



# News Release

*For Immediate Release*

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## **ACORD Announces New Designation Program: The ACE**

### **Enrollment Open for First Class, Graduation Set for May 2010**

PEARL RIVER, NY - March 10, 2009 - ACORD announced the creation of a new designation program for standards implementers and the opening of enrollment for its first examination. The designation is called the ACE, for ACORD Certified Expert, and the program's goal is to create and maintain a large pool of experts who know, understand, and can implement ACORD standards to support the industry.

"The ACE designation program meets a specific industry need for ACORD Standards implementation experts," said Beth Grossman, assistant vice president, Education & Training, ACORD, who is spearheading this effort. "Organizations from insurers to solution providers will be able to more easily find the resources they need."

An ACE-certification will mean that an individual has received a consistent training, passed the exams required for the designation, and is up to date on the latest ACORD standards and versions through continuing education. Organizations that wish to implement ACORD standards may increase their confidence level in staff knowledge by working with an ACE-certified resource.

"ACORD Members stressed to us how important it was that we set a standard around the knowledge and skills needed to successfully implement standards and find a vehicle for providing and testing those skills. That's why we developed this program," Grossman added.

Criteria for receiving an ACE include taking three exams focusing on specific topic areas: participation in the standards process; business line specific standards (property & casualty/surety; life, annuity & health; or reinsurance & large commercial); and insurance product knowledge. Continuing education will also be mandatory for maintaining an ACE.

The benefits of the program extend to not only those in search of qualified ACORD implementation expertise, but to those holding the designation. From business analysts to developers, the designation will add credibility and assurance that they are trained and tested in ACORD standards.

Those interested in learning more about the ACE can email Beth Grossman at [bgrossman@acord.org](mailto:bgrossman@acord.org) or contact ACORD Member Services at

[memberservices@acord.org](mailto:memberservices@acord.org) and ask to be added to the mailing list.

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*About ACORD: ACORD (Association for Cooperative Operations Research and Development) is a global, nonprofit standards development organization serving the insurance industry and related financial services industries. ACORD's mission is to facilitate the development of open consensus data standards and standard forms. ACORD members include hundreds of insurance and reinsurance companies, agents and brokers, software providers, and industry associations worldwide. ACORD works with these organizations towards a goal of improved data communication across diverse platforms through implementation of standards. ACORD maintains offices in New York and London.*

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