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Friday, June 06, 2008

DC Trainers Unfurl Standards Online

By Neil Anderson

The 401k Service Training Program is headed online. On Friday Financial Service Standards unveiled a new web-based version of its designation course for retirement industry professionals.

"We developed the online program in response to requests from retirement plan professionals who were anxious to take our program but couldn't fit the travel time into their busy schedules," stated Don Settina, president and CEO of the Pittsburgh-based company. "We understand the constraints on people's time."

According to a spokeswoman for Financial Service Standards, the online program takes about seven hours total to complete, with a final exam at the end, but trainees can space the work out over up to 90 days.

The course, accredited by Robert Morris University, started off solely in the classroom. This year there have been two in-class offerings so far, with two more coming up in September (on the 10th and 11th) and November (also on the 10th and 11th), all in Pittsburgh. The spokeswoman said that over 200 professionals have completed the course so far and gained the Professional Plan Consultant designation.



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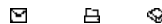
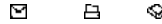
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