

# COLORADO ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS' ASSOCIATION

## 2010 Survey Detailed Summary

**A total of 100 were returned: (20%)**

### **1. Your job title is:**

21 Activity Coordinator  
45 Activity Director  
17 Activity Assistant  
14 Other: Life Enrichment Coordinator, Recreational Therapy Director,  
Activity Specialist, Activity Caregiver, Van Driver, and Life Care Coordinator.  
3 Consultants

### **2. Place of Employment:**

8 Continuum of Care Campus  
51 Nursing Center  
37 Assisted Living  
14 Retirement  
4 Adult Day Program  
4 Other: Rehab. Facility, Group Homes, Secured Assisted

\* Total does not equal 100, due to more than one response given.

### **3. For Profit 36**

**Non-Profit 35**

**Corporate 9**

**Privately Owned 8**

### **4. Rural 39**

**Urban 46**

### **5. How long have you been an activity professional? Average 10 years**

### **6. How long at your present facility? Average 5.25 years**

### **7. How many hours a week do you work?**

7      0 – 20  
4      21 – 30  
43     31 – 40  
38     40 – 50  
5      51 +

### **8. What is your current hourly wage? \$15.41**

**9. Hourly 53**  
**Salaried 23**

**10. If consultant, you charge per hour? \$28.00**

**11. How many clients/residents do you serve?**

6	1 – 25
12	26 – 40
18	41 – 60
15	61 – 80
29	81 – 120
10	121 – 180
6	181 – 240

**If consulting, how many facilities? 6**

**12. What is your activity staff to clients/residents? 1:40 average**

**13. Full-time staff: 2**  
**Part-time: 2**

**14. Number of weekend staff?**  
**Saturday: 1.1**  
**Sunday: 1.1**

**15. Number of weekly evening programs? Average 2.2**

32	0 or no answer
15	1
12	2
7	3
8	4
6	5
1	6
5	7
3	10 +

**16. What is your monthly activity budget?**

Most facility budgets are based on a PPD system (per patient per day). Smaller homes may have a budget of \$65.00 per month, while larger facilities may have \$3,000.00 per month.

**17. Check all that are included in your monthly budget:**

Most people spend their budgets on activity supplies, food/refreshments and entertainment

**18. How do you accommodate transportation for resident outings?**

Nearly 100% of people have facility vans.

**19. Are you Certified by the National Certification Council for Activity Professionals' (NCCAP)?**

32 Yes  
65 No

**20. Certified at what level?**

4 ACC  
24 ADC

**21. Did your wage increase after becoming certified?**

10 Yes  
20 No

**How much?**

3 at \$3.00  
1 at \$2.40  
1 at \$1.00  
1 at 5%

**22. Are you certified by another organization?** 11  
**Are you registered by another organization?** 1  
**Are you licensed by another organization?** 4

**Names of organizations:** CTRS, MT-BC, NHA, DORA, CNA, QMAP, Alzheimer's Association, Teaching, WACA

**23. Who paid your certification fees?**

21 You  
16 Employer  
1 Other

**24. Does your supervisor encourage and support your participation in professional organizations?**

77 Yes  
18 No

**How?**

21 Allows time off to attend meetings and conferences  
13 Pays for conferences, membership, etc.

**25. Are you a member of the Colorado Activity Professionals Association?**

67 CAPA members

**26. Chapter:**

Boulder	4	Denver	26
Eastern	3	Northeastern	3
Northern	6	Southern	15
Southwestern	0	Western	10
Non-CAPA	33		

**27. What could we do to encourage you to become a member?**

6 – Send me information about joining  
4 - Money is an issue  
1 – Prefer CHCA  
1 – Send explanation letters to NHAs  
1 - Solicit NHAs to encourage certification and to be a member  
1 – I went to a few meetings, they appeared very unorganized  
1 – Growth/educational opportunities, current trends and issues  
1 – Positive teamwork

**28. What would be important to you as a member?**

28 – Education/CEUs  
25 – Networking  
12 – New ideas  
4 – Support and encouragement  
3 – Knowledge of up-to-date information and changes in LTC  
2 – Website access  
2 – Newsletters/communication  
2 – Mentoring  
2 – Friendship  
2 - Advocating for the residents

**29. What other “activity related” professional organization are you a member of?**

2 CHCA – Colorado Health Care Association  
6 NAAP – National Association of Activity Professionals  
1 ACDA  
1NTRS – National Therapeutic Recreation Society

**30. Is attending continuing education workshops/conferences important to you?**

93 people said Yes

**Why?**

78 Knowledge  
51 Certification  
10 Required by employer

**31. Not including CAPA meetings, how many workshops/conferences do you attend annually?**

25 0 conferences/workshops  
29 1 – 2 conferences/workshops  
24 3 – 4 conferences/workshops  
2 5 – 6 conferences/workshops  
11 7 or more conferences/workshops

**32. If none, why?**

10 Cost  
9 Conflicting Time and Dates  
6 Distance  
5 Supervisor does not approve

**33. What is a reasonable fee for a full day workshop?**

7 \$50 or less  
14 \$51 – 75  
9 \$76 – 100  
1 \$100 +

**34. What is a reasonable fee for a conference (2 and ½ days)?**

3	\$100 or less
0	\$101 – 125
9	\$126 – 150
4	\$151 – 175
9	\$176 – 200
10	\$200 +

**35. What is your highest level of education?**

4	GED
12	High School
29	Some College
13	Associate Degree
27	Bachelors Degree
10	Masters Degree

**36. What is your degreed-field?**

15	Recreation
7	Education
4	Gerontology
4	Music Therapy
3	Nursing
2	Art Therapy
2	Communications
2	Sociology
2	Psychology
2	Health Care
1	Social Science, Culinary Arts, Health Management, Business Speech Pathology, Adult Development & Aging, Human Science

**37. Have you taken an Activity Professionals Training Course?**

Basic	36 Yes	50 No
Advanced	29 Yes	32 No

**38. What five professional issues or topics are most important to you?**

Inspiration/Motivation  
Communication/Conflict Resolution  
Teamwork  
Empowering  
Leadership/Management  
Professionalism/Professional Development  
Programming/New Ideas and Trends  
Alzheimer's Education/Low-function Activities  
Documentation/Regulations/Survey  
Culture Change

**39. Using a scale of 1 – 5 with 1 being the least helpful and 5 being the most valuable, rate in order (1 – 5) the value and importance to your role as an activity professional the following:**

Life Experience (345)  
On the Job Training (304)  
Workshops/Seminars (291)  
Networking (274)  
Formal Education (232)

## Average Wages By Degree and Title

Level of Education	Assistant	Coordinator	Director	Other
Some College	\$10.39	\$15.49	\$15.66	\$23.83
Associates Degree	\$10.55	\$14.25	\$17.80	\$16.50
Bachelors Degree	\$11.87	\$15.06	\$16.45	\$20.44
Masters Degree	00	\$20.00	\$18.67	\$22.79
No College	\$10.62	\$13.54	\$17.00	\$13.12

## Wages By Facility & Title

Facility	Assistant	Coordinator	Director	Other
Rural-Adult Day Program (All)	0	0	0	0
Rural- Assisted Living (All)	\$9.83	\$14.00	\$16.50	0
Rural-Continuum of Care	0	\$14.67	\$18.84	0
Rural-Nursing	\$10.87	\$14.07	\$15.03	\$14.94
Urban-Adult Day Program	0	0	0	0
Urban-Assisted Living	0	\$14.37	\$17.08	\$15.43
Urban-Continuum of Care (All)	0	\$17.58	0	\$24.04
Urban-Nursing	\$11.73	0	\$21.62	\$25.00
Urban-Other	0	0	0	0
Urban-Retirement	0	\$13.76	\$14.25	0

Comments:

- I appreciate the education and networking CAPA provides. I would like to suggest that since we are listening to New Age speakers, could we balance this in the future by inviting Biblically-based motivational speakers as well?
- I am excited that this is a check in on the value of us as a profession.
- I believe we need to educate personal care and activities that we need to work together – more cross-training.
- I am an activities coordinator/director for assisted living retirement. I also assist our independent living activities coordinator/director in carrying out her activities. Along with driving (CDL) and helping in our gym. Though I feel certifications and new knowledge are important, I don't have the time to attend the workshops.
- Send self-addressed stamped envelopes.
- I was called at my place of employment from someone wanting to join CAPA. I was not clear how to lead her in that direction. I signed up at a CAPA conference. How should she? She does not have access to CAPA website. I think an activity professional should teach the MEPAP class not a CTRS? Activity professionals have more expertise working with the senior population.
- Our facility has mild memory loss and mild dementia. We have a large population of independent living and 1/3 of that number in assisted living. Most are medium to high function.
- CAPA has to motivate members to work together and actually go after new members by offering more workshops in more areas, Western, Northeastern, etc. New improved website.
- Talking to other professionals about what they do. I feel the most important because you feed off of each other and get new and great ideas. Make good friends.
- Thanks for your hard work!
- I would love to be certified for activities, to be a coordinator.
- I would enjoy attending more than 2 – 3 conferences/seminars a year ~ would 1 a quarter be reasonable? This would increase knowledge and keep activity professionals “in the loop” with changes in laws, etc.