

Basic Facts about The Comprehensive Exam:

- You must attend and pass all required courses/exams, receive credit for the college degree requirement, and meet the Ethics and Standards requirements for Candidates (this requirement consists of *Business Practices and Ethics* and USPAP/IVS) prior to registering for the Exam.
- The Exam is offered three times a year. The 2014 dates and application deadlines are as follows:
 - **March 11–April 11, 2014**
Application Deadline: **January 28, 2014**
 - **September 1–October 3, 2014**
Application Deadline: **July 21, 2014**
 - **November 17–December 20, 2014**
Application Deadline: **October 6, 2014**
- You must know that you have passed your last class. This mean the last course should be completed at least six weeks prior to the exam. For example, if you want to take the Exam in September you must complete your last course by June 9, 2014.
- Examinees must take ALL required modules within their chosen 30-day window or they will receive an incomplete on ALL modules in that offering.

In order to gain a better understanding of what other Members and Candidates have done we surveyed people who recently took the Exam. The results are summarized below:

- 1. Did you study for the Comprehensive Exam?**
 - Everyone surveyed studied for the Comprehensive Exam. Estimates were 8-100 hours of studying.
- 2. Did you use the Comp Exam Guidebook provided by the Appraisal Institute?**
 - 28.57% said yes and 71.43% said no. One person reported that it is “helpful but of was of limited use.”
 - The Guidebook can be found here:
<http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/assets/1/7/guidebook-comp.pdf>
- 3. Did you use any prepared study materials other than the Comp Exam Guidebook?**
 - 71.43% said yes and 28.57% said no.

- Of those that said yes, four used the study materials, or took the Ted Whitmer, MAI's Comprehensive Appraisal Workshop. Here is a link to his website: <http://www.tedwhitmer.com/>

4. If you used other study materials, would you recommend them to other candidates looking for more study options?

- 85.71% said yes and 14.29% said no.
- These quotes are from the survey:
 - "You must use these materials if qualifying classes were taken more than two years ago. Even then refresher study is a must."
 - "AI material from classes."
 - "Books from high level classes."

5. Did you study for the exam alone or with a group?

- 83.33% said alone and 16.67% said in a group.
- Perhaps there is room to add group learning to your study process? Could it be helpful?

6. Did you take a review course?

- 33.33% said yes and 66.67% said no.
- Respondents took courses from Ted Whitmer, MAI and John Urubek, MAI. Based on our research no course are currently taught by John Urubek, MAI

7. If yes, would you recommend it to others?

- Everyone that took a course said they would recommend it.

8. What module, if any, did you find the most difficult?

- A majority said income, and one respondent added this: "The Income Approach requires many calculations that are now performed in prepared spread sheets and/or not common in daily work. Module requires absolute working knowledge of the 12C."

9. Last, we asked national if candidates typically take the exam multiple times.

- That information is confidential, but we were told this: "Those who do well on education and have experience under their belt (do well). Those with older education or newer to the profession or don't do so well on their education have a harder time." Perhaps the advice we can take here is attempt to put your exam as close to the exam date as possible.