



Announcing the CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum: The NEW Online Learning Program for Disability Management

The four domains of disability management, as identified by experts in the field and verified by practicing disability managers who were surveyed, are:

Disability and Work Interruption Case Management, including gathering relevant case information, synthesizing information, interpreting case-specific local, state, and federal regulations, and developing a case management plan

Workplace Intervention for Disability Prevention, including conducting organizational assessments, evaluating policies and procedures, presenting the business rationale for disability management programs, managing human resources, applying labor relation laws, and managing financial resources

Program Development, Management, and Evaluation, including organizing and planning disability management programs, applying qualitative and quantitative measurements, interpreting financial/risk data, designing programs with rewards and incentives, and tracking cost, operational, and outcomes data

Employment Leaves and Benefits Administration, including managing health-related employment leaves, administering health and welfare plans, managing payroll and systems data, as well as identifying risks associated with interruptions and leaves.

The CDMS Commission is the only independent and nationally accredited organization that certifies disability management specialists. Through sound testing backed by scientific research, continuing education, and a strict code of ethics, the Commission validates the core knowledge and competency of these experts.

This year, the Commission is proud to introduce the CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum – a comprehensive online learning program for those in the field of disability management or those who may be charged with responsibilities for overseeing programs related to disability or leave of absence administration. This unique educational resource was designed around the job analysis study conducted by the CDMS Commission in 2009 and published as the Role & Function Study.

The CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum is organized into an introductory module and four domain modules, each reflecting an area of practice. The modules are available for purchase individually or in entirety, and include:

Introductory Module: Introduction to Core Competencies

Module 1: Domain for Disability and Work Interruption Case Management

Module 2: Domain for Workplace Intervention for Disability Prevention

Module 3: Domain for Program Development, Management, and Evaluation

Module 4: Domain for Employment Leaves and Benefits Administration

*Take advantage of this new learning resource for disability management NOW.
Contact the CDMS Administrative Office for introductory prices and group discounts.*

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the purpose of the CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum?

A. The CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum is a comprehensive online learning program – unique within the disability management field. The CDMS Task Force for Core Knowledge identified a very real need for collecting and organizing educational resources in one central knowledge community. A group of subject matter experts, handpicked by the Commission for their experience and expertise, dedicated themselves to creating this resource for their colleagues' use and the future of the profession.

Q. What advantages might the CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum provide for me?

A. For the first time, current practitioners and others interested in the field will be able to access in-depth knowledge, skills, interactive exercises, and case study examples – all in one online resource. The curriculum also includes an extensive glossary of terms and reading list for disability management and related practices. Disability managers and professionals who are interested in understanding more about the practice of disability management will find it to be invaluable.

Q. Can I use the curriculum to prepare for CDMS certification?

A. Although the curriculum modules do not necessarily prepare you for the CDMS exam, it is important to note that the curriculum content is designed using the research results from the CDMS job analysis study. Of course, the curriculum does not come with a guarantee for passing the exam, which depends largely on your own experience and preparation.

Q. Can I use the curriculum for CDMS recertification?

A. Current CDMS certificants can earn up to 32 CE hours when they participate in the full-curriculum learning program. By doing so, they also stay current with best practices, evidence-based practice, and trends in this dynamic and evolving field. In particular, a CDMS can attain a new level of knowledge in Module 4, Employment Leaves and Benefits Administration, which is the newest CDMS domain for disability management.

Q. What are some of the concepts in the CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum?

A. The curriculum covers all facets of disability management, based upon the findings of the CDMS Role & Function Study. Concepts explored include integrated disability, intervention and prevention, risk mitigation and behavioral health issue, principles of good program design, program evaluation, and much more. The modules include case studies and interactive exercises to deepen your understanding and put these concepts into practice.

Q. How will I gauge what I've learned?

A. Each curriculum module includes a pre-test for you to measure your knowledge of disability management before studying the module. A post-test after you've completed the curriculum will help you gauge how much you've learned.

Q. What options are available for purchasing the curriculum?

A. Certification candidates will most likely want to purchase the entire learning program. For recertification or staying current, more experienced professionals may choose to buy one or more modules separately. Also, ask your employer if this educational expense is reimbursable.

Q. How can I get more information about making a purchase?

A. There are two ways to get more information:
Go to the CDMS Commission web site at www.CDMS.org
Contact the CDMS Administrative Office
at 847/944-1335

In business since 1984

Certification of Disability
Management Specialists
COMMISSION

Learn more about the CDMS Core Knowledge Curriculum at www.CDMS.org