

CREDENTIAL: Master Résumé Writer (MRW)

CREDENTIALLING ORGANIZATION: Career Thought Leaders (CTL) <http://www.careerthoughtleaders.com/mrw/mrw-credential/>
Original founders: Wendy Enelow and Louise Kursmark

AREA OF FOCUS: Résumé writing

PRIOR EXPERTISE LEVEL REQUIRED: B

COST/LENGTH: \$299. Renewal fees are \$99 for members and \$119 for non-members.

OTHER FACTS (INCLUDING RENEWAL INFORMATION): Must document at least five years of professional résumé writing/career/employment industry experience. Must pass an English language and grammar exam. Submit a portfolio: 10 client presentations. If you already hold another résumé certification, the number of sample résumés you must submit will be reduced from 10 to 5. Client presentations must include background information including needs and objective, your strategy and rationale, and the final résumé and cover letter you created for them. Review Committee will either approve or deny within three weeks of submission. If denied, you can re-submit with 60 days at no additional charge. If denied again, you must wait at least 12 months to resubmit and pay a \$139 fee for 3rd evaluation.

Renewal required every two years. Renewal requirements include the submission of five full client presentations and an essay of 500-1000 words on what new information, strategies, tips, and techniques you've learned over the past two years as they relate to writing resumes, cover letters, LinkedIn profiles, career bios, and other job-search marketing documents. Renewal fee applies.

CREDENTIAL: Nationally Certified Résumé Writer (NCRW)

CREDENTIALLING ORGANIZATION: National Résumé Writers Association (NRWA) <http://www.thenrwa.com/certification>

AREA OF FOCUS: Résumé writing

PRIOR EXPERTISE LEVEL REQUIRED: A-B (you are strongly encouraged to have two years of experience but no experience is required to submit a sample and receive feedback)

COST/LENGTH: \$75 fee to submit each writing sample review. If approved to take two part exam, the cost is \$250. You will usually be notified of portfolio review results within 2-3 weeks of submission. If you fail Part 1 of the exam, you must wait thirty days to re-take it (\$50 fee). If you fail Part 2 of the exam, you must wait thirty days to re-take it (\$150 fee).

OTHER FACTS (INCLUDING RENEWAL INFORMATION): Steps for certification include: 1) Join NRWA, 2) Attain 10 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) in three years prior to submitting portfolio sample, 3) After you have the 10 CEUs, submit a sample résumé and cover letter to the Certification Commission for review and 4) If your work is in compliance with the NCRW Certification Study Guide you may take the two-part exam. Part One is based on English grammar. Part Two requires you to develop a résumé and cover letter based on a profile provided to you.

Once you have achieved the NCRW status, your designation is valid for three years. To retain your certification, you must maintain continuous membership in NRWA and earn at least 15 CEUs between three-year renewals.