



Contractors Qualifications For Fire Protection

Is an Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) requiring you or your employees to prove qualifications for installing fire protection systems? If so, we may be able to help.

NFPA Standards and local codes have requirements for “Qualified” designers and installers. Many jurisdictions recognize certification through agencies such as the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET), or industry related associations. Although these certifications can be very thorough and effective, they have limitations.

- Limited testing dates
- Limited testing locations
- Long and detailed application process
- Long wait to get results and certification
- High cost especially if there is concern that the employee will go to a competitive employer

Codes & Standards Assessments (CSA) has a solution to help provide evidence of qualifications and in the time you need it. Our tests are not easy, but they can be administered within as little as 24-hours notice.

CSA has teamed up with a worldwide leader in Internet based assessment software. Our tests are administered over custom developed secure software that prohibits viewing source code, printing, accessing, or tampering with questions. The user cannot even identify hosting locations. Numerous reports allow CSA to evaluate and validate questions to assure that scores accurately reflect the individuals’ qualifications. Flexibility to incorporate local amendments/interpretations can improve AHJ acceptance of our services.

Founded by an AHJ, CSA was developed to target critical issues directly related to design and installation. Although CSA assessments can be used as part of a more detailed certification program, CSA’s basic concept is focused around the essential code requirements and practices necessary for life safety. In general CSA does not evaluate how long it took to learn the material, where it was learned, or documentation of past projects. Instead CSA’s primary focus is on whether the individual knows the material. AHJ’s can be assured that individuals are being tested to the appropriate codes and standards and not general low-voltage, security, or plumbing concepts common to some associations or certificates of training. Because we are a third-party testing organization, our questions and grading are not influenced by local political or historical circumstances that can exist in some areas.

CSA staff will assist you in your local AHJ’s review and acceptance of our assessments. CSA will provide documentation, answer any questions, and offer sample assessments to AHJ’s. CSA does require that an approved authority or agency proctor your assessment. This means that CSA will have to establish a location where the individuals’ identification can be verified and an independent observer can watch over the assessment process. No special equipment or software is required. Therefore, CSA staff can generally arrange a location such as the AHJ’s office, a local library, a school or university, or professional learning/assessment center. A testing location can generally be arranged within a couple days.

For additional information visit www.csaexams.com, email info@csaexams.com, or call 501-679-3345.