# The New Standard for IR Professionals





# New Guidelines to Earn the IRC Certification

**NIRI 2020** 



# Disclaimer



The information shared during this webinar is for informational purposes only within the NIRI community. It is not a guarantee to pass the IRC examination or to earn the IRC certification.

# **Discussion Leaders**





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# Objectives



# During today's webinar you will learn about:

- The value of earning a credential
- The revised guidelines to:
  - Sit for the exam
  - Earn the IRC certification

# Scope & Objectives



## Scope:

Certification of personnel with fundamental knowledge and skills in the role of investor relations professionals.

## **Objectives** of NIRI's IRC Charter program

- (1) Validate the IR professional's fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the core tenets of investor relations
- (2) Verify the IR professional's ability to apply the underlying principles and synthesize the strategic concepts related to the practice of investor relations.

# Benchmarks





Over 615 copies of the Body of Knowledge were purchased by IR professionals

**76%** Passing rate

NIRI has introduced

192
IRC Charter holders



48% Added IRC to personal LinkedIn profiles



59% Hold VP title or higher

25% Hold Director or Manager title IRC is currently represented in over 123 publicly held companies

# Why Certification?



# PERSONAL CHOICE, PROFESSIONAL PRIDE!



# Why IRC?

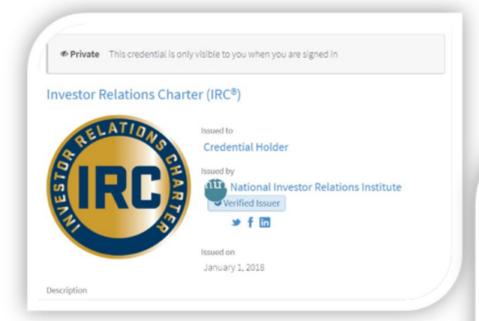


- Validation
- Evolution
- Leadership
- Self satisfaction
- Mobility
- Global recognition and portability



# Digital Engagement





#### scription

The Investor Relations Charter (IRC\*) is the only U.S. based certification program for the investor relations specialty field of practice.

Offered by the largest professional investor relations association in the world, the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI®) is dedicated to advancing the practice of investor relations and the professional competency and stature of its members who represent over 1,200 publicly held companies and S9 trillion in stock market capitalization.

The IRC assures those in the corporate, agency, and investment communities that the charter holder has demonstrated the necessary knowledge and skills for competence across the investor relations discipline.

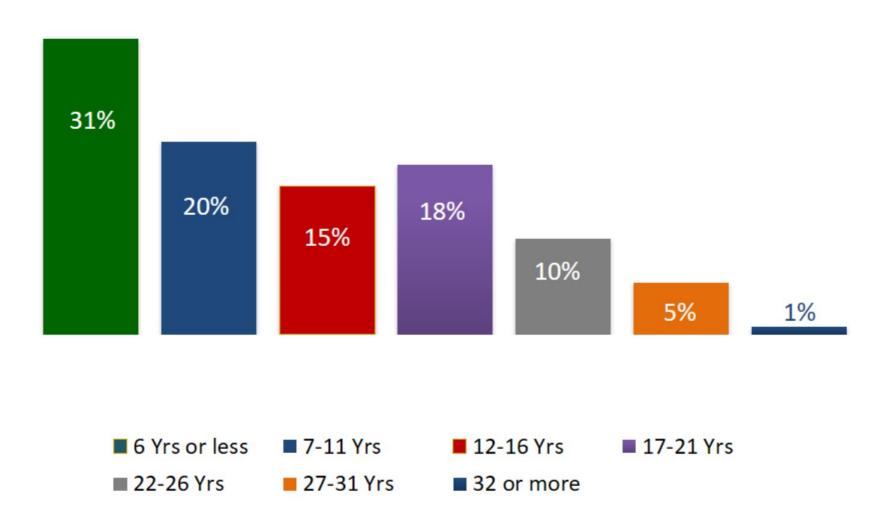
View more information...

#### Skills / Knowledge

- Investor Relations Strategy Formulation;
- Investor Relations Planning, Implementation and Measurement;
- Corporate Messaging Development; Investor Marketing and Outreach;
- Corporate Financial Reporting and Analysis; Business Insight;
- Strategic Counsel and Collaboration; Capital Markets and Capital Structure;
- Corporate Regulatory Compliance; Corporate Governance.
- Blockchain Secured Verify blockchain record

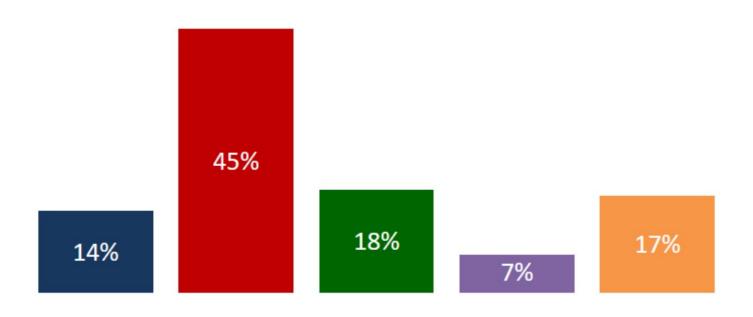
# Who Is Currently Certified?





# Who is Currently Certified





- CEO/President/Counselor
   VP/Sr VP/IRO
- Manager/Sr. Mgr
- Other/Unidentified
- Director/Sr. Dir

# NIRI/KF Survey



### 2019/2020 Education and Credentials





78% hold MBA Degree

25% hold MS/MA Degree

26% hold CFA Credentials

34% hold CPA Credentials

28% hold IRC Credentials

These percentages reflect the responses of all participants.





# **Two Options**



# Option 1: Apply for Full Certification

If you have already:

- Met the education and experience options (see below)
- Achieved experience in 7/10 IR domains

➤OPTION 1: U.S. bachelor's degree or equivalent with three or more years of qualifying full-time work experience as an IR corporate professional or IR counselor.

➤OPTION 2: Six years of qualifying full-time work experience as an IR corporate professional or IR counselor.

➤OPTION 3: Hold a current certification relevant to IR practice with three or more years of qualifying full-time work experience as an IR corporate professional or IR counselor.

# How to Apply



# **Option 2: Candidate Status**



Great choice if you do not meet the full eligibility requirements

- Less than 3 years of IR experience
- Transitioning to IR
- Less than 50% of your responsibilities are IR focused

## Requirements:

To sit for the exam as an IRC candidate you must be:

- IR practitioner
- IR counselor
- IR service provider
- Capital markets professional

You have four years to meet the minimum eligibility requirements and be awarded full certification.

# How To Prepare



- Review the IR Competency Framework
- Flag the sections that need revision
- Check the list of References and Bibliography
- Check the online NIRI Resources
- Create a self-study plan
- Join a study group where available

# **Certification Resources**





IRC Applications

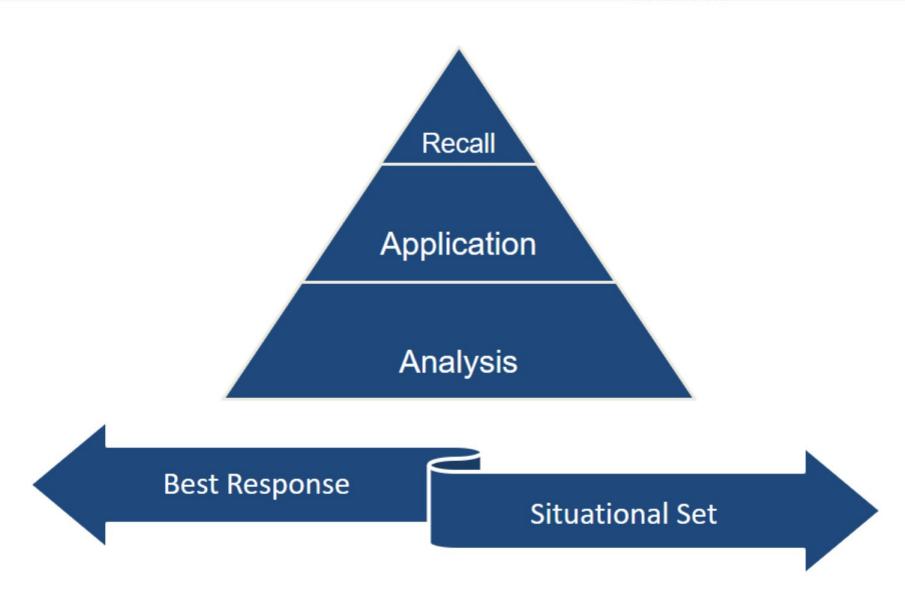
Niri.org -> Certification
-> View All IRC Resources

> Authorization To Release Certification Information Form > Challenge & Appeal Form > Comments Form > Complaint & Ethical Claim Form > Global IR Societies & Organizations > Webinar: How To Maintain Your IRC Credential > Webinar: Demystifying the IRC® Credential > IR Competency Framework > IRC Applicant Handbook > IRC Brochure > IRC Certification: A Milestone For The IR Profession > IRC Experience Verification Form > IRC Exam Application > IRC Item Submittal Form & Guidelines > IRC Renewal Application > IRC Renewal Program Handbook > IRC ROI Toolkit > IRC Sample Test (2016) > IRC Sample Test (2018) > IRC Sample Test (2019) > IRC Testimonials (2016) > IRC Testimonials (2018) > Mentoring & Coaching Form > NIRI National Volunteer Opportunities > Promoting Your IRC Credential > References And Bibliography > Sample IRC Renewal Application

Status Change Form

# What to Expect





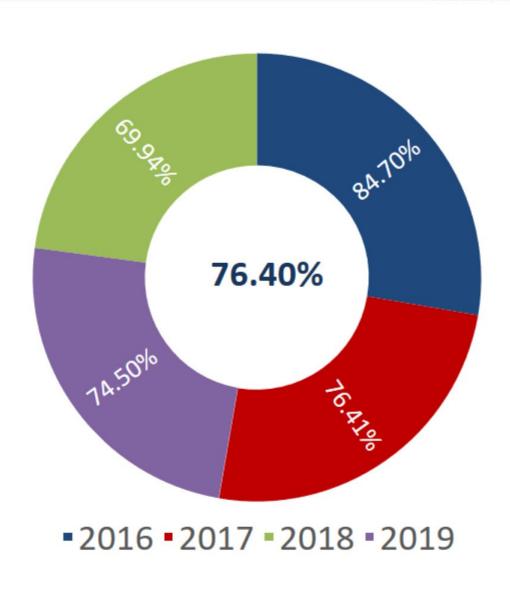
# Exam Blueprint



	Domains	Percentage of items	Number of items
Domain 1	IR Strategy Formulation	14%	29
Domain 2	IR Planning, Implementation & Measurement	11%	20
Domain 3	Corporate Messaging Development	14%	28
Domain 4	Investor Marketing & Outreach	13%	25
Domain 5	Corporate Financial Reporting & Analysis	11%	24
Domain 6	Business Insight	8%	16
Domain 7	Strategic Counsel & Collaboration	8%	16
Domain 8	Capital Markets & Capital Structure	9%	18
Domain 9	Corporate Regulatory Compliance	6%	12
Domain 10	Corporate Governance	6%	12

# **Success Rate**





# **Apply Today!**



Spring Testing: June 20 - 27

Fall Testing: November 13 – 20



# A Career-Long Development





# Final Thoughts



- Strengthen and leverage your professional brand
- Demonstrate your investor relations knowledge and experience
- Enhance your standing within your organization
- Get a leg up on your competition

Certifications are the new currency!



# INVESTOR RELATIONS CHARTER®

www.niri.org/certification