CIC® Certification: The Defining Difference

The COVID-19 pandemic made it more clear than ever before that infection prevention and control (IPC) is critical to student safety. From controlling COVID, to managing the threat of a new disease outbreak, an infection preventionist who holds the Certified in Infection Control® (CIC®) certification can help your health center apply best practices.

The CIC® is the only accredited certification in infection prevention and control. It is the gold standard for education and training in the field. Learn more at cbic.org/collegehealth.

College health professionals share why CIC®-certified infection preventionists are key to:

- preventing outbreaks,
- averting threats, and
- preparing for the unexpected.

Every college health center should have a CIC® certified infection preventionist.

Learn why inside.

cbic.org/collegehealth

Be Prepared for the Next Outbreak

Michael Deichen MD, MPH
Associate Vice President, Student Health Services
University of Central Florida
In my 20 years of experience here at UCF, there have been many emerging infections and outbreaks. The administration looks to us for advice and guidance on how to manage threats.

With Jackie on staff, I have reassurance that the best practices in infection prevention and control (IPC) are being followed and that she has the core knowledge necessary to protect patients and provide the best guidance.

Her CIC certification is analogous to a physician’s board certification—it gives confidence and affirmation of her skills which in turn helps build confidence in our center’s service. I’ve had parents call to say that they appreciate our cleaning issues, how to find PPE, how to properly fit N95 masks, and best practices for cleaning.

I have a better and deeper understanding of infection prevention and control (IPC) principles now that I am CIC certified. And I have earned a different level of respect. I led our university’s COVID hotlines and contact tracing programs, in coordination with the local public health department. It made a huge difference to have this program in-house at UCF. Because of my certification, I was able to command a level of authority and trust in my expertise that allowed me to work effectively with public health and the university administration.

In my network of CICs, there is always someone out there who has a similar question, and I can always find a robust discussion about challenges I’m facing. For example, in the early stages of the pandemic, we discussed supply chain issues, how to find PPE, how to properly fit N95 masks, and best practices for cleaning.

I uphold the standards for the areas in which I am certified, and I can do more because I know more. My standards have gone up, and I see the difference. I have learned so much by becoming certified, and it allows me to set higher standards.

In addition to helping with reaccreditation, my training has helped me set infection prevention benchmarks that colleagues from across the state are now implementing. Our health center is leading the way for the rest of the state university system.