



Certification Committee

Committee Description: The ACS Certification Committee are the stewards of the quality, integrity, and growth of the American Cheese Society's Certification program. As such, the committee is responsible for managing and further developing the Certified Cheese Professional Exam, the Certified Cheese Sensory Evaluator exam, and the recertification of CCPs and CCSEs. Committee members make critical decisions that affect exam takers and all those who hold an ACS credential. Our group must maintain industry standards regarding certification, grow our programming reach through the exams, and uphold the values and credibility of the ACS Certification program. Committee members are also responsible for executing the exams annually.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- **What does the committee work on?** The committee continuously works on the CCP and CCSE exams to improve the process and value to exam-takers. We govern the exam development and execution process and make decisions affecting the certifications. In the coming operational year, we will be working on our annual Certification Celebration marketing campaign, a new CCSE development project, and creating a 5-year vision for program expansion.
- **What tasks do you complete each year?** Our primary task every year is to successfully plan, execute, evaluate, and score the CCP and CCSE exams. We develop new questions for the CCP exam and review the previous year's exam to ensure its fairness and relevancy. We evaluate and refine policies and practices that affect the certification program and certificants. We seek to improve and expand the certification program in meaningful ways.
- **Is any travel required?** Not required, but there is an expectation that you will be able to volunteer for the exams to ensure a smooth exam day experience.

Time Commitment:

- **What months are busiest?** The months leading up to and following the exam are usually the busiest, but with the new projects we are seeking to undertake in the coming years, we will be consistently busy.
- **How many hours are generally expected of a committee member each month?** The committee meets every other week on Tuesdays for one hour (subject to change). Many members are on subcommittees that meet an additional hour each week. In addition to meeting time, you may be tasked with a committee or sub-committee assignment that requires you to work independently in your free time. Average time commitment is at least 5 hours per month.
- **How long are members expected to participate on the committee?** Following the suggestion of the ACS BOD, the Certification Committee term is 3 years. There is a two-term limit. Time spent as chairperson or vice chairperson to not count towards this time.

Desired Skills:

- **Are there any skills that are required?** The most important skill you can bring to the table is a willingness to learn. If the scientific aspects of the cheese world appeal to you, then you may enjoy learning more about the science/methodology applied to certification. Visioning, project management, and a persistent work ethic will be the most important skills you can bring to the table in the coming years.

Interested in joining a committee? Email us at info@cheesesociety.org





Current Meeting Schedule:

- Please note our new terms begins on September 29, 2026.
- We currently meet bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 12pm EST. Please note, this is subject to change in the coming exam year.
- We expect that you will be available to attend all required meetings and complete independent workflows in between meetings.

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