# Overview of CIPP/US

The Certified Information Privacy Professional/United States (CIPP/US) is a credential offered by the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP). It is a leading certification for professionals working in the field of privacy and data protection in the United States, widely recognized by employers as a benchmark for privacy expertise.
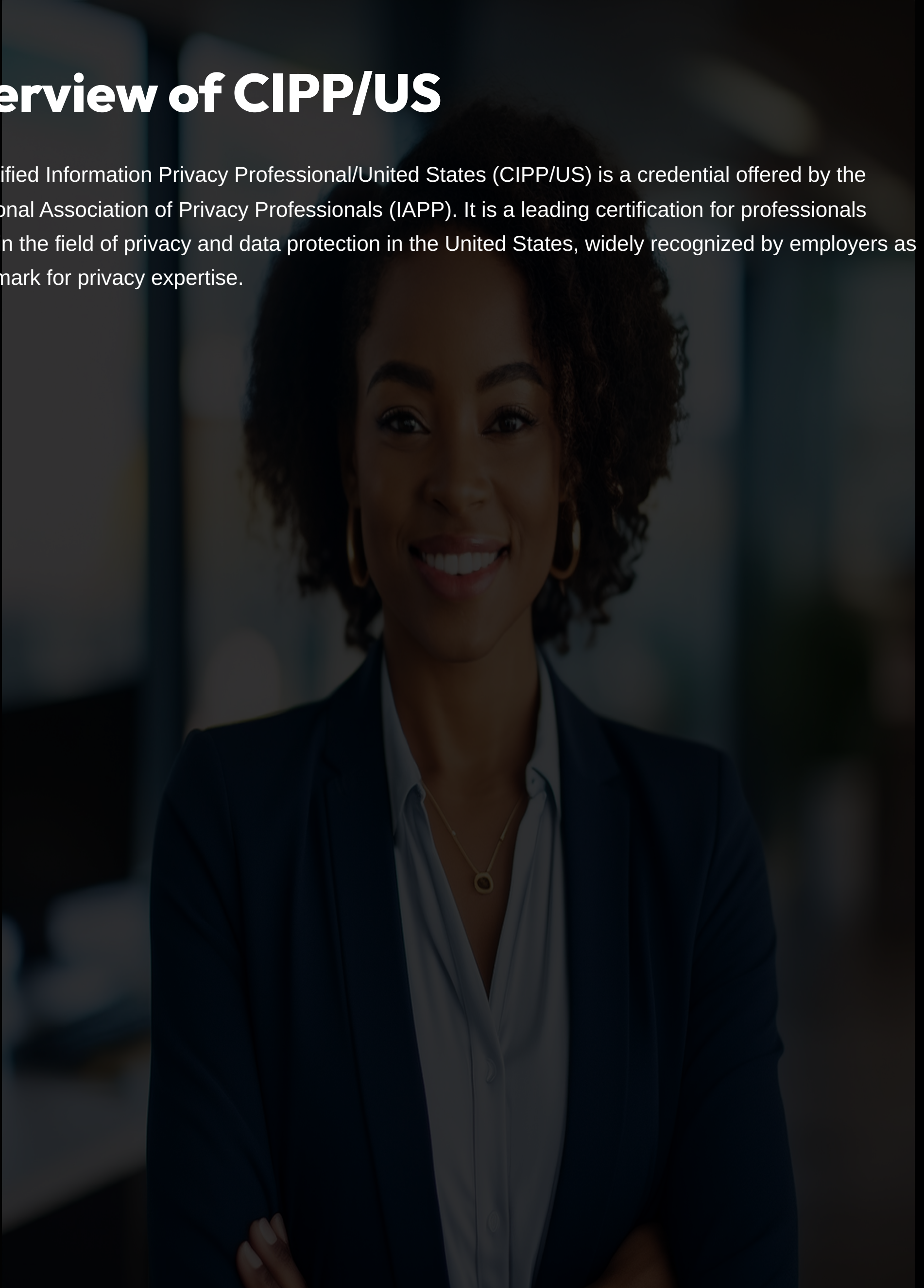
What the CIPP/US Covers

The CIPP/US certification demonstrates knowledge of:

- U.S. federal and state privacy laws and regulations
- Legal requirements for handling and transferring sensitive personal data to and from the U.S., EU, and other jurisdictions
- Sectoral laws, civil and criminal enforcement, and workplace privacy
- Government and court access to private-sector information
- State privacy and breach notification law

The exam is based on a Body of Knowledge (BoK) that is updated annually to reflect changes in law and practice.

CIPP/US Knowledge Domains

1 **Introduction to the U.S. Privacy Environment**

Foundational concepts and legal frameworks that shape privacy in the United States

2 **Limits on Private-Sector Collection and Use of Data**

Regulations governing how businesses can collect, process, and store personal information

3 **Government and Court Access to Private-Sector Information**

Legal mechanisms through which authorities can obtain data from companies

4 **Workplace Privacy**

Employee privacy rights and employer obligations in various contexts

5 **State Privacy Laws**

State-specific regulations that may exceed federal requirements

For the 2024-2025 cycle (effective September 2, 2024), updates include new topics such as data processing agreements, web scraping, privacy torts, cookie deprecation, data portability, and expanded coverage of state privacy laws.

Exam Format and Logistics

Exam Structure

- 90 multiple-choice questions
- 2.5 hours to complete the exam
- Optional 15-minute break

Testing Options

- Available year-round
- In-person at over 6,000 Pearson VUE test centers
- Remote online proctoring available

Registration Process

After purchasing the exam, candidates schedule their appointment through the Pearson VUE website.

Maintaining Certification

Pass the Exam

Successfully complete the 90-question assessment within the allotted time.

Activate Certification

Pay the Certification Maintenance Fee (included for IAPP members; separate fee for non-members).

Maintain Credentials

Renew certification every two years through continued education and payment of the maintenance fee.

Training and Study Resources

- The IAPP and its official training partners offer comprehensive training, including in-person, virtual, and self-paced options

- Study materials include official IAPP guides, third-party books (such as those by Mike Chapple), and practice exams

- The IAPP provides a free study guide and recommends that candidates stay current with privacy developments, as the field evolves rapidly

Who Should Pursue CIPP/US?

Ideal Candidates

- Privacy professionals
- Compliance officers
- Legal counsel
- Program developers
- Privacy managers

The certification is valuable for career advancement and is often required or preferred by employers in privacy-related roles. It's particularly relevant for anyone responsible for privacy program development, management, or compliance in the U.S. private or public sector.

CIPP/US Feature Details

Issuing Body	International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)
Focus	U.S. privacy laws, regulations, and compliance
Exam Format	90 multiple-choice questions, 2.5 hours, in-person or remote
Domains	U.S. privacy environment, data limits, government access, workplace, state laws
Updates	Annual, with new topics for 2024-2025 including state law changes
Maintenance	Every 2 years, with fee and continuing education

The CIPP/US is a foundational and highly respected certification for privacy professionals in the United States, reflecting up-to-date knowledge of the legal and regulatory landscape.