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Firm aims to rank retirement adviser credentials

February 14, 2007 - The alphabet soup that accompanies the name of most retirement plan advisers may shorten once the Financial Services Standards company completes its survey of the industry's offerings.

FSS, which of course sponsors its own designation -- the professional plan consultant, is in the process of surveying the adviser community to detail the universe of designations, including the target audience, cost, prerequisites and focus of the eleven leading designations.

FSS says 500 surveys have been submitted via its websites. Thus far the most popular designations are the PRP (plan sponsor retirement professional), the CRPS (chartered retirement plan specialist), and the QPSC (qualified plan financial consultant).

Sharon Pivrotto says FSS hopes to get at least 1000 surveys before the company compiles the results and releases them in late June.

"Retirement plan advising is increasingly an area of intense legal and fiduciary compliance. Better credentialing will help retirement advisers to better meet their responsibilities. This survey will help credential sponsors know what retirement advisers want, and how to provide it," Pivrotto says.

FSS' PPC designation is accredited by Robert Morris University of Pittsburgh. In addition to offering the two-day credentialing program at the university, the company will also offer it in San Diego and Maui in 2007. The course costs \$3,000. Vist FSS [online](#) more information or to complete the survey.

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