

About APICS The Association for Operations Management

APICS, The Association for Operations Management, is the global leader and premier source of the body of knowledge in operations management, serving nearly 33,000 members globally. The APICS education and certification programs are recognized worldwide as the standard of professional competence in production and inventory management, operations management, and supply chain management.

What is the APICS CPIM?

Since 1973, the CPIM (Certified Production and Inventory Management) program has educated more than 90,000 manufacturing professionals on essential terminology, concepts, and strategies related to demand management, procurement and supplier planning, material requirements planning, capacity requirements planning, sales and operations planning, master scheduling, performance measurements, supplier relationships, quality control, and continuous improvement.

The Benefits of CPIM for Individuals

A CPIM education can help you to:

- Increase your functional knowledge of production and inventory management.
- Improve efficiency across the processes of your organization's supply chain.
- Streamline operations through accurate forecasting.
- Predict outcomes more accurately.
- Maximize customer satisfaction by delivering products and services Just-in-Time.
- Increase profitability by optimizing your organization's inventory investment.
- Enhance your credibility among peers, employers, and customers.

The Benefits of CPIM for Organizations

APICS CPIM designees help to streamline operations by using the knowledge and skills that they receive in the CPIM program to reduce inventory levels, improve planning and scheduling of forecasts and orders, and better align the supply chain.

With the APICS CPIM, your employees will have

- The proven knowledge and organizational skills to strategically streamline operations
- The tools to effectively manage global supply chain activities where suppliers, plants, distributors and customers are located around the world
- The ability to interact with existing resources and your ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) system to increase the efficiency of the workplace
- The skills to create consistency and foster collaboration through best practices, common terminology, and corporate-wide communication
- The knowledge to apply principles ERP software is based upon, including lessons covering various functions within a company (for example, purchasing, planning, finance, engineering).

Companies that support their employees' pursuit of the APICS CPIM designation have employees who are prepared, knowledgeable, and able to contribute to a successful bottom line. Employee training increases employee loyalty as it builds their skills and abilities. Encourage your employees to participate in APICS certification programs; they will become more confident and efficient and you'll see improvements in productivity, and cost savings. Plus your organization will take a leap forward in achieving an advantage in this competitive marketplace.

Who should earn the CPIM designation?

A CPIM education is essential for professionals involved in:

- Production and inventory management
- Operations
- Supply chain management
- Procurement
- Materials management
- Purchasing

The APICS CPIM Modules

The APICS CPIM program has been organized into five modules, each focusing on key areas of study that are integral to an understanding and mastery of Supply Chain Management principles. Candidates must pass an exam of each of the modules to obtain the APICS CPIM designation and recognition.

Basics of Supply Chain Management Entry Module

The basic concepts in managing the complete flow of materials in a supply chain from suppliers to customers are covered in the Basics module. Supply chain concepts are introduced and standard terminology emphasized, as are relationships among activities in the supply chain. Knowledge of the material in this module is assumed as a prerequisite for the other APICS CPIM modules, which cover related topics in greater depth.

Master Planning of Resources Core Competency Module

The topics of demand management, sales and operations planning, and master scheduling are thoroughly examined in this module. Both supply and demand planning for mid- to long-term independent demand are discussed. Priority planning and capacity planning issues also are addressed.

Detailed Scheduling and Planning Core Competency Module

This course focuses on inventory management, material and capacity scheduling and planning, supplier relationships, and the influence of lean/JIT philosophies in these areas. It explains the use of a material dominated scheduling technique, material requirements planning, in job shop, batch, and certain repetitive processes. The course explains capacity planning in detail, introduces other capacity-planning techniques such as processor-dominated scheduling in continuous flow processes, and reviews project management techniques.

Execution and Control of Operations Core Competency Module

The principles, approaches, and techniques needed to schedule, control, measure, and evaluate the effectiveness of production operations are covered in this module. A broad range of production operations are reviewed including project, batch, line, continuous, and remanufacturing environments.

Strategic Management of Resources Capstone Module

In this course, participants explore the relationship between strategic planning and the management and execution of operations. The course fosters higher-level thinking about how market requirements and social and economic sustainability drive the operations, processes, and resource requirements of businesses. The course addresses three main topics: understanding the business environment, developing the operations strategy, and implementing the operations strategy.