



Certified Exchange Specialist®

## What is a Certified Exchange Specialist®? (CES)

The CES® designation was established in 2003 and is recognized as the mark of professionalism and knowledge in the 1031 industry. To be conferred the designation of Certified Exchange Specialist®, candidates must demonstrate knowledge of exchange rules and competency in performing the critical and ethical activities of a qualified intermediary. The CES® exam also assesses the proficiency of the candidate not only in theory, but also in practice.

A CES® Designee is among an elite corps of exchange practitioners in the United States and is an invaluable resource to his or her clients during the exchange transaction. Once the designation is earned, there is a strong commitment to continuing education to keep abreast of changes in such an evolving and dynamic industry.

### Why Select a Certified Exchange Specialist® to facilitate your 1031 Exchange? Knowledge~Experience~Integrity

The Federation of Exchange Accommodators (FEA) administers a voluntary certification and continuing education program that confers the professional designation of Certified Exchange Specialist® (CES®). Those individuals who meet specific work experience criteria and pass a comprehensive examination on exchange laws and procedures are awarded the CES® designation.

#### Certified Exchange Specialists®:

- ☞ have demonstrated, through years of service and comprehensive examination, that they possess a high level of knowledge and experience;
- ☞ are committed to the professionalism, high standards of conduct, and ethical business practices of the 1031 exchange industry;
- ☞ continue to stay current with changes in IRC § 1031, relevant regulations, case laws, and other developments affecting your exchange; and
- ☞ must meet an on-going continuing education requirement set by the CES® Council.

## Mission Statement of the Certified Exchange Specialist® Program

- ☞ To establish and maintain a national designation program to formally recognize those individuals who have demonstrated, through testing and continuing education, their knowledge of IRC Section 1031 rules and regulations pertaining to like-kind exchanges and their ability to facilitate exchanges for the general public.
- ☞ To provide a designation that will give the public confidence that they are dealing with a professional who has demonstrated knowledge in the intricacies of a like-kind exchange and subscribes to a Code of Ethics.
- ☞ To encourage exchange professionals to increase their knowledge of IRC Section 1031 rules and Deferred Exchange Treasury Regulations, and to maintain and expand knowledge in the subject through continuing education.
- ☞ To encourage the growth of the FEA by providing a nationally recognized certification program for exchange professionals.

## CES® and FEA – A Winning Combination

The CES® Program is offered through the Federation of Exchange Accommodators (FEA), the national trade association for 1031 exchange practitioners. When choosing a member of the FEA that employs CES® Designees you are afforded many benefits during the exchange transaction.

### Members of the FEA:

- ☞ Subscribe to both the CES® and FEA Code of Ethics.
- ☞ Have the availability to participate in the FEA Fidelity Bond and Error & Omission Program.
- ☞ Are required to provide taxpayers with a complete accounting of their exchange funds at the end of a transaction.
- ☞ Have access to a large “Network of Knowledge” from other CES® Designee and FEA Members.
- ☞ Receive up-to-date information on tax, legislative, and regulatory issues that can effect your exchange.
- ☞ Stay up-to-date on proposed and enacted legislation and regulations that can effect 1031 exchanges and procedures.

For more information about the CES® Program go to

[www.1031ces.org](http://www.1031ces.org)

Trust your Exchange to a Certified Exchange Specialist® (CES)