

## What is a CTCS (Certified Trade Compliance Specialist) designation?



The CTCS (Certified Trade Compliance Specialist) designation

- recognizes the experience and expertise of international trade compliance professionals,
- sets a standard for ongoing professional development in a field where change is constant,
- supports a network for information sharing and collaboration.

Trade compliance is defined as ensuring that all legislation, regulatory and other requirements relating to the importation and exportation of commercial shipments are met.

### **Become a CTCS**

To become a CTCS, you must successfully complete the CTCS program of study.

## CTCS program

The designation will be awarded upon successful completion of ten modules, eight mandatory and two elective, within a 5-year period. View [CTCS program of study](#) for further details.

## Grandfathering

The grandfathering period closed on March 31, 2012.

## Benefits of becoming a CTCS

CTCS designates receive the following benefits:

- Ongoing promotion of the CTCS designation as the standard of trade compliance expertise;
- Annual publication of CTCS designates;
- Semi-annual (web-) seminars for CTCS designates only;
- FREE [CTCS module](#) per 3-year credit cycle;
- FREE online Resource Centre;
- Webinars on high level trade topics;
- Access to a CTCS online community through a discussion forum;
- Using the CTCS next to your name;
- Periodic e-newsletters (topics covered are of specific interest to international trade compliance professionals);
- Preferential registration fees for CSCB events and courses;
- Discounts on other memberships and publications; and
- [Group home and auto insurance](#) at preferred rates.

## Maintenance of CTCS designation

To maintain the CTCS designation, the designate must earn [professional development credits](#) over a three year period and pay an [annual fee](#).

## Advisory board

The program is directed by an [advisory board](#) of highly respected trade lawyers, importers, trade consultants and customs brokers.

## Questions/Comments

If you have any questions, please view the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#), or email us at [ctcs@cscb.ca](mailto:ctcs@cscb.ca).