What is the CST Program?

CST is a comprehensive national certification program for survey technicians, and is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors. The program is recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor within its National Apprenticeship Program. The Certified Survey Technician Board administers the program, which is intended to gauge technical capabilities and general knowledge of workplace safety and procedures.

Four levels of certification are offered in two primary tracks — field and office. Certification is by examination, which must be monitored by an approved Proctor.

The goals of the program are:

- Recognizing the important contribution that technicians provide to the surveying and mapping profession.
- Providing credentials to technicians.
- Providing a career ladder for technicians.
- Providing firms who support and utilize certified technicians a way to evaluate applicants and an opportunity to promote the fact that their technical staff is certified.
- Identifying those who have achieved specific technical competencies.
- Providing use as an assessment tool.

Online training programs are available at: learn cst.com

This site is simply one tool available to students to help them prepare for the NSPS CST examination. The material on this site and the questions for each quiz should not be considered a comprehensive treatment of the surveying subjects presented nor relied upon as a sole source of information in preparation for the exam. The quiz questions may or may not fully represent the type and content of the questions the student will actually see on the CST exam. Each student must assess their current level of competency and pursue further study beyond this site in order to successfully complete their CST exam.

Future-proof your surveying career

“Surveying companies are gaining a competitive advantage by making CST Certification ‘the new normal’ expectation for their surveying technicians.”

RICHARD BROOKS, CST COORDINATOR, NEW YORK BROOKS AND BROOKS LAND SURVEYING

NSPS
Certified Survey Technician

Certify your skills and abilities through the NSPS Certified Survey Technician Program.

MORE INFO: nsps.us.com

Future-proof your surveying career

National Society of Professional Surveyors
5119 Pegasus Court, Suite Q
Frederick, Maryland 21704
ph 240.439.4615 | fax 240.439.4952

nsps.us.com
The Value of Certification

Certification as a survey technician is official recognition by NSPS that a person has demonstrated that he or she is competent to perform surveying tasks at a specified technical level. Certification provides the individual with a sense of achievement, since it reflects advancement in the field of surveying. Certification also provides employers with a method of determining job assignments and advancement, since certification is an indication of one’s ability to perform specific job tasks.

Use as an Assessment Tool

The CST exam can be used as an excellent outcomes assessment tool for courses, programs, and schools. The CST program can be used to satisfy accreditation requirements. Private industry can also use the CST program as an assessment tool for promotions, human resources evaluations, and career advancement and recognition.

CST Program Fact Sheet

What: The Certified Survey Technician program is a four-level certification program for surveying technicians throughout the United States.

Why:
- To provide recognition to the survey technicians in public and private practice.
- To provide objectives for improvement and advancement for field and office survey technicians.
- To give employers a way of judging the qualifications of potential employees.

How:

**All Levels**
- Open-book exams.
- Certificate suitable for framing.
- Annual renewal of certification is $40 (reinstatement fee: $10).
- Available online and on paper. Both formats must be proctored.

**Level I through III**
- Quarterly testing nationwide.
- Examinations from four to six hours in length.
- Multiple choice questions.
- If failed, no need to reapply within a one-year period; just pay examination fee for retesting.

**Level IV**
- Cycle I applications are due on or before December 15.
- Cycle III applications are due on or before June 15.
- Take-home exam format.
- Two months to complete.
- Essay/report form.
- Must hold active Level III certification.

Discounts for students, active military and veterans. We also offer group discounts for 10 or more at the same location. Contact NSPS for more information.

240.439.4615 | nsps.us.com | cstinformation@nsps.us.com