



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SPECIALISTS

June 2017

## ISCEBS RICHMOND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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### President's Message

It was great to see everyone at the Chapter Social last month at Legend. It might have been damp and drizzly outside, but it didn't dampen the spirits inside. I always enjoy putting faces to names and stories with the faces. I hope you were able to join us for the camaraderie and networking – not to mention BBQ sliders and adult beverages. Check out pictures from the event on our website.

I'm sure you have been seeing the information about the changes to the curriculum for the CEBS designation. There are changes for the requirements to earn CEBS. While you can still earn a GBA or RPA designation, the CMS designation will no longer be available. If you want to finish your CEBS under the current curriculum, you will need to complete your tests by the end of this year. I will have some hand-outs at the June meeting about the revised program. Whether you already have your CEBS or are pursuing it, let me know what you think of the changes.

Speaking of the chapter's June meeting, it is our full-day Education Event focusing on benefits. We will be reviewing the results of the latest Mercer survey, pharmacy trends and health care reform. Also, telemedicine, the impact of multi-generations on benefit strategies, and helping employees back to work from sick leave. If you haven't registered yet, there is still time. More details are in this newsletter.

The ISCEBS Symposium will be in Denver this year, September 17-20. If you have never been before, please give it some serious thought. I came away last year with lots of information and ideas to implement or explore when I got back to work. I wish I had known earlier how instructional it was, because I would have attended a Symposium years ago.

Have you considered becoming a member of ISCEBS and the Richmond Chapter? If you have not yet earned your CEBS designation, you can join at the Chapter level only. For just \$40, membership gives you reduced registration fees at Chapter Education Events and free registration at the Annual Meeting in November. After a summer break, we will be coming back strong in September with our half-day Educational Event focusing on the financial side of Employee Benefits on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Hope you have a wonderful Summer!

*Rebecca*

Rebecca Felts, CEBS  
President, Richmond chapter ISCEBS



## Please Join Us for the June 2017 Educational Event

<b>Topics</b>	<p><b>Mercer Survey Results – Jim Gregware, Mercer</b></p> <p><b>Rx Trends – Beth Bursig, Optima</b></p> <p><b>Health Care Reform – Susan Rash, BB&amp;T</b></p> <p><b>Mobile Health Technology – Sherelyn Hammett, United Healthcare</b></p> <p><b>Multi-Generational Impact on Benefits Strategies – Joann Hall-Swenson, Aon</b></p> <p><b>Return to Work – Stephen Lovings, Standard</b></p> <p><i>CE Credits will be given</i></p>
<b>Date and Time</b>	<p><b>June 22, 2017, from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm</b></p> <p><b>Breakfast and Lunch provided</b></p>
<b>Location</b>	<p><b>Westwood Racquet Club</b></p> <p><b>6200 West Club Lane</b></p> <p><b>(804) 288-6028</b></p>
<b>Cost</b>	<p><b>\$45 (\$35 for members of the Richmond Chapter of ISCEBS)</b></p> <p>Make checks payable and mail to:</p> <p>Richmond Chapter-ISCEBS</p> <p>P.O. Box 6513</p> <p>Richmond, VA 23230</p> <p><i>You may pay at the door if you have responded to Hillary Keeton at <a href="mailto:hkeeton@bbandt.com">hkeeton@bbandt.com</a> by Tuesday, June 20.</i></p>

## NEW CEBS PROGRAM

The New CEBS curriculum, announced recently by the International Society of Certified Employee Benefits Specialists, offers an updated approach to benefits through new study materials based on real-world benefits situations and case studies which allow students to apply their benefits knowledge. To reinforce the use of case studies, the studies will be incorporated into the course exams.

The new curriculum offers three designation paths:

- Group Benefits Associate (GBA)
- Retirement Plans Associate (RPA)
- Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS)

All three designations require passing a core course entitled *Strategic Benefits Management*. This course discusses challenges confronting benefits professionals, such as cybersecurity, privacy, compliance issues, working with vendors, and plan audits.

In addition, the GBA designation requires passing two courses that address health and welfare plan designs, legislative and regulatory trends, and achieving organizational objectives through benefit plan designs and pricing.

The RPA designation requires passing the core course and two courses of defined benefit and defined contribution plan designs, compliance and operational issues for qualified plans, tax treatment of qualified plans, fee transparency, legal risks, plan participation and investment management.

A student needs to pass the exam for all five courses to receive the Certified Employee Benefits Specialist designation.

For additional information about the new CEBS program, see the ISCEBS website or the ISCEBS *Newscope* newsletter, May 2017 issue.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

With the announcement of the “New CEBS” and the change to accommodate the flexible learning needs of the next generation, this might be the perfect time for you to join the Richmond Chapter and reap the benefits of membership. Chapter dues are only \$40 per year and open up educational and social networking events all year long!

For those who require CPE credits, a majority of these events offer this benefit along with the Annual Employee Benefits Symposium. The Symposium is open to all members who have completed at least one CEBS course and is a great venue for learning and networking. If you are a CEBS graduate you must report 30 hours of continuing education credit every two years in order to be considered CPE compliant. If you are in need of credits, renew your membership today at <http://iscebs-richmond.org> and take advantage of our educational event on June 22nd. See the website for more information.

To all our members that have renewed, thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you at one of our events!!

Thank you,  
Kimberly Csan  
Membership Chair