



Accredited Chamber Executive (ACE)

Purpose:

1. To encourage chamber executives to continually upgrade and expand their skills by continuing their education and training related to the chamber management field.
2. To encourage chamber Boards to recognize chamber professionals and provide funding for formal training for their executives.
3. To encourage local chamber executives to strive for professionalism and seek formalized training in their field and contribute actively to the betterment of their industry.

Criteria for Accredited Chamber Executive (ACE):

1. Earned a minimum of 35 points (see application).
2. Must be a graduate of Academy or the Institute for Organization Management *or* have served as a chamber chief executive officer for five years or more.
3. Must be a member in good standing of W.A.C.E. for at least two years.
4. Must be the chief paid executive of a chamber of commerce or a non-CEO staff professional with *definite* executive management responsibilities.
5. Attendance at all meetings/conferences referred to on application must have been during the last five years.
6. Ability to verify the above.

Program Guidelines (see application):

1. Those meeting the criteria established by the W.A.C.E. board will be recognized at the Annual Conference in February.
2. Reaccrediting will be required after every five years, and an appropriate lapel pin shall be awarded at the annual conference after each reaccrediting. Criteria for reaccrediting shall include:
 - a. Five (5) years service as the chief paid executive of a chamber of commerce since first accredited.
 - b. A minimum of thirty-five (35) points from professional development training.
 - c. Willingness to author an approved article for publication in W.A.C.E.'s *Chamber Insider* on current chamber issue, trend or program.



Accredited Chamber Executive (ACE) Application

Name _____ Title _____

Chamber _____

of Years in Chamber Work _____ # of Years as Chamber CEO (if applicable) _____

1. Attach proof of graduation from Academy or Institute for Organization Management (unless you've served five years or more as a chamber chief executive officer).

Note: Points earned in numbers 2–4 below must have occurred during the last five years.

2. Attach proof of attendance at W.A.C.E. Conference. (5 points each — 15 points maximum)

3. Attach proof of a maximum of 4 of the following and check. (2 points each — 8 points maximum from #2)

- a. W.A.C.E. Webinars
- b. W.A.C.E. Senior Executive Roundtables
- c. W.A.C.E. Academy-Plus

4. Attach proof of attendance, maximum of 4 of any of the following conferences. (2 points each — 8 points maximum)

- a. ASAE Conference
- b. Other recognized professional development sessions. (Must be approved by accrediting committee)
- c. Attendance at ACCE Conference
- d. Attendance at Regional/State Execs Conference

5. “Industry Essentials” — please submit copies for each “yes” below (2 points each)

- a. Do you have a printed program of work, business plan or program priorities brochure and/or printed annual report for your chamber? Yes No
- b. Does your chamber have an annual audit or review by an independent outside company? Yes No
- c. Have your chamber’s bylaws been thoroughly reviewed/updated in the past 10 years? Yes No
- d. Do you have a personnel manual? Yes No

Total Points (minimum 35) _____

(Sample proof can be letters, brochures, conference programs, certificate of completion, etc.)

6. How have you implemented the W.A.C.E. **Tool kit**? (attached response in 100 words or less)

7. Provide a 250-word-or-less essay describing your views on your performance as a chamber executive.

Fee: \$100, which includes a non-refundable \$10 processing fee. If your application is denied, the remainder of your fee will be returned.

8. Letters of recommendation: letters from 2 existing ACE recipients are required from ALL applications. Non-CEO applicants must also include a letter from their CEO that must include a detailed description of the applicant’s executive management responsibilities.

Signature _____ Date _____

Completed forms must be received by **November 13, 2009**. Return forms to:

W.A.C.E.
Accredited Chamber Executive
P.O. Box 1736
Sacramento, CA 95812-1736