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ISA Launches New Credentialing System and Updated Pricing Structure

ATLANTA, Ga. — The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), is proud to announce the launch of a new credentialing management system and updated pricing structure, going live 15 July 2025. This milestone underscores ISA’s commitment to advancing the professional practice of arboriculture and supporting candidates and credential holders worldwide with accessible, efficient, and forward-thinking credentialing solutions.

A System Designed for Today’s Professionals

Developed in response to feedback from credential holders and industry stakeholders, the new system offers significant user experience enhancements, including:

- Automated workflows for faster application, enrollment, and recertification processing
- Mobile-friendly and multilingual access to serve ISA’s global user base
- A streamlined dashboard for managing the status of credentials and recertification requirements

Transparent and Consistent Pricing

The new pricing structure introduces standardized, transparent pricing: a standardized 20% discount for ISA members and current credential holders—which acknowledges the impact both members and credential holders have in fulfilling ISA’s mission. It also reflects the full spectrum of Credentialing Services—including application vetting and support, examination development and delivery, ethics and compliance monitoring, CEU management and recertification processing, as well as continued support for local ISA Components and Certification Partners.

This is ISA’s first credential pricing update since 2017 and, instead of broadscale price increase approach, ISA chose to take a holistic view of its credentialing services pricing structure. This view considered both a value- and cost-based approaches, to ensure continuity of services to the industry, professionals, and the general public while keeping the fees for both members and non-members as low as possible.

Updated Pricing Structure (Effective 15 July 2025)

Certification fees for all ISA Certification programs (excluding ISA Board Certified Master Arborist® program):

Fee Type	Member/Credential Holder	Standard
Application Fee	\$40.00 USD	\$50.00 USD
Exam Enrollment	\$295.00 USD	\$396.00 USD
Base Recertification Fee	\$220.00 USD	N/A*
Per Additional Recertification Fee	\$95.00 USD	N/A*
Retake Fee	\$120.00 USD	N/A*

Certification fees for the ISA Board Certified Master Arborist program:

Fee Type	Member/Credential Holder	Standard
Application Fee	\$40.00 USD	\$50.00 USD
Exam Enrollment	\$495.00 USD	N/A*
Base Recertification Fee	\$320.00 USD	N/A*
Per Additional Recertification Fee	\$95.00 USD	N/A*
Retake Fee	\$220.00 USD	N/A*

N/A* - this does not apply as all ISA credential holders now receive the standardized 20% discount.

Example Recertification Scenario – For Those with Multiple ISA Certifications

For individuals holding multiple ISA credentials, the new model reduces total recertification costs. Under the previous structure, total fees could exceed \$700 USD. Under the updated model, the same set of credentials would cost approximately \$505 USD, reflecting ISA’s effort to keep certification accessible while maintaining service quality.



Transition Timeline and Support

To implement the new system, ISA’s credentialing platform will be offline during a planned outage from 7–14 July 2025. During this period, users will be unable to submit applications, manage CEUs, enroll in examinations, view exam results or complete recertification. Full system functionality will resume on 15 July 2025 with the launch of the new system.

To support credentialing candidates during the transition, ISA will waive application fees for individuals with in-progress applications through 7 July 2025.

A Century of Commitment, A Future of Growth

“For more than 100 years, ISA has supported professional development in arboriculture,” said Caitlyn Pollihan, ISA CEO & Executive Director. “This new system and pricing structure are more than technical upgrades—they represent our continued investment in the field of arboriculture and the professionals who advance it every day.”

ABOUT ISA

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Atlanta, Ga., U.S., is a nonprofit professional organization dedicated to promoting the importance of arboriculture and educating the public about the significance of trees and the value of their proper care. As part of ISA’s advancing the arboriculture profession, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry, including ISA Certified Arborist ®. For more information about ISA and Certified Arborists, visit www.isa-arbor.com.