

Let Credentialing Assistance pay your SANS renewal fees



Background:

Every four years it is that time again. You are reminded by an email from SANS; you can pay your renewal fee for your certification now. Naturally this renewal fee is per certification, it is not a flat rate membership fee. This distinction quickly becomes painfully clear after a 25D graduates from SLC and has taken perhaps 7 or 8 SANS exams thanks to the Army's largesse.

You want to keep the SANS certifications current. You don't want to let the Army's investment of roughly \$8,119 per course & exam combination go to waste. However \$1,743 every four years [for 7 certs] is a lot of money for an enlisted guy.

Luckily Credentialing Assistance (CA) comes riding to the rescue here and saves the financial day. Yes, CA will pay your SANS renewal fees. The only limit is \$4,000 a year in Tuition Assistance funding. I had heard a rumor that this was possible, but found that the process was not clear. \$429 for that first cert's renewal is a strong motivator though, so I poked around in ArmyignitED until I found it. I got the request submitted but had to go back and knock out some steps out of order while following the helpful advice of an ArmyignitED representative.

Hopefully this step by step walkthrough of the process can save someone that hassle.

Sidenote:

I didn't take good notes the first time through when I renewed GSEC. I was just happy that the process existed and it worked. These notes come from my CA request to renew GCED.


SANS portal:

First navigate to www.sans.org and login to your account. Hit 'Certification History'

My GIAC Certification

- [Practice Tests](#)
- [Assessments](#)
- [Certification History](#)
- [Manage Opt Ins For Job Task Analyses](#)

Next scroll down to the cert that you want to renew. If you are putting these CA requests in one after another as soon as you get the auto generated SANS email then there will only be one with the option to renew.

	<u>GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender (GCED)</u> First Certified: April 19th, 2019 Expiration: April 30th, 2023	Exam Score: 85.0% View Summary	Purchase Renewal
Go Gold Order Certificate View Digital Badge			

Simply select 'Renew with CPEs'. There is a separate PowerPoint slide deck on how CPEs work. Please note that this writeup is only regarding the renewal fee.

Your GCED certification expires on April, 30th 2023.

You can take the current version of the certification exam to renew your certification by clicking the Certification Exam button.

You can also utilize our alternative certification maintenance option by clicking "Alternative CPEs". You need to obtain 36 CPE credits to renew your certification. For more information on the alternative options, [please click here](#).

Renewing your certification will extend it 48 months from the previous expiration date.

Please Note: The exam option carries a 4-month access period (from date of issue) regardless of the original expiration date.

Take Exam Again	Renew with CPEs
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If CA already paid for your GSEC renewal then you will see the discounted price. Just confirm the amount is right.

Product
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender Fee: 429 USD 219 USD Discount for purchasing multiple renewals within two year window.

This part is important!

Make sure you select 'Call in Credit Card' as the payment option after you verify your info. This is the only option that will allow CA to pay. Then hit 'Review Order'.

Registration Code

You must submit your code at the time of your original registration. SANS **CANNOT** modify your tuition fee once you have submitted this form. Notice: Only one registration code may be used for each order.

Payment Method *

Check / Call in Credit Card
Details on how to make payment will be included on your invoice.

Customer Reference / PO

Submitting a PO Number doesn't mean we will accept your PO or the terms of your PO. However the number will display on your invoice as a reference.

Review Order

Just verify the amount and hit 'Place Order'.

Order Ready To Process

Order Summary

Product	Subtotal	Discount	Total
GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender	\$429.00	-\$210.00	\$219.00
Grand Totals	\$429.00	-\$210.00	\$219.00

No problems found when reviewing order. Please click the "Place Order" to complete your order.

Edit Order**Place Order**

Hit 'Please print a copy ... for your records'. Print to PDF. Save that PDF invoice somewhere handy. It is a vital part of the CA request on ArmyignitED's portal.

✔ Your order is complete. [Please print a copy of this invoice for your records.](#) You may view a condensed version here.

✔ This order has a balance due of USD \$219.00, [click here to pay online](#) or [click here to fax in your payment](#).

Invoice

Invoice# CERT-RENEWAL-9930565

Status: Unpaid

Placed: May 2, 2021

Printed: May 2, 2021

ArmyignitED:

Login to ArmyignitED (<https://www.armyignited.com/app/>), navigate to the Credential tab, and hit 'Add Credential'.

[Home](#) [Education Path](#) **[Credential](#)** [Program Path](#) [Find Ed Center](#) [Support](#)

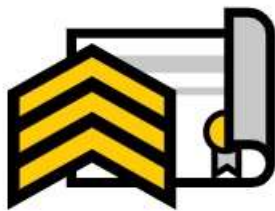
[My Credentials](#) [Request Credentialing Assistance](#)

, click on your name in the upper right hand corner and select the appropriate role. For additional assistance, click on the "SUPPORT" tab to a ServiceNow (SNOW) helpdesk case.

Current Credentials

[Add Credential >](#)

Select that this is for your MOS.



MOS or ASI

Does the credential you want to pursue show up as "most" related to your MOS or ASI on Army COOL?

e.g., 68W Combat Medic Specialist can pursue the credential for Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT).

[Select](#)

Select your MOS from the drop down and pick 'New credential'. Yes, pick it. Some of this process is counter-intuitive, hence this walkthrough.

Which MOS or ASI would you like to pursue a Credential under?

MOS 25D MOS

Is this a new credential or re-certification for an existing credential?

- ☒ New credential
- ☐ Re-Certification for an existing credential

Search "GCED" and select it from the list. Yes, this looks like you are requesting CA to pay for an exam voucher. Like I said, the process is counter-intuitive.

What credential are you interested in pursuing?

Below are all the credentials related to your credential option.
Please select the credential you would like to pursue.

Filter results by searching for a credential below

Search:

Showing All Results

GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender (GCED)

Remove —



Hit 'Take credential exam' and 'I understand ...'.

Please select all methods you will be using to achieve your credential GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender (GCED) and agree to the requirements criteria below.


- ☐ Prepare for credentials with trainings
- ☒ Take credential exam
- ☐ Complete applicable work experience

☒ I understand and am prepared to fulfill the above requirements.

The first leg of the process on Armyignited is now done. The process makes more sense after this. On the Credential tab you will now see GCED listed. Hit 'Request CA'.

GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender (GCED)

no requests




Vendor: Global Information Assurance Certification (GIAC)

Delete Credential >

Request Credentialing Assistance >

Select GCED from the drop down and hit 'Request CA'.



You need to be enrolled in a Credential in order to request Credentialing Assistance.

MOS/ASI: GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender (GCED) ▾

Request Credentialing Assistance

This part is important!

Select 'GCED – Certification Renewal' and hit next.

Enter a Training or Exam Name, Vendor, State, Country

Search:

[Clear All](#)

Filter Type:

☐ Exam ☐ Training ☐ Online ☐ In Person

Showing 1 - 5 of 5 Results

[Don't see a related Vendor?](#)

GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender - Certification Renewal

SANS Institute

Online

Remove

[Website](#)

This part is important!

Ensure that you scroll down and upload that crucial PDF of the invoice from SANS website. Hit 'Submit Request'.

Attach a quote for the cost of the requested items from the vendor. The quote MUST match the items listed in ArmyIgnitED. You may also attach, but is not required, any other documentation supporting eligibility requirements for the Credentialing Assistance Request.

Upload Supporting Files



Drag files to upload

Upload File

Uploaded Files

✓ [SANS invoice for GCED renewal.pdf](#)

Submit Request



Success!

Your credentialing assistance request has been submitted.

GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender (GCED)

That is it. The processing tends to take about a month on ArmyignitED. Keep an eye on the email you registered when you setup your account. They will email you directly with any issues regarding your request. These emails did not come from a 'do not reply' address in my experience and they were very helpful in resolving anything.

You should see an autogenerated email from ArmyignitED once it is sent to finance for payment if your request is a first time go. Within a few days after that you should be able to confirm payment on your SANS account. SANS will also email you to confirm your shipping address for an updated paper copy of the certification. A plaque is of course \$25 extra.

Certification Renewals (CPE) (PAID)

May. 02 2021

Online

Order ID: GIAC 9930565

Certification(s):

GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender

[Invoice / Receipt](#)


Wrapping up the CA request:


Once the SANS & GIAC portals update showing the renewal fee was paid and you have four more years, submit your proof to Armyignited. I am still waiting on my new paper copy to show up from SANS, and of course they do not put PDF copies on their site so you can easily save them or print them yourself.

I took screen shots of the parts of the SANS/GIAC portal that show the order was paid and the new expiration date, put them in a PowerPoint slide with a note, and uploaded to Armyignited. It's simple but to the point.

My renewed cert's paper copy is en route from SANS. Please accept the below from the SANS/GIAC portals as proof of my completed CA request.



	<u>GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC)</u> First Certified: March 22nd, 2019 Expiration: March 31st, 2027	Exam Score: 92.0% View Summary	--
Go Gold View Digital Badge			

	Certification: GIAC Security Essentials Expires: March 31, 2027 (in 6 years)	0/36
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Before anyone asks, the answer is no, GIAC's portal does not allow you to start uploading CPEs immediately after payment. They make you wait until you are in the next 4 year cycle.

SANS provides access to the updated books and VMs for the class for four months following renewal of the accompanying certification. Don't forget to go on your SANS account and download the electronic books in PDF format.

Your Course Materials

Once you download course materials you are no longer eligible to receive a refund.

Note: These are large files that require a good internet connection and sufficient time to download. If you experience difficulty, please email support@sans.org for assistance. Downloads appear 7 days before your event start date.



Certification Renewals (CPE)
SEC401: Security Essentials Bootcamp Style

Order: 9895250:8500585
Version: SEC401_F02_06

Access Expires
2021-08-27



Certification Renewals (CPE)
SEC501: Advanced Security Essentials - Enterprise Defender

Order: 9930565:8550700
Version: SEC501_F01_03

Access Expires
2021-09-29

Conclusion:

I hope this walkthrough is helpful for someone. I am all for letting CA pay SANS and using my paycheck for mundane things like groceries or the utility bill.

If you read this far and you have any questions, just message me on FB or LinkedIn.

V/R

Richard