



Questions & Answers

Education Report for AGM 2017

Q: *Would the board consider letting members of the POC who have been members in good standing for at least 5 years and have declared professional organization as their main job descriptor for the income tax returns to write the Certification Exam without taking the courses and free of charge (or payment of 50% of the cost if the exam is successfully completed) They would get a single try at the exam.*

I ask because this is something from which I would benefit, of course, but I also ask because I feel it would be fair and would help to show that experience is valued in our field. Many of us are older and have backgrounds in psychology (I have a masters), educational backgrounds (my B.A is as a teacher), or training from the business world (I have a certificate in project management) that qualify us as organizers- more classes are not what we need. The certification label, however, is one that we could most certainly help to promote and something from which we could benefiting our business development. – Submitted by Edith Dandenault

A: POC is a non-profit organization that strives to provide its members with numerous resources such as advertising, credibility, an on-line directory, training programs and business resources. While POC certainly respects the professionalism that derives from experience, the fees for the exam are an important revenue source which allow POC to provide these and other benefits to its members. Those who find that life experience has been a sufficient educator are free to challenge the exam for a fee without taking the classes. This negates the cost and time that are associated with the courses while still providing our members with the credibility of achieving the Trained Professional Organizer status.

Q: *In the (2016) Education Report, we read that revamping POC education is high on the list of the Strategic Plan. In 2012, and at the request of the Board, the Continuing Education Task Force submitted a comprehensive report, examining the question of Education Credits. Raising the education bar was considered to be an important element in the Strategic Plan back then as well. What has happened to that document please? What are the results of the May 2016 Board review of the 2012 CETF Report?*

Are we still aiming to “raise the bar” through the expansion of Education Credits? –
Submitted by Alison Lush

A: The Board was asked to review the complete report provided by the Continuing Education Task Force in May 2016. The information and recommendations, including that of the credits are important to us as we plan and move forward with significantly revamping the POC education program. POC remains committed to raising our standards in education which is why we have set education as our primary focus in the current strategic plan, and why we are rebuilding the programs.