

North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP)
PV Installer Certification - F.A.Q.



Download the *NABCEP Candidate Information Handbook* from www.nabcep.org for detailed and current information

Q: What are the requirements to become NABCEP PV Installer Certified?

A: Successfully achieving NABCEP PV Installer certification requires a combination of training, experience, and testing. The NABCEP Board and PV Technical Committee identified five different entry tracks for solar PV installer certification. These can also be found in the *NABCEP Candidate Information Handbook*. To qualify to sit for the NABCEP PV Installer Certification examination, the candidate must demonstrate that he/she meets at least one of the following minimum entry requirement tracks:

- a) Experience installing PV systems occurring at some point in the two (2) years prior to submitting an application for the exam in addition to the completion of 40 hours cumulative of training (find the definition of experience and training below or in Sections 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 in the Candidate Information Handbook); OR
- b) Be an existing licensed contractor in good standing in solar or electrical construction-related areas with experience installing PV systems occurring at some point in the two (2) years prior to submitting an application for the exam in addition to the completion of 40 hours cumulative of training (find the definition of experience and training below or in Sections 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 in the Candidate Information Handbook); OR
- c) Four (4) years of electrical construction-related experience working for a licensed contractor, including experience installing PV systems occurring at some point in the two (2) years prior to submitting an application for the exam in addition to the completion of 40 hours cumulative of training (find the definition of experience and training below or in Sections 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 in the Candidate Information Handbook); OR
- d) Three (3) years experience in a U.S. Dept. of Labor-approved electrical construction trade apprentice program, including experience installing PV systems occurring at some point in the two (2) years prior to submitting an application for the exam in addition to the completion of 40 hours cumulative of training (find the definition of experience and training below or in Sections 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 in the Candidate Information Handbook); OR
- e) Two (2)-year electrical construction-related, or electrical engineering technology, or renewable energy technology/technician degree from an educational institution or four (4)-year construction-related or engineering degree from an educational institution, including experience installing PV systems occurring at some point in the two (2) years prior to submitting an application for the exam (find the definition of experience below or in Sections 3.2.3 in the Candidate Information Handbook);

Q: What does it cost to become NABCEP PV Installer Certified?

A: NABCEP Fee Schedule: (see www.nabcep.org for current fees)

Application Fee:	\$100
First time fee to sit for the any NABCEP certification exam:	\$300
Re-examination fee:	\$200
Recertification Fee (every three years):	\$300

Q: Once certified, how long does the NABCEP PV Installer certification last?

A: Three (3) years.

Q: How do I maintain my NABCEP PV Installer certification?

A: (see www.nabcep.org for detailed recertification requirements)

Installation Requirements - To maintain certification, the certified installer must document the completion of three (3) Qualifying PV Systems over the course of the three-year certification period.

Continuing Education Requirements - In addition to the Installation Requirements detailed above, certificants must accrue a minimum number of eighteen (18) contact hours of continuing education during each recertification cycle, which is a three (3) year period.