Frequently Asked Questions & Important Information
About the SHRM Certification Exams

Who is eligible for the SHRM certification exams?
Eligibility for the SHRM-CP and SHRM-SCP is based on a combination of your education and HR-related work experience (this is not an entry into the HR profession). Your first step in the process is to review SHRM Certification Eligibility Criteria to see if you are eligible for one of the exams.

If you aren’t ready to pursue SHRM certification, COCC offers HR Fundamentals courses for those with limited or no HR experience. Contact Nancy Jumper at njumper@cocc.edu to inquire about these courses.

Which SHRM exam should I take?
SHRM CP exam is for HR professionals who implement policies and strategies, serve as point of contact for staff and stakeholders, deliver HR services, and perform operational HR functions.

SHRM SCP exam is for HR professionals who develop strategies, lead the HR function, foster influence in the community, analyze performance metrics, and align HR strategies to organizational goals.

View Selecting the Right Exam on the SHRM Certification webpage.

What if I’m not a SHRM member?
If you are not a current SHRM Member, the SHRM Learning System materials will cost an additional $525 (total course fee for non-SHRM members = $1675). The material pricing for members and non-members is set by SHRM (not COCC). The SHRM membership fee is $219/year, so if you plan to take the COCC HR Certification course, joining SHRM for one year is a better value than paying the non-member course fee of $1675. SHRM one year membership ($219) + course fee of $1150 = $1369. Learn more: SHRM Membership Information

What does the COCC Exam Prep Course include?
- 2020 SHRM Learning System course materials – hard copy books
- Access to 2020 SHRM Learning System web content
- 36 hours of interactive facilitated instruction online through Zoom
- A cohort of HR professionals to study with for your exam

Does the COCC course include the certification exam?
No, the course includes online learning materials and instruction to prepare you for the exam. Once you determine which exam you are eligible for, you will need to apply for the exam. Testing is done at Prometric Testing Centers; there is a testing location in Bend. For more information about the application process, fees, testing locations and testing content: SHRM Testing Information

How much time should I commit to studying for the exam?
In addition to online Zoom sessions (36 hours over 15 weeks), participants will have a significant amount of studying to prepare for each session. Please plan on a minimum of 9-12 hours of study outside each week so you are prepared. As you get closer to your exam date, you will likely need more time to prepare.
Exam Windows & Fees
The COCC exam preparation class is designed to prepare you for the exam window of December 2020-February 15, 2021. Our course finishes on January 14, allowing you time to complete your studies and take the exam by February 15, 2021. The application deadline is November 6 for the December 2020-February 2021 exam window. The exam fees range from $300 (SHRM members) to $400 (non-members).  Exam Schedule & Fee Information

What does the exam cover?
Both SHRM exams are based on the SHRM Body of Competency and Knowledge (SHRM BoCK). Exam Outlines More Information & SHRM BoCK Download

SHRM Learning System Materials
The SHRM Learning System is included in this course as the primary comprehensive online learning materials to help candidates master the SHRM BoCK and prepare you for the exam. The Learning System allows you to build a customized study approach based on your own progress and performance. This includes practice questions, flashcards, and more to make sure you’re ready for the exam. Facilitated Zoom sessions will reinforce material from the SHRM Learning System. SHRM Learning System Information

Still have questions?
After you’ve reviewed the information and links, if you have additional questions, please contact Nancy Jumper, 541-383-7273 or njumper@cocc.edu .