

# **TEXO & IRMI PARTNER TO OFFER CRIS PROGRAM**

## **What are the Benefits of the CRIS Program?**

CRIS is more than a program. It's an investment in your professional development. Whether you are in operations, safety, project management or estimating, construction professionals must approach their contribution to a project from a strategic risk perspective. The CRIS designation will provide:

- Improved confidence and assurance in managing your project and identifying potential risks on your project.
- Greater knowledge to make better decisions
- Increased bottom line performance.
- Basic understanding of the connection between safety, quality and productivity.

## **Describe the CRIS Program**

The Construction Risk and Insurance Specialist Program is a specialized curriculum focusing on the insurance and risk management needs of construction projects and contractors.

Those who complete the program are entitled to display the CRIS certification to certify their knowledge of construction insurance and risk management and dedication to the industry.

To obtain the CRIS certification you can complete 5 specialized courses on construction risk and insurance and then pass a corresponding on line exam. After successfully completing all parts of the CRIS curriculum (with a minimum of 70% per exam) the student is awarded the designation.

Anyone can sign up to take the classes without taking the exam or completed all the classes.

Pricing: \$175.00 Contractor Members; \$275.00 Subscribers; \$350.00 Non-members

Register online at [www.texoassociation.org](http://www.texoassociation.org)

NOTE: Participants not seeking the designation are NOT required to take the exam. Once all exams are passed a certificate confirming your CRIS designation is issued.

## **How do I maintain the accreditation?**

Once you earn the right to use the CRIS designation you must engage in an ongoing continuing education process to maintain it. This involves obtaining 7 hours of approved continuing education in 24 months and every 12 months thereafter.

The following courses will be offered in the future to maintain CRIS designation or for anyone who is interested:

- Additional Insured Issues
- Contractor Pollution Liability
- Controlled Insurance Programs
- Design/Build Risk and Insurance
- Understanding Construction
- Insurance Rates and Premiums
- Negotiation Skills for Construction Professionals

# Construction Risk Insurance Specialist Course Descriptions

## **Fundamentals of Risk Insurance**

This optional foundation course was designed primarily for construction company employees who have little experience working with insurance. However, it would also be very helpful for someone who is beginning a career in the insurance industry. It provides a general overview of the risk management process, including the loss exposures of most concern to contractors and the risk management tools that are used to treat them. The property and casualty insurance coverages that contractors typically buy are described along with a description as to how they match up with the important exposures. Lastly, the operation of the insurance industry is reviewed from an insurance buyer's perspective to provide insight into the roles and responsibilities of underwriters, agents, brokers, and adjusters. This course is not required to obtain the CRIS certification. CE credit is available for this course

## **Commercial Auto, Surety, CIPs, & Miscellaneous Lines**

This course reviews the various types of insurance often needed by contractors that are not covered in the other core courses. This includes auto liability and physical damage, professional liability, pollution liability, employment practices liability and directors and officers liability insurance. It also provides a basic review of claims-made and occurrence coverage triggers, wrap-up or controlled insurance programs (CIPs), and surety bonds.

## **Commercial Liability Insurance for Contractors**

This course provides a general overview of standard commercial general liability insurance and umbrella liability insurance, with specific attention to provisions that most affect coverage or create problems for some or all contractors. It covers elements required to trigger coverage, application of standard policy exclusions and various standard endorsements, all within a construction context. Suggestions for modifying coverage to address potential coverage gaps and other problematic provisions are provided where appropriate.

## **Contractual Risk Transfer in Construction**

This course reviews the ways in which risk is allocated in construction contracts. In addition to a technical review of the types of techniques available, this course examines strategies for maximizing the effectiveness of risk transfers in construction contracts. Topics include indemnification provisions, waivers of subrogation, and limitations of liability, insurance requirements, and some of the key areas of risk allocation in standard construction contracts. Tips for writing and negotiating fair and effective insurance requirements are provided where appropriate, as well as for verifying compliance with these requirements.

## **Property Insurance for Contractors**

This course focuses on builders' risk and contractors' equipment insurance, including suggestions for maximizing the effectiveness of the coverage. It also includes a review of important concepts with respect to insuring the contractor's office or other permanent property. Topics include covered and excluded property, covered and excluded perils, covered parties, and alternative methods of reporting covered values. Various policy provisions that impact the scope of coverage – such as subrogation, occupancy and cancellation – are also examined. Suggestions for modifying coverage to address potential coverage gaps and other problematic provisions are provided where appropriate.

## **Worker's Compensation for Contractors**

This course provides a general overview of standard workers' compensation and employers' liability insurance, with specific attention to provisions that most affect coverage or create problems for some or all contractors. In addition to the standard policy provisions, key statutes that impact contractors workers' compensation exposure and costs, such as independent contractor liability, employee leasing, overtime pay and various federal acts, are also addressed. Suggestions for modifying coverage to address potential coverage gaps and other problematic provisions are provided where appropriate.