



PHAP Credentialing Program Certification in
**International Legal Frameworks
for Humanitarian Action**

Self-Assessment

Using the Self-Assessment

When preparing for the PHAP Credentialing Program certifications, the recommended starting point is to assess your existing knowledge in each of the areas of the certification assessment outline.

Use this simple tool to rate your own level of knowledge in each area, to the best of your ability.

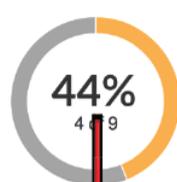
	Pre-existing knowledge				Diagnostic Test results: Area of particular focus?
	None	Some, but with gaps	Ok, but need refresher	Good	
Domain 1: What is International Law and Why is it Relevant to Humanitarian Action?					___ %
1.1 Identify the key sources of international law and how it is formed.					
1.2 Recognize that there are four main bodies of public international law that are relevant for international humanitarian action, as well as efforts to develop an additional body of international law specifically addressing responses to natural disasters.					
1.3 Recognize the distinction between hard law and soft law.					
1.4 Identify the ways in which international law binds States, intergovernmental organizations, non-State armed groups, and individuals.					
1.5 Identify the ways in which international law binds or does not bind UN agencies, NGOs, and their staff.					
1.6 Recognize the existence of key areas of domestic law that may be relevant to humanitarian actors in their work and that they normally continue to apply even in armed conflicts and natural disasters.					
1.7 Distinguish between laws and policy or principles.					
Domain 2: International Human Rights Law					___ %
2.1 Identify the main international and regional treaties and other sources of IHRL.					
2.2 Identify the key aspects of IHRL applicability in crisis situations.					
2.3 Identify key provisions of IHRL relating to the right to life, freedom from torture and other inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment, arbitrary detention, and freedom of movement, as well as State obligations to investigate and hold violators accountable.					
2.4 Identify key provisions of IHRL related to economic, social, and cultural rights that obligate States to provide or secure access to goods and services.					
Domain 3: International Humanitarian Law (Law of Armed Conflict)					___ %
3.1 Identify the main treaties and other sources of international humanitarian law (IHL).					
3.2 Recognize the fundamental purpose of IHL, to limit the effects of armed conflict, for humanitarian reasons, by protecting persons who are not or are no longer participating in the hostilities and restricting the means and methods of warfare.					

3.3 Distinguish between the laws that regulate the resort to the use of force (<i>jus ad bellum</i>) and the laws that regulate situations of armed conflict (<i>jus in bello</i>).					
3.4 Determine the applicability of IHL and the information necessary to determine whether IHL applies and what rules bind parties to armed conflict.					
3.5 Recognize the principles of IHL related to the conduct of hostilities and how these rules both regulate the use of lethal force and also serve to protect civilians and those no longer participating in hostilities (<i>hors de combat</i>).					
3.6 Identify key types of weapons restricted and prohibited by international law.					
3.7 Identify key rules of IHL relevant to humanitarian assistance and access in international and non-international armed conflicts.					
Domain 4: International Refugee Law and Laws Protecting Internally Displaced Persons					____%
4.1 Identify the rules determining who is a refugee under international refugee law.					
4.2 Recognize the process by which refugee status is determined, including the roles of States, key State institutions, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).					
4.3 Recognize the principle of non-refoulement and its applicability to refugees and others.					
4.4 Identify other key obligations of States related to refugees under international law.					
4.5 Recognize the relevance of IHRL, IHL, the Guiding Principles on Internally Displaced Persons, and the Kampala Convention, in preventing arbitrary displacement and protecting individuals who are displaced within the territory of their own State.					
Domain 5: Implementation and Enforcement of International Law					____%
5.1 Recognize that respect for international law applicable to humanitarian action relies primarily on voluntary respect, persuasion, preventative measures, and incorporation into domestic law.					
5.2 Identify key UN and regional bodies and mechanisms, including inquiries and fact-finding mechanisms, to monitor for and respond to serious violations of IHRL and IHL).					
5.3 Recognize that international law relevant to humanitarian action may give rise to State responsibility for violations of international law as well as individual criminal responsibility for international crimes.					
5.4 Define war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide, and identify the roles of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and ad-hoc tribunals.					
5.5 Identify key concepts regarding the roles of domestic and international mechanisms to pursue violations of international law by individuals.					
Domain 6: Utilizing Legal Frameworks in Humanitarian Action					____%
6.1 Identify examples of humanitarian actors contributing to procedures related to monitoring compliance or investigating alleged breaches of international law, as well as the potential risks involved.					
6.2 Identify ways in which international law is employed by humanitarian actors outside of courts and other formal legal institutions.					

Comparing your results with the Diagnostic Test

This Self-Assessment exercise is particularly valuable when followed by the Diagnostic Test, as the Diagnostic then provides an objective check on your own perceptions of your starting point.

1. After completing the Self-Assessment above, go to the Diagnostic Test at <https://diagnostics.phap.org/s3/ilfha>
2. When sitting for the Diagnostic Test, make sure you have a calm environment and enough time to complete it. It consists of 50 multiple-choice questions, which you have 75 minutes to complete.
3. After completing the Diagnostic Test, you will receive a customized report of your results in your email inbox. Transpose the domain results and mark your priority statements from the Diagnostic Test report in the designated space in your Self-Assessment form above.



Domain 4: International Refugee Law and Laws Protecting IDPs

Good – you have a basic understanding of fundamental legal rules protecting refugees and IDPs, but you still have some way to go in this area. Refer to the general resources mentioned in the Study Guide to strengthen your understanding of the basic definitions and concepts in this domain.

Focus in particular on statements 4.1, 4.3, 4.5

Domain 4: International Refugee Law and Laws Protecting Internally Displaced Persons						___%
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4.5 Recognize the relevance of IHRL, IHL, the Guiding Principles on Internally Displaced Persons, and the Kampala Convention, in preventing arbitrary displacement and protecting individuals who are displaced within the territory of their own State.						

4. Compare your Self-Assessment results with your Diagnostic Test results and consider where to prioritize your preparation time for the certification assessment.