

ADVANTAGES OF CERTIFICATION

Obtaining certification through IPG will stand as a solid credential to prospective clients or employers, assuring them you possess the passion and drive to enhance your knowledge and skill. The certification process not only enhances the image of your industry, it will show you are much more desirable and qualified to prospective employers or when presenting your business proposal to planning commissions and loan departments. Certification is a great way to validate your professionalism.

Once you embark on the road to certification, regardless of your skill level, you will be learning more about grooming skills, especially as they are applied to grooming dogs according to the breed standards published by the American Kennel Club or your country's breed standards.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTIFICATION

The process of obtaining IPG certification is open to all professional groomers and grooming students who are IPG members in good standing and who agree to abide by the IPG Code of Ethics.

TESTING FEES

Practical Tests(5).....\$ 75.00 each
Written Tests(4).....\$ 45.00 each
Master's Exam.....\$120.00

**Retakes ½ of original fees.

IPG CERTIFICATION

The IPG Certification process is a series of practical and written examinations whereby the expertise and proficiency of professional groomers may be demonstrated and certified. It recognizes groomers whose professional knowledge, techniques and abilities have been certified as having met the high standards set forth by the International Professional Groomers, Inc.

To become IPG Certified groomer, achieve an *International Model of Pet Grooming Distinction* in one to four phases, applicants must pass up to five practical tests and four written tests with scores of 70% or better.

- ▲ **Salon Details:** practical and written test
- ▲ **Non-Sporting Breeds:** practical and written test
- ▲ **Sporting Breeds:** practical and written test
- ▲ **Terrier Breeds:** two practical and one written test
- ▲ To become an IPG *International Certified Master Groomer (ICMG)*, applicants must pass all above tests with scores of 86% or better and pass an extensive Master's Exam with a score of 86% or better.

International Professional Groomers, Inc.
6475 Wallace Rd NW, Salem, OR 97304
(503) 581-1220
Hayley.keyes@ipgcmg.org Hayley Keyes
K9Concepts@aol.com Linda Easton

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



The International Professional Groomers, Inc. certifies Pet Groomers based upon their knowledge of all the recognized breeds, anatomy, terminology, bathing, safety, health, and sanitation.

The completion and successful award of IPG Certification exhibits your personal desire and success in attaining the knowledge and practical skills to reach the levels of proficiency recognized among trade peers. The highest certification level is *International Certified Master Groomer* status (ICMG).

www.ipgcmg.org

PRACTICAL SKILLS EXAMINATIONS

There are five practical skills exams which demonstrate grooming skills. Two hours will be allowed for the completion of each practical exam.

In order to certify practical grooming skills, IPG, Inc has established an “*International Model of Pet Grooming Distinction*”. This includes preparation of the dog’s coat, scissor techniques, clipper techniques, thinning shear techniques, carding and hand-stripping techniques, and finishing techniques.

Dogs are to be bathed and fluff dried and completely mat-free prior to the testing, with the exception of the Salon Details test, by the applicant. **NO CRATE DRYING** please! Nails should be trimmed and ears cleaned. Pads and sanitary trimming *may* be done prior to testing. The ***dog should have at least six weeks of growth*** prior to testing. REMEMBER proper preparation and choice of dogs is a vital part of a good finished groom and will be scored accordingly!

If you would like to groom a breed not listed below, please contact IPG for consideration.

The Certifiers are aware that as a pet groomer, you are frequently working with less than perfect specimens. Allowances will be made by the Certifiers for variations necessitated by less than perfect structure and conformation of your dog. However, allowances will not be made for faults and variations necessitated by poor grooming

technique, rough handling or lack of knowledge.

SALON DETAILS PRACTICAL (1)

Applicant will demonstrate bathing, drying, and brush-out skills on any coated breed. You will be asked to demonstrate the use of forced air dryer, fluff dryer, various brushes and combs, nail clippers, etc.

NON-SPORTING BREEDS PRACTICAL (1)

Applicant will demonstrate grooming skills on a Toy, Miniature or Standard Poodle, or a Bichon Frise. Some of the grooming may be done with a snap-on comb or clipper vac, but the groomer must also demonstrate safe and competent use of scissors as well as scissor-finishing. You will be asked by the Certifiers to demonstrate the proper use of scissors and clippers for this test. Be sure you have these tools with you.

SPORTING BREEDS PRACTICAL (1)

Applicant will demonstrate grooming skills on their choice of a Cocker Spaniel, English Cocker Spaniel, English Springer Spaniel, English Setter, Gordon Setter, or Irish Setter. Show grooming is not required for sporting breeds. The use of clippers on the body is allowed. Cockers may be trimmed in a “suburban” type trim with shorter *scissored* legs. Thinning shear and carding techniques are an integral part of the Sporting Breeds practical skills examination. You will be asked to demonstrate expertise and knowledge of thinning shears and stripping knives. *You are required to bring these tools when testing on Sporting Breeds!*

TERRIER BREEDS PRACTICAL’S (2)

Applicant will demonstrate grooming skills on two terriers, a long-legged terrier and a short-legged terrier. A long-legged terrier includes: Schnauzer, Kerry blue, Welsh, Wire Fox, Lakeland, Bedlington or Airedale terriers. A short-legged terrier includes: Scottish, West Highland White, Cairn or Sealyham terriers. Again, show grooming is not required for terriers. You may use clippers on their backs, but leave enough coat to show breed profile and coat type. “Carding” and “plucking” techniques are an integral part of the Terrier Breeds examinations. You will be asked to demonstrate your knowledge and usage of these tools and the techniques required to use them. *You are required to bring your “carding” and “plucking” tools when testing on terrier breeds.*

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS

Written examinations are administered in each of the four phases, which are Salon Details, Non-Sporting, Terrier, and Sporting breeds. All questions will be from the AKC Complete Dog Book, 20th Edition and the IPG Certification Guidelines. You will be allowed one hour for each test. These tests may be taken in any order and need not be taken at the same time you take the practical skills test.

Questions will place emphasis on the breed standards, as they relate to grooming, recognition, or temperament. There will be questions on equipment, anatomy, terminology, safety and sanitation.