



Dear Valued IRWA Members,

I am excited to announce the Senior Right of Way Professional (SR/WA) designation is evolving to a single pathway program to better serve your needs. Since receiving positive feedback from surveyed members about evolving the SR/WA program into a singular pathway, the International Professional Education Committee (IPEC) has worked diligently with the International Governing Council (IGC) and leaders across the Association to develop and integrate new coursework requirements. We anticipate launching this program July 1, 2022, and feel it is important to provide a preview of the changes to the SR/WA pathway program.

The IRWA coursework requirements in all three levels — Right of Way Agent (RWA), Right of Way Professional (RWP) and the SR/WA — have been increased to 272 total credit hours to be more inclusive of all right of way disciplines and better equip members for application in their profession. These new requirements will also allow members to acquire advanced knowledge from several disciplines and increase their value as professionals in the right of way industry.

All members currently pursuing the RWA, RWP or SR/WA will be required to complete a Declaration of Candidacy Form, which will allow IRWA to track what you are working towards so that our staff and Chapter Professional Development Committee (PDC) chairs can better assist you with your professional development needs. However, those who have already obtained an RWA or RWP under one of the four industry-specific pathways will automatically be a candidate for the SR/WA and will not have to declare their candidacy.

Now, the IPEC is asking all IRWA members who are currently pursuing the RWA, RWP or SR/WA to select one of two options:

1. Stay on your current industry-specific pathway.

If you are currently pursuing the RWA, RWP or SR/WA, you will be required to complete and submit this Declaration of Candidacy Form to your Chapter PDC Chair by no later than December 31, 2022, or you will automatically be placed into the new program. Those who have already obtained an RWA or RWP will not have to declare their candidacy.

No fee will be charged for this initial declaration of candidacy, and you will have five years from December 31 to complete all the requirements in your industry-specific pathway.

If you think you cannot complete the requirements during your five-year candidacy period, we suggest you choose the second option.

2. Migrate to new single SR/WA pathway.

If you choose this option, you will be required to complete and submit this Declaration of Candidacy Form to your Chapter PDC chair and pay a \$25 fee for the RWA and RWP and a \$50 fee for the SR/WA.

There will be more information about the new program in your inbox and on the IRWA website in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please email SRWAQuestions@gmail.com.

In addition, the IPEC members will be holding an informative session about the new SR/WA program in Cleveland, Ohio, at the 68th Annual International Education Conference, where they will address all your questions and share a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document, which is currently in development.

I would like to thank the IPEC, IGC and staff who have put in tireless hours to help restructure the SR/WA Program to better serve your needs. We look forward to continuing a successful implementation and rollout of this exciting new program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jake Farrell', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jake Farrell, SR/WA
International President