

PPA's AICP Exam Prep Course

Saturday, March 1, 2008

The Pennsylvania Planning Association (PPA) and its Professional Development Committee will be holding their **free** semi-annual workshop for those taking the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Exam this year. **This workshop will be held from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. on Saturday, March 1 at the Community Center at Giant Food Stores, Camp Hill Shopping Center, Rt. 11/15, Camp Hill, PA.**

We will cover most of the subject areas that you should be familiar with for the exam. More specifically...

- **Ray Reaves, AICP**, a Pittsburgh consultant, will cover economic development & revitalization planning, budgeting, office management, public participation techniques, and growth management techniques.
- **Mark Stivers, AICP**, East Hempfield Township, will cover the overall structure of the exam, plan making, and quantitative methods (i.e., the math)
- **Dave McFarland, AICP**, City of Altoona, will cover the overall structure of the exam, functional topics, and plan implementation.
- **Lee C. Slusser, AICP**, Professional Development Officer, will cover online resources (more on that in a second), planning history, planning theory, law, emerging issues and trends. Plus, I'll help Mark out with the math (e.g., statistics, inferential statistics, correlation, regression, population pyramids, general demographics, cohort-component population projections, economic base analysis (including sectoring & base multipliers), input-output analysis, fiscal impact analysis, cost-benefit analysis, and other quantitative methods and techniques).

We will give you examples of exam questions for each one of these subject areas. We will also explain which subject areas you should spend more time on and which you should spend less time on. We'll tell you which study resources we feel are the best for the money.

If you would like to attend this event, please e-mail Molly Wirick at mawirick@shermer-assoc.com.

If you cannot attend, however, please feel free to take a look at the PPA's online study notes here (http://www.planningpa.org/career_aicp.shtml). There's about 75 pages worth of free material, covering everything but statistics and history.

The PPA office has two copies of the APA Exam Preparation Study Manual for loan. This costs \$195 to purchase, but we loan them to exam candidates at no charge. Contact the PPA office at mawirick@shermer-assoc.com to reserve your

copy. Also, we have copies of the APA Chapter Presidents Council AICP Exam Study Guide for sale, at a cost of \$20.00, including shipping. These CDs may be ordered from the PPA office, as well.

If you are interested in either joining or starting a study group for the exam, please notify me at slusser@crcog.net. Finally, if you have any questions about preparing for the exam or study materials please feel free to contact me. Don't hesitate to ask for advice. **The Professional Development Committee is here to help you.**

One more very important announcement: APA has approved the availability of scholarships for planners whose finances may prohibit them from paying the exam fee. Pennsylvania planners who wish to request a scholarship must contact me NO LATER than January 18 so I can meet the APA deadline.

Thank you!

Lee C. Slusser, AICP

Professional Development Officer and Chairman of the Professional Development Committee

Pennsylvania Planning Association