

Certifications for Medical Writers and Editors

	Organization	Certification Title	Purpose	Requirements	Cost	Comments	URL
Writing							
	American Medical Writers Association (AMWA)	Medical Writing Certification	“To help define what is considered an essential foundation to professional excellence, strengthen the profession, and help ensure clarity around medical writing knowledge, skills, and abilities for medical writers of the future.”	?	?	In progress; 1st exam expected 2015	http://www.amwa.org/certification
	Society for Technical Communication (STC)	Certified Professional Technical Writer, Certified Professional Technical Communicator		Portfolio with 9 sections: Project Planning Competencies; Project Analysis Competencies; Solution Design Competencies; Organizational Design Competencies; Written Communication Competencies; Visual Communication Competencies; Content Development Competencies; Content Management Competencies; Final Production Competencies	?	Program currently on hold	http://www.stc.org/education/certification/certification-main
Editing							
	Board of Editors in the Life Sciences (BELS)	Editor in the Life Sciences (ELS)	“To provide qualified manuscript editors in the life sciences a way to demonstrate their editorial proficiency, to provide employers and clients of manuscript editors in the life sciences a way to identify	Bachelor’s degree, 2 years of editing experience	Application: \$50; exam: \$200 exam	2.75-hour multiple choice exam	www.bels.org

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			proficient editors, and to establish a standard of proficiency for editing in the life sciences.”				
	Center for Professional Innovation and Education, Inc (CfPIE)	Pharma/Bio-tech Certification, Medical Device Certification	“...offers 11 industry-recognized certification programs that allow you to boost your credibility and heighten your career options as a pharmaceutical, biotech or medical device professional.”	3 core courses, 1 elective	Cost varies with courses	Exams vary with courses taken	http://www.cfpie.com/content.aspx?c=CMWP
	Editors Association of Canada (EAC)	Proofreading, Copy Editing, Stylistic Editing, Structural Editing	“...sets objective standards for recognizing high levels of knowledge and skill. It's the gold standard of editing.”	No formal requirements but 5 years of editing experience recommended	Study guides: \$55 each; 1 test: \$480.25 (member), \$593.25 (non-member); 2 tests: \$904.00 (member), \$1130.00 (non-member)		http://www.editors.ca/certification/index.html
Publication management and planning							
	Council of Science Editors (CSE)	Publication Certificate	“...in response to the rapidly changing scholarly publishing market, which is in a serious time of transformation with new technologies, a growing Internet-savvy customer base, and financial threats from library consolidation and open access mandates.	Attend 2 annual conferences, 3 Webinars, and 2 short courses in 3 years; research project	Application fee: \$75; 20% discount on required activities		http://www.councilscienceeditors.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3617

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			Professionals working in this field must remain nimble and stay on top of all of these new developments. For professionals interested in making a career in scholarly publishing, the certificate program will provide a solid basis on the fundamentals as well as challenging them to creatively tackle emerging issues.”				
	International Society of Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP)	Certified Medical Publication Planning Professional (CMPP)	“...certifies...expertise as a medical publication professional, proficiency in good publication practices, commitment to ethical and transparent data dissemination standards, leadership in upholding and fostering integrity and excellence in medical publication.”	Bachelor’s degree + 4000 hours of employment or high school diploma + 10000 hours of employment	Application: \$300 (members), \$400 (non-members); Exam Member: \$495, non-member \$690	3-hour, 150-item multiple choice exam Valid for 5 years	http://www.ismpp.org/cmpp