

# ISSP Sustainability Professional Credentials

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- ISSP-CSP
- Credential Maintenance
- Next steps



Stephen Dworkin  
Certification Manager, ISSP

# International Society of Sustainability Professionals

**Mission and Purpose:** Empowering professionals to advance sustainability in organizations and communities worldwide

- Membership - over 1,000 members around the world networking and sharing best practices
- Professional development - courses and webinars that provide foundational knowledge, skills, and abilities to drive sustainability
- Sustainability credentials - creating a standard of excellence for the professionals working across all industries and sectors around the world



[www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org](http://www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org)

# Goals of ISSP credentialing

ISSP credentials recognize the knowledge, skills, and abilities of sustainability professionals at a variety of levels, working across many industries and countries around the world

- Bring cohesion and definition to the emerging profession of sustainability
- Provide credibility for employers and assurance of a standard level of competency of the sustainability professional
- Help practitioners in the field further their credibility, influence and career advancement opportunities
- Provide clear guidance and direction to educators & organizations involved in training and ongoing professional development opportunities



# Why get credentialed?

- **Assure your professional edge.** Stand out in the rapidly growing sustainability field
- **Grow your personal brand.** Move beyond your functional expertise and establish your competence across the full breadth of sustainability work
- **Keep your knowledge current in a rapidly changing field.** Stay up-to-date on the latest sustainability information and best practices by maintaining your credential
- **Attract employment offers.** Get a leg up with businesses, nonprofits, academic institutions, and public institutions who all find value in hiring credentialed professionals
- **Connect with industry leaders.** Open the door to networking with fellow credential holders and learn about the organizations and sectors they are shaping



# Why get credentialed?

“ Holding a relevant professional credential keeps you engaged in your field and provides additional credibility. Unlike a certificate or degree, a credential requires continuing education and active engagement with peers in your field - which ensures you remain at the top of your field and regularly enhancing your skills. ”



**Tanis Marquette, ISSP-CSP**  
Global Sustainability Leader, Hexion, Inc.  
North Wales, PA, USA



# Who are ISSSP credential holders?

- Spends more than 25% of work time planning, implementing, managing, evaluating & reporting on sustainability efforts
- Includes **internal practitioners & external consultants**
- Job titles include: CSO, CEO, VP, Director of Sustainability, Sustainability Manager, Green Team Leader, Consultant, Professor, Engineer, Sustainability Specialist, Procurement Manager, Facilities Manager, Marketing Manager, Urban Planner, Analyst,...
- A true sustainability professional can go into **any** organization (public or private) in any industry to assess sustainability risks and opportunities



# What do the credential exams test?

## Core Competency Study (2010)

Surveyed nearly 400 sustainability professionals to define what someone working in the field should know how to do

## Job Task Analysis (2013)

Serves as the basis for the exam content, breaking down sustainability work into six domains. Identifies specific job tasks and the knowledge, skills, and abilities associated with them



# ISSP Sustainability Associate (ISSP-SA)

For new/aspiring professionals; those in allied fields such as purchasing, operations, marketing, and human resources; and those looking to be ISSP-CSPs

## Exam

- Available on continuous basis – register whenever you are ready
- 75 multiple choice questions on JTA Area 1
- Take exam at testing center (>900 worldwide) or via online proctoring (requires external webcam)

## Pricing

ISSP Members	ISSP Partners	Nonmembers
US\$175	US\$250	US\$350

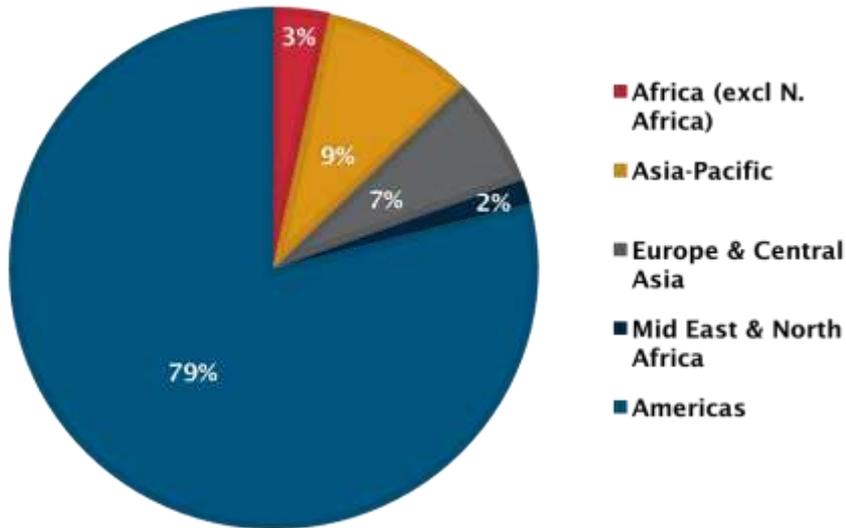
## Study Materials

- Flashcards \$30/\$50 (member/nonmember)
- Study Guide \$75/\$150 (member/nonmember)

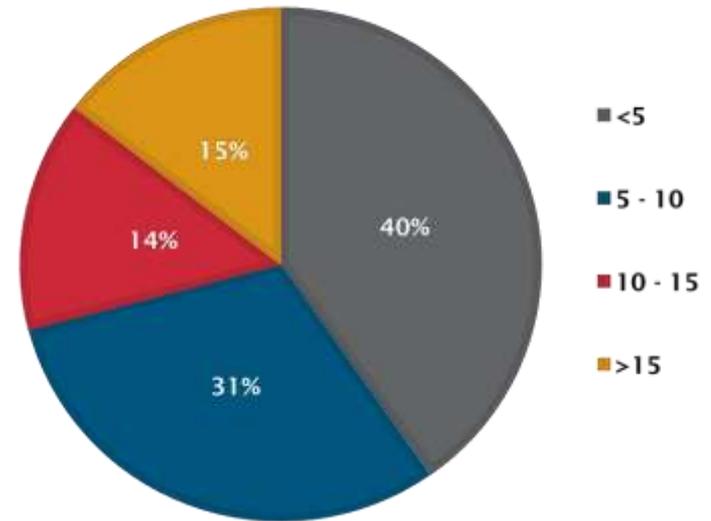


# ISSP-SA (357 to-date)

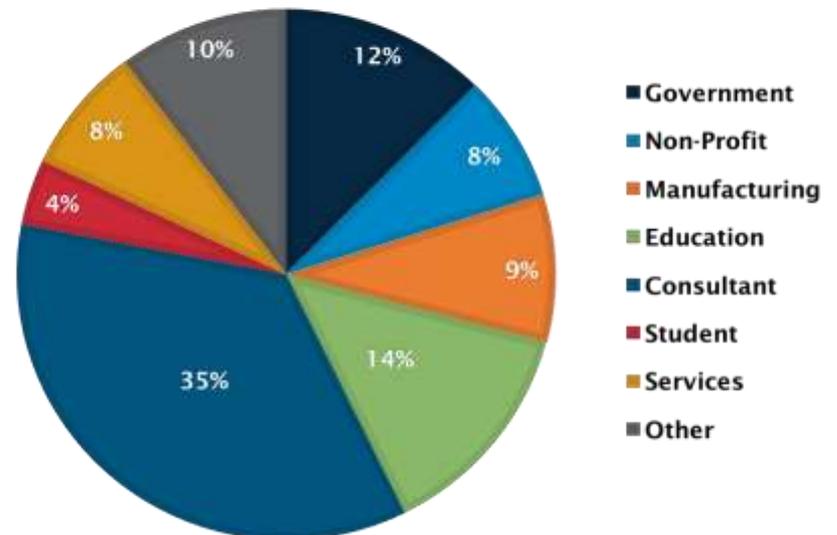
## ISSP-SA GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



## ISSP-SA YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



## ISSP-SA INDUSTRY DISTRIBUTION



# ISSP Certified Sustainability Professional (ISSP-CSP)

For veteran professionals with 5 or more years of sustainability experience who have earned an ISSP-SA credential

## Eligibility

- Must have already earned ISSP-SA credential
- Must submit application attesting to experience, including 3 references

## Exam

- 100 multiple choice questions on JTA Areas 2-6
- Take exam at testing center (>900 worldwide) or via online proctoring (requires external webcam)

## Pricing (including application)

ISSP Members	ISSP Partners	Nonmembers
US\$250	US\$350	US\$450

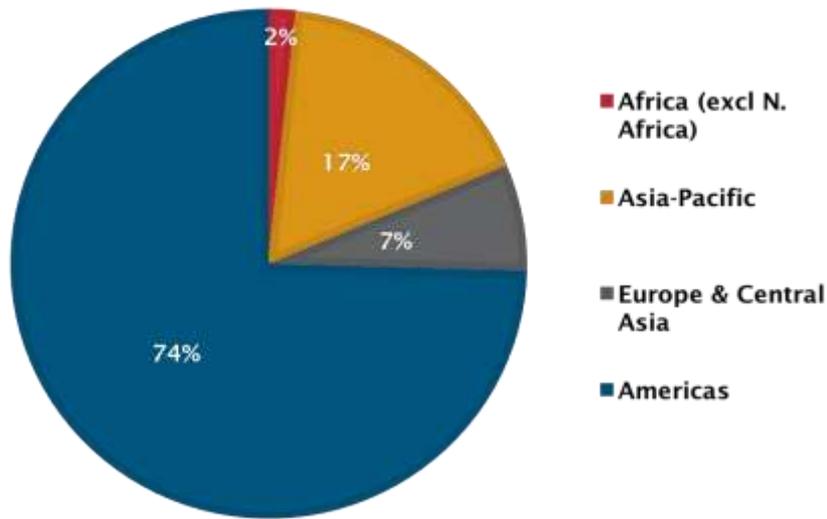
Study Guide - \$75/\$150 (member/nonmember)



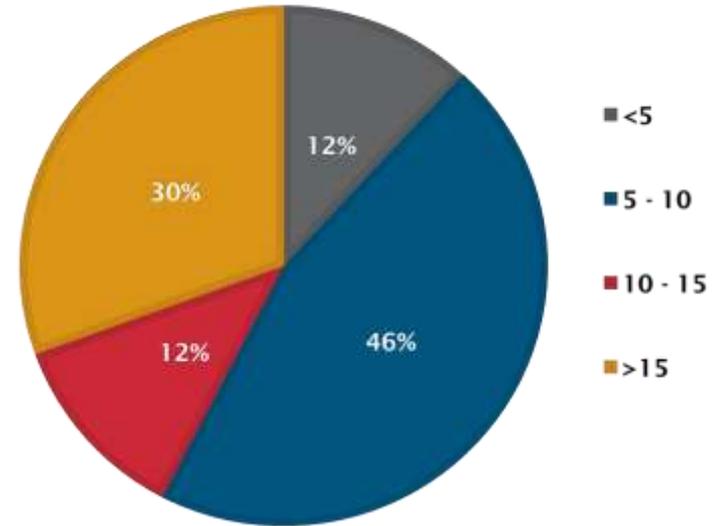
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# ISSP-CSP (63 to-date)

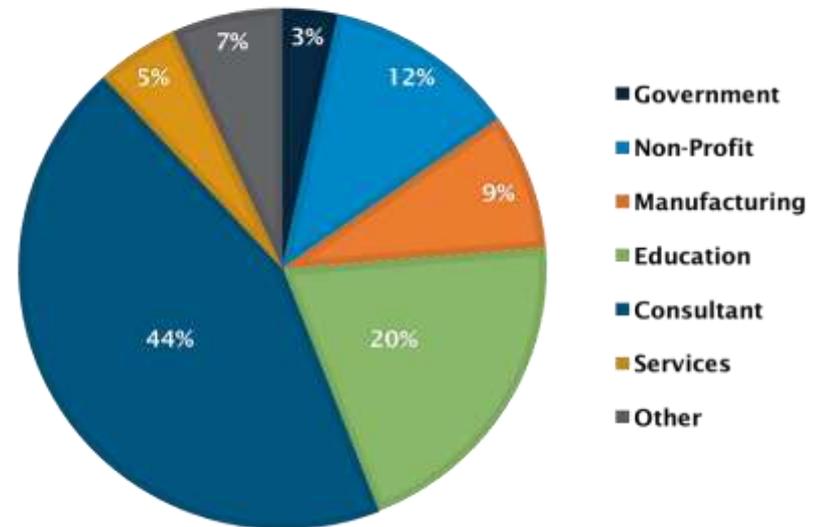
### ISSP-CSP GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



### ISSP-CSP YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



### ISSP-CSP INDUSTRY DISTRIBUTION



# Credential Maintenance

Opportunities for ongoing professional development while building bridges with peers across industries and organizations

- ISSP-SA and ISSP-CSP credentials are each valid for 2 years
- Maintain credentials through earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
- CEUs earned through activities such as courses & webinars, participation in the sustainability field, work experience, ISSP chapter involvement, and more!

Continuous learning and staying on the cutting edge of the field ensures credential holders are better sustainability professionals



# What are credential holders saying?



“ The community of ISSP credential holders stretches across the globe. The knowledge sharing, connections, and professional development opportunities that arise from being part of that network have helped me stay on top of a quickly evolving field. ”

**Matt Beck, ISSP-CSP**

Director of Sustainability, Imaginea Energy  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

“ The ISSP credentialing program has enabled the bridging of the diversity of disciplines, sectors and focus areas that comprise the world of sustainability, which creates a powerful collaborative opportunity for change. ”

**Ljiljana Pantelic, ISSP-SA**

Associate Director – Science, Sustainability & Health,  
Syrinx Environmental PL  
Perth, Australia



“ I was looking for a credible qualification that would tell my peers and prospective employers that I knew what I was talking about and could add value to their organizational challenges. ISSP's Sustainability Certification program provided that reassurance. ”

**Julian Crawford, ISSP-CSP**

Director, EcoSTEPS – Sustainability Partner  
Sydney, Australia



[www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org](http://www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org)

# Questions?

- Visit [www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org](http://www.sustainabilityprofessionals.org) and click “Certification” in the menu bar
- Refer to the [Candidate Handbook](#), [FAQ](#), or [Overview webpage](#)
- Listen to FREE recordings of webinars featuring the personal stories of:
  - ISSP credential holders in [Higher Education](#)
  - ISSP credential holders in [Local Government](#)
- Email [certification@sustainabilityprofessionals.org](mailto:certification@sustainabilityprofessionals.org)



# It's time to earn recognition for your own sustainability work

- Take the next step as ISSP members and sustainability professionals and earn recognition for your knowledge, skills, and abilities
- Join us as we transform the sustainability field, furthering the profession towards the goal of making sustainability standard practice around the world
- **Learn more and register today!**



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