

# American Backflow Prevention Association

## Voluntary Certification Program

### Cross-Connection Control Specialist - FAQ's

#### What Is It?

The ABPA maintains a voluntary certification program for those individuals meeting all of the requirements of the RULES governing the program. A Cross-Connection Control Specialist is a person who demonstrated the knowledge, which may be used to administer a Cross-Connection Control program.

#### Where Is The ABPA Certification Accepted?

Most States or Provinces do not have mandated Specialist programs; therefore, you will find that different areas may have very different requirements. In many jurisdictions where there are no local certification programs, the ABPA Specialist Certification may be recognized. Check with your local water or health departments to determine if the ABPA Specialist Certification is recognized in your area.

#### Do I Really Need to be Certified?

Yes! Certification means that you have met minimum requirements as a Cross-Connection Control Specialist.

#### How Do I Qualify to be ABPA Certified?

You must currently be certified as a Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester\*  
(\*see Specialist rules for specific requirements)

You must either obtain the proper training or have prior experience, or a suitable combination of both.

**Training** - Training in the administration of a Cross-Connection Control program.

**Experience** - Show at least two (2) years of experience in the administering of a Cross-Connection Control program.

#### How Much Does the ABPA Specialist Certification Cost?

Application Fee is \$75

#### Do I Have to Take a Test?

**Yes.** A closed book written examination must be successfully completed.

#### What's on the Test?

**Written Exam** - The written exam is a multiple-choice type of exam covering subjects contained on the ABPA Specialist Need-to-Know Criteria.

#### How do I sign up?

**Get Application** – Available for download from the ABPA web site: [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org). Also phone, fax, or email the Administrator or National Office to request an application.

**Submit Application** - Fill out an application for Specialist certification and submit it, with \$75 *check, money order, or credit card* (MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express) payment at least thirty (30) days prior to the examinations.

#### Where & When are Tests Offered?

Information is available from the ABPA web site: [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org) or contact the National Office or the Administrator for schedule of exams. Exams are generally offered at various times throughout North America.

#### What do I get?

A qualified applicant who successfully completes the written examination will receive a wall certificate containing your name, date of certification, and certification number. A wallet card is also provided.

**How long does my ABPA Certification last?**

The Specialist Certification is valid for a period of three (3) years. Six months before your certification expires, you will receive a notice that it is time to *recertify*. You will need to submit a \$75 Recertification Fee, and arrange to take the recertification examination.

**Do I need to take another test to recertify?**

Yes. You will be required to take a recertification examination.

**What if I have additional questions?**

Contact the Administrator or National Office by phone, fax, or email.

**Administrator**

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