

What is CAPS?

The Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) designation program teaches the technical, business management, and customer service skills essential to competing in the fastest growing segment of the residential remodeling industry – home modifications for the aging-in-place. The NAHB Remodelers™ Council – in collaboration with the AARP, NAHB Research Center, and NAHB Seniors Housing Council – developed this program to provide comprehensive, practical, market-specific information about working with older and maturing adults to remodel their homes for aging-in-place.

Why Earn the CAPS Designation?

The CAPS program will expand your understanding of the aging-in-place market, provide the necessary technical knowledge and resources, and give you the tools to gain access to that market.

Benefits of the CAPS Designation

- Recognition for completing the only designation program in the country dedicated to improving the knowledge of remodelers who want to serve the fastest growing segment of the residential remodeling market
- Marketing and customer service tools to gain access to the burgeoning aging-in-place market
- Technical knowledge to solve the remodeling needs of the aging-in-place population
- Greater understanding of the aging-in-place population
- Official CAPS certificate and lapel pin identifying your accomplishment

Overview of the CAPS Program

In a three-day program CAPS teaches the strategies and techniques for marketing, designing and building aesthetically enriching, barrier-free living environments. This program goes beyond universal design, CAPS addresses the communication and technical

needs to a specific market. CAPS adds value to that knowledge by providing insights into how to market to and work the demographic group. Candidates who already possess an industry certification with a business component are exempt from taking the third day (see below for additional information).

Day One

Working With Older Adults: background on the older adult population; communication techniques; common remodeling expenditures and projects

Marketing to Older Adults: accessing the aging-in-place remodeling market

Day Two

Home Modifications: codes and standards; common barriers and solutions; product ideas and resources

Day Three

(holders of certain certifications are exempt from Day Three)*

Introductory Business Management: strategies and techniques for building a competitive, sustainable remodeling business; case studies and interactive exercises

**CGR, CGB, CGA, CR, CKD, CBD - Other exemptions determined on a case-by-case basis*

Upon completion of the CAPS coursework, participants receive a graduation application. Participants must complete and submit the graduation application to the NAHB University of Housing before they can use the "CAPS" designation.

Class Offerings

Classes are offered through local and state home building associations and at national trade shows including NAHB's International Builders' Show and the Remodeler's Show.

Testimonials

"The CAPS program gave me the information and tools I needed to keep my business on the leading edge of the remodeling industry."

Greg Miedema, CGR, CAPS

"The CAPS workbooks continue to be an excellent reference on aging-in-place modifications for me, and for everyone who has taken the course."

Mary Jo Peterson, CKD, CAPS

"Earning the CAPS designation keeps me ahead of my competitors."

Terry Bennett, CR, CGR, CAPS



Certified Aging-In-Place Specialist
Houses For Living. Homes For Life.

Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS)



Sponsoring Group: Remodelers Council

Oversight Board: CAPS Executive Committee

Audience: Remodelers, custom builders, small volume builders, designers, associates, health care professionals

Curriculum and other Requirements:

Required Courses (3):

Working With and Marketing to Older Adults

Home Modifications

Introduction to Business Management*

* Holders of the following designations are exempt from the Introduction to Business Management requirement: CGR, CGB, CGA, CR, CKD, CBD, ASID and AIA. Other exemptions are determined on a case by case basis.

Associated Fees: Application Fees: members \$50, non-members \$100

Course fees are determined by the HBA, National fees are \$175 members, \$225 non-members.

Graduation Fee: members \$145, non-members \$245

Renewal Fees: Annual renewal fee of \$50

Continuing Education Requirements:

Designation holders are required to earn a total of 12 hours of continuing education every three years. Recertification candidates are required to earn 6 hours through academic coursework and an additional 6 hours through industry education and activities, for a total of 12 hours. A total of six hours is required to be earned by completing a NAHB University of Housing course that is at least six hours in length.

Recertification candidates are required to earn the remaining six hours from the options outlined below. Candidates may earn their hours in any combination within the maximum hour limits for each section.

National Meeting or National or Regional Trade Show Education

A maximum of six hours can be earned through attending or presenting educational programs at national meetings or regional trade shows.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Local HBA educational programs
- NAHB International Builders' Show
- Other national industry conventions

Community Service

A maximum of two hours can be earned by participating in community service projects. Community service projects can include any work done for the public good without compensation. These hours may also be applied to Section 2 depending upon the activity.

What are the benefits of having this designation?

- Expanded Knowledge
- Greater Understanding of the Aging-in-Place Population
- Marketing and Customer Service Tools
- Professional Recognition
- Peer Networking

Where do I obtain more information?

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