

# aapc cpc exam dates 2023

**AAPC CPC Exam Dates 2023** are crucial for aspiring medical coders looking to gain certification in the field. The Certified Professional Coder (CPC) credential is one of the most recognized certifications in the healthcare industry, validating a coder's skills and knowledge in coding procedures and diagnoses. This article will provide comprehensive information about the exam dates, preparation tips, requirements, and other essential details regarding the AAPC CPC Exam for 2023.

## Overview of the AAPC CPC Exam

The AAPC CPC Exam is designed to assess a candidate's proficiency in medical coding, primarily focusing on outpatient coding. Candidates who pass this exam demonstrate their ability to use the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT), International Classification of Diseases (ICD), and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes.

## Importance of the CPC Certification

Obtaining the CPC certification offers various benefits, including:

1. **Increased Job Opportunities:** Many employers prefer candidates with CPC certification, making it easier to secure a job in the competitive field of medical coding.
2. **Higher Salary Potential:** Certified coders often earn higher salaries compared to their non-certified counterparts.
3. **Professional Credibility:** CPC certification enhances your professional reputation and credibility in the healthcare industry.
4. **Career Advancement:** Certification can lead to promotions and more advanced roles in coding and billing.

## AAPC CPC Exam Dates 2023

The AAPC typically offers the CPC Exam multiple times throughout the year. For 2023, the exam dates are scheduled as follows:

- January 14, 2023
- March 18, 2023
- May 20, 2023
- July 15, 2023
- September 16, 2023
- November 18, 2023

These dates provide candidates with several opportunities to take the exam, enabling them to choose a date that best fits their preparation schedule.

# Registration Process

To register for the CPC Exam, candidates need to follow these steps:

1. Create an AAPC Account: Go to the AAPC website and create an account if you don't already have one.
2. Select the CPC Exam: Navigate to the certification section and select the CPC Exam.
3. Choose Your Exam Date: From the available dates, select the date that works best for you.
4. Complete Payment: Pay the exam fee, which is typically around \$399 for AAPC members and \$499 for non-members.
5. Receive Confirmation: After completing your registration, you will receive a confirmation email with details about your exam.

# Exam Format and Content

Understanding the exam format and content is crucial for effective preparation. The CPC Exam consists of:

- Length: The exam is a 5-hour, 40-minute test.
- Questions: The exam consists of 150 multiple-choice questions.
- Topics Covered: The questions cover various topics, including:
  - Anatomy and Medical Terminology
  - Coding Guidelines and Conventions
  - Evaluation and Management Coding
  - Surgical Coding
  - Modifiers
  - HCPCS Level II Codes
  - ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding

# Scoring and Results

To pass the CPC Exam, candidates must achieve a score of at least 70%. The results are typically available within a few days after the exam date. Candidates can access their scores through their AAPC accounts.

# Preparation Tips for the CPC Exam

Effective preparation is key to passing the CPC Exam. Here are some tips to help you prepare:

1. Understand the Exam Structure: Familiarize yourself with the types of questions and the format of the exam.
2. Utilize AAPC Resources: Take advantage of AAPC's study materials, including textbooks, online courses, and practice exams.
3. Join Study Groups: Collaborating with other candidates can provide insights and help clarify

complex topics.

4. Practice Coding: Regularly practice coding scenarios to improve your speed and accuracy.

5. Time Management: During the exam, manage your time carefully to ensure you can answer all questions.

## **Recommended Study Materials**

To enhance your study sessions, consider the following resources:

- CPC Study Guide: AAPC offers a comprehensive study guide specifically designed for the CPC Exam.
- Online Courses: Enroll in AAPC's online training courses for structured learning.
- Practice Exams: Taking practice exams can help you identify weak areas and improve your test-taking strategies.
- Coding Manuals: Keep your CPT, ICD-10-CM, and HCPCS manuals handy for reference during your studies.

## **Common Challenges and Solutions**

Many candidates encounter challenges while preparing for the CPC Exam. Here are some common issues and their solutions:

- Challenge: Difficulty understanding coding guidelines.
- Solution: Break down complex guidelines into smaller sections and use visual aids like charts or flashcards.
- Challenge: Time management during the exam.
- Solution: Practice answering questions under timed conditions to improve your pacing.
- Challenge: Retaining large amounts of information.
- Solution: Use mnemonic devices and repetition to enhance memory retention.

## **Conclusion**

The AAPC CPC Exam dates for 2023 provide ample opportunities for aspiring medical coders to take the certification exam. By understanding the exam format, utilizing effective study strategies, and preparing thoroughly, candidates can increase their chances of passing the exam and achieving their CPC certification. This credential not only enhances professional credibility but also opens doors to numerous career opportunities in the healthcare industry. Whether you are a seasoned coding professional or new to the field, the CPC certification is a valuable asset that can significantly impact your career trajectory.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the scheduled dates for the AAPC CPC exam in 2023?**

The AAPC CPC exam is scheduled on various dates throughout 2023, including January 21, March 18, May 20, July 15, September 16, and November 18.

### **How can I register for the AAPC CPC exam in 2023?**

You can register for the AAPC CPC exam by visiting the AAPC website, creating an account, and selecting the exam date and location that suits you.

### **Is there a registration deadline for the AAPC CPC exam in 2023?**

Yes, registration deadlines vary by exam date, typically closing 2-3 weeks before the exam. It's best to check the AAPC website for specific deadlines.

### **What is the format of the AAPC CPC exam in 2023?**

The AAPC CPC exam consists of 150 multiple-choice questions covering various topics in medical coding, with a total duration of 5 hours and 40 minutes.

### **Are there any prerequisites to take the AAPC CPC exam in 2023?**

While there are no strict prerequisites to take the CPC exam, it is highly recommended to complete a medical coding training program and have some coding experience.

### **Can I take the AAPC CPC exam online in 2023?**

As of 2023, the AAPC CPC exam is primarily offered in-person at designated testing centers, but AAPC may offer online options on a limited basis. Check their website for updates.

### **What should I bring to the AAPC CPC exam in 2023?**

You should bring a valid photo ID, your AAPC membership card, and any allowed reference materials, such as coding books, as specified in the exam guidelines.

### **How much does it cost to take the AAPC CPC exam in 2023?**

The cost to take the AAPC CPC exam in 2023 is typically around \$399 for AAPC members and \$499 for non-members.

## **What is the passing score for the AAPC CPC exam?**

To pass the AAPC CPC exam, you need to achieve a score of at least 70%.

## **When will I receive my AAPC CPC exam results in 2023?**

Exam results are usually available within 7-10 business days after taking the AAPC CPC exam, and you can access them through your AAPC account.

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