

INTRODUCTION

Many professions are characterized by a body of knowledge shared by members of the profession and used in their work. Specific skills, tasks, or activities for the profession emerge and evolve from *a set of subject areas of a common body of knowledge that characterize the profession*. To certify professionals where work is related to specific industries or activities, institutions such as DRI International and BCI must define, share, and continually refine a common body of knowledge essential for members of the profession.

The existence of such a common body of knowledge is necessary, but not sufficient evidence of the existence of the profession. Proper application and periodic update of the common body of knowledge are also required for success in the profession. Therefore, continued education and ongoing professional development are essential to maintain and enhance membership status in the profession.

For certification purposes, practitioners must demonstrate minimum continuing involvement and experience in the profession must be demonstrated in addition to satisfactory completion of a written examination based on the common body of knowledge. Demonstrated experience must relate to the content of the common body of knowledge.

This document defines the boundaries of the business continuity planning profession and knowledge that qualifies one for DRI International's designation as an Associate Business Continuity Planner (ABCP), Certified Business Continuity Professional (CBCP), or Master Business Continuity Professional (MBCP). BCI also uses this document as the basis for their examination procedures for Membership of the Business Continuity Institute (MBCI) and the Fellowship of the Business Continuity Institute (FBCI).

Each subject area in this document provides

- a description of the area.
- the role of the professional.
- an outline of the knowledge the professional should demonstrate within that subject area.

Illustrative examples and references are also provided where appropriate.