**Business Valuation Certifications and Designations**

The following guide provides sources for information on professional accreditation credentials awarded to qualified business appraisers by the major professional appraisal organizations in the United States.

[**American Society of Appraisers (ASA)**](http://www.appraisers.org/Disciplines/Business-Valuation)

The American Society of Appraisers is an international organization of appraisal professionals, with appraisal disciplines covered including appraisal review and management, business valuation, gems and jewelry, machinery and technical specialties, personal property, and real property. Its [member directory](http://www.appraisers.org/find-an-appraiser) is searchable by name, geographic location, appraisal discipline, specialty, and keyword.

**AM** - Accredited Member
**ASA** - Accredited Senior Appraiser
**FASA** - Fellow of the American Society of Appraisers

[**American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)**](http://www.aicpa.org/InterestAreas/ForensicAndValuation/Membership/Pages/OverviewoftheAccreditedinBusinessValuationCredential.aspx)

ABV credential holders are CPAs (Certified Public Accountants) and AICPA members who have met the education, examination, and business valuation experience requirements necessary to be designated as "Accredited in Business Valuation". The [credential holder directory](http://www.aicpa.org/forthepublic/findacpa/pages/find-an-abv.aspx) lists qualified members by state and surname, with contact information provided for each listing including e-mail address, company name, city and state, and phone number.

**ABV** - Accredited in Business Valuation

[**National Association of Certified Valuators and Analysts (NACVA)**](http://www.nacva.com/content.asp?contentid=144)

NACVA is a professional organization which offers certifications in business valuation and financial forensics, with certifications offered to its members including the CVA (Certified Valuation Analyst), ABAR (Accredited in Business Appraisal Review), and MAFF (Master Analyst in Financial Forensics). Its [member directory](http://www.nacva.com/AF_MemberDirectory.asp?version=1) is searchable by name, industry, specialty, city, state, zip code, and country.

**CVA** - Certified Valuation Analyst

**ABAR** – Accredited in Business Appraisal Review

[**Institute of Business Appraisers (IBA)**](http://www.go-iba.org/)

The Institute of Business Appraisers is the oldest professional organization devoted solely to the appraisal of closely-held businesses, with credentials offered to qualified members including the CBA (Certified Business Appraiser) and the MCBA (Master Certified Business Appraiser). Its [member directory](http://www.go-iba.biz/dir/) is searchable by city, state, first name, last name, and designation or credential (e.g., CBA, MCBA).

**CBA** - Certified Business Appraiser

**MCBA** - Master Certified Business Appraiser