A SPIRIT OF EQ RESOURCE

Your 2027 Mentor Coaching Checklist

Ten minutes with this now is cheaper than a rejected application in March.

ICF's Mentor Coach Specialization takes effect on January 1, 2027. The ten-hour requirement has not changed; who may deliver those hours has. Work down this list and you will know where you stand.

First, know which level you need

- ☐ I know which credential I am pursuing or renewing — ACC, PCC, or MCC.
- ☐ I know what that means for my mentor from January 1: ACC needs MCS-ACC or MCS-PCC · PCC needs MCS-PCC · MCC needs MCS-MCC.
- ☐ If I am going for my MCC, I have confirmed my mentor holds both an MCC and the MCC-level specialization.

Then, audit the hours you already have

- ☐ I have written down the date of every mentor coaching session I have completed — the actual dates, not the month.
- ☐ I have confirmed my mentor was properly qualified on each of those dates. If so, those hours still count and do not need redoing.
- ☐ I have counted only interactive time. Recording review and feedback preparation do not count toward the ten; intake and closing sessions do.
- ☐ At least three of my hours are one-to-one, or I have a plan for that.
- ☐ If any of my hours were in a group, the group was no larger than ten clients per mentor.

Then, check the calendar

- ☐ I have counted twelve full weeks from my first session to my last. That is the minimum span, and it is a hard requirement.
- ☐ I have allowed roughly two weeks between sessions, as ICF's handbook suggests — which stretches ten hours further than most people plan for.
- ☐ I know which side of January 1 each remaining hour falls on.
- ☐ If my engagement straddles the two years, I have raised it with my mentor rather than waiting to find out at submission.

Then, ask your mentor directly

A mentor who has worked with candidates for years is not automatically covered. The specialization is new, and holding a PCC or an MCC does not confer it. Three questions, worth asking in writing:

- ☐ Will you hold the MCS on the dates of my remaining sessions?
- ☐ At which level — ACC, PCC, or MCC?
- ☐ Will you confirm that in writing before I book hours that fall in 2027?

If you are renewing

- ☐ ACC renewal: mentor coaching is required, and the January 1 rule applies to those hours too.
- ☐ PCC renewal: mentor coaching is not required, but up to ten hours can count toward your forty CCEs — at PCC or MCC level.

"The window to do this under the old rules did not close on December 31. For anyone starting fresh, it closed sometime in early October, and most people have not noticed."

from ICF Mentor Coaching: What Changes on January 1, 2027

Questions about where you stand? We are glad to work through it with you, whether or not you end up working with us.

Peace and every good. · spiritofeq.com