

CEBS study plan and fact sheet

Fact sheet

Credential	Certified Employee Benefit Specialist (CEBS), International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans
Cost	About \$5,324. Five courses. Buying the success package for each course costs \$5,324 in total for 2026. Each course's exam costs \$580 and includes two attempts.
Eligibility	None. Self-paced, with no prerequisites and no time limit.
Exam	5 online exams, one per course. Passing score is 70 percent.
Testing	Virtual exams taken online with webcam monitoring.
Pass rate	Not published
Recertification	CEBS Compliance: 30 hours of credit every 2 calendar years to stay listed as compliant.
Renewal fee	See IFEBP's compliance program.

Your CEBS study plan

Week 1	Download the official exam outline or handbook, confirm eligibility, and set your exam date.
Weeks 2 to 3	Take a baseline practice test and list your three weakest areas.
Weeks 4 to 7	Study one content area per week, starting with the heaviest weighted.
Weeks 8 to 9	Review weak areas and do timed question sets every other day.
Week 10	Take a full-length timed practice exam under test conditions.
Final week	Light review only. Confirm your appointment, ID, and test center or remote setup.
Typical total	About 4 months per course; 1.5 to 3 years in total

Preparation tips

- ☐ Plan on about one module a week, roughly 5 hours each, so about 4 months per course.
- ☐ Buy the success package. It saves 20 percent on each course.
- ☐ Join an online study group if you want instructor support.
- ☐ Use your two included exam attempts wisely: schedule the first when you're ready, not to test the waters.

Exam day checklist

- ☐ Government-issued ID that matches your application name exactly.
- ☐ Arrive 30 minutes early, or test your remote setup the day before.
- ☐ Know the rescheduling deadline in case something comes up.
- ☐ Plan your renewal: note your cycle end date and credit requirements.

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