

IACIS Certifications



IACIS Certified Forensic Computer Examiner (CFCE) certification is a widely-recognized rigorous 6-month program to confirm the applicant's mastery of computer forensic methodology. During a peer-review phase, the applicant works with a coach to demonstrate knowledge of computer forensics topics and skill in applying that knowledge to practical exercises. Following successful completion of the peer-review process, applicants enter a certification phase where they are given a final knowledge test and an in-depth practical examination to complete.

Most applicants come to the CFCE process by way of the IACIS Basic Computer Forensic Examiner (BCFE) course taught at IACIS training events in the United States and Europe.

Successful completion of the two-week BCFE course entitles the student to apply for CFCE certification. An external CFCE certification option is also available for applicants who have not completed BCFE but have equivalent knowledge and training in digital forensics.

The CFCE certification is valid for three years and can be renewed by demonstrating continuing education and successfully completing a proficiency exercise.

The IACIS CFCE is accredited by the Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board (FSAB).



Certified Advanced Windows Forensic Examiner (CAWFE) is an advanced certification drawn from a set of competencies specific to the Windows operating system, including partitioning schemes, file systems, Registry, Windows-specific artifacts and live memory acquisition and analysis.

The CAWFE certification program is implemented as two separate assessments. The first component is a written examination that tests the applicant's range of knowledge of Windows forensic topics. After passing the first test, the applicant is given a practical assessment based on a set of image files and Windows artifacts.

The IACIS Windows Forensic Examiner (WFE) course, offered at IACIS training conferences, is a five-day, 36-hour class including lectures and instructor-led practical exercises using live Windows systems and a wide variety of tools. The course is also available in an online format. The WFE curriculum covers many of the topics encountered during CAWFE certification, though applicants are encouraged to study other available Windows forensics resources prior to attempting certification.

The CAWFE certification is valid for three years and can be renewed by demonstrating continuing education and successfully completing a proficiency exercise.



IACIS Certified Mobile Device Examiner (ICMDE) certification demonstrates advanced knowledge and skill in the acquisition and analysis of mobile device evidence. As with CFCE and CAWFE certification, applicants must demonstrate competency by successfully completing both a knowledge exam and a practical exercise based on Android and IOS images and artifacts.

The IACIS Mobile Device Forensics (MDF) course, taken as either a 36-hour live-instructor class or online, is the foundation for the skills required to achieve ICMDE certification. Both the course and the certification program use a tool-independent, device-agnostic approach to acquiring and analyzing mobile device evidence.

IACIS ICMDE certification is valid for three years and can be renewed by demonstrating continuing education and successfully completing a proficiency exercise.