working towards and better serve your professional development needs.**
26. Can I still officially apply for the RWA and RWP level certifications while working on completing the requirements for the SR/WA within the 5-year candidacy period?
- A. Yes.**
27. Where can I find a copy of the IPEC Credentialing Subcommittee's recording and presentation on the new program?
- A. [Recording](#)**
[Presentation](#)