



# NABCEP Certifications

November 2025



# NABCEP - Certification Data

## Industry Updates:

- In 2024, companies reported a jump from 11% to 30% in the share of employees holding NABCEP certifications—nearly a threefold increase in just one year!
- 36% of hiring managers in the solar industry ranked industry certification as one of the top four most important traits when evaluating candidates.



**Reference:** [NEW: 2024 Solar Industry Survey Report Just Released! - NABCEP](#)

# NABCEP - Certification Data



## Benefits:

- **Helps you get hired:** employers are actively seeking certified talent.
  - 35% found employment via certification
- **Better pay:** certification equates to a noticeable salary bump.
  - \$11,000 average annual salary increase
  - 70% received a salary boost post-certification
- **Faster placement:** especially for job seekers.
- **Career progression:** for some, certification is the gateway to running their own company.
  - 26% of certified professionals started own business ventures



# NABCEP Certifications



# PV Certification Requirements

NABCEP Board Certified Professionals earn over \$11k more per year after getting Board Certified.



Along with increasing your earning potential, NABCEP Board Certifications signal to employers, customers and stakeholders that you're serious about your career. That's why over 26% of NABCEP Board Certified Professionals end up opening their own businesses.

NABCEP Board Certifications are earned by demonstrating your training, experience, and passing a rigorous exam. Board Certifications positively impact your career by giving you:

- Increased marketability
- Validation of knowledge
- Enhanced reputation, credibility, & consumer confidence

Each of NABCEP's Board Certifications have different professional experience and training requirements. To figure out which one fits you best, check out the requirements for NABCEP's Board Certifications in photovoltaics listed here.

## Project Credits

- 2 project credits for systems 999kW and under
- 3 project credits for systems 1MW and over

## Sales Credits

- 2 Sales Credits for systems under 25kW
- 3 Sales Credits for systems between 25kW and 1MW
- 4 Sales Credits for projects larger than 1MW

## PV Installer Specialist

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 24 hours of advanced PV installation training (all from an accredited institution)
- 6 Project Credits with supporting documentation
- Proof of decision-making role (DMR)
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

## PV Design Specialist

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 24 hours of advanced PV design training (all from an accredited institution)
- 12 Project Credits with supporting documentation
- Proof of decision-making role (DMR)
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

## PV Installation Professional

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 58 hours of advanced PV training (40 from an accredited institution)
- 6 Project Credits with supporting documentation
- Proof of decision-making role (DMR)
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

## PV System Inspector

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

## PV Technical Sales Professional Certification

### Category A

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 58 hours of advanced PV training (40 from an accredited institution)
- 8 Sales Credits with supporting documentation
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

### Category B

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 58 hours of advanced PV training (40 from an accredited institution)
- Advanced degree in renewable energy, Electrician's license (Master or Journeyman), or Solar Contractor's License
- 4 Sales Credits with supporting documentation
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

## PV Commissioning & Maintenance Specialist

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 24 hours of advanced PV commissioning, operations, and/or maintenance training (all from an accredited institution)
- 12 Project Credits with documentation
- Proof of decision-making role (DMR)
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

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## PV Certification

PV Installer  
Specialist  
Certification

### PV Installer Specialist

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 24 hours of advanced PV installation training (all from an accredited institution)
- 6 Project Credits with supporting documentation
- Proof of decision-making role (DMR)
- Sign and agree to uphold the NABCEP Code of Ethics
- Board Certification exam (scheduled on-demand)

Certifications positively impact your career by giving you:

### PV Installation Professional

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 58 hours of advanced PV training (40 from an accredited institution)
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### PV Technical Sales Professional Certification

#### Category A

- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 58 hours of advanced PV training (40 from an accredited institution)
- 8 Sales Credits with supporting documentation
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- OSHA 10 in Construction Industry
- 58 hours of advanced PV training (40 from an accredited institution)
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## ASSOCIATE CREDENTIALS

	APPLICATION	EXAM	RE-EXAM	RENEWAL	NABCEP EL CONVERSION‡	DOCUMENT REPLACEMENT
PV ASSOCIATE (PVA)	\$25.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$25.00	\$25.00



## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

	APPLICATION	EXAM	RE-EXAM	RECERTIFICATION	LATE RECERTIFICATION**	DOCUMENT REPLACEMENT
<b>PV INSTALLATION PROFESSIONAL (PVIP)</b> Requires 6 project credits* with decision-making role, OSHA 10, & 58 hours of training	\$125.00	\$375.00	\$275.00	\$390.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
<b>PV TECHNICAL SALES (PVTS)</b> Requires sales proposals & OSHA 10	\$125.00	\$375.00	\$275.00	\$390.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
<b>PV DESIGN SPECIALIST (PVDS)</b> Requires 12 project credits* with decision-making role in system design, OSHA 10, & 24 hours of training	\$125.00	\$375.00	\$275.00	\$390.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
<b>PV INSTALLER SPECIALIST (PVIS)</b> Requires 6 project credits* with decision-making role in installation, OSHA 10, & 24 hours of training	\$125.00	\$375.00	\$275.00	\$390.00	\$50.00	\$25.00

# NABCEP - Associate Certification

## Audience

- Entry level workers

## Career Launchpad

- May support pathways into PV Design, PV Technical Sales or Heat Pumps

## Enhanced Employability

- Preferred qualification by employers, especially for entry-level roles.
- Helps trainees access internships, apprenticeships, or training-to-employment pathways.
- Adds credibility, especially when applying for jobs in states that value NABCEP standards or require NABCEP certification.



# PV Installer Specialist (PVIS) Certification



## Eligibility Requirements

- **Minimum age:** 18 years
- **Pre-requisites:**
  - At least 24 hours of advanced PV installation training, including:
    - 18 hours aligned with the PVIS Job Task Analysis (JTA)
    - 6 hours of National Electrical Code (NEC) training
  - **Safety:** Completion of OSHA 10-hour Construction Industry Training
  - **Experience:** Documented installation experience in a decision-making role, totaling 6 project credits
- **Exam:** 70-question multiple choice exam, taken in-person or via remote proctoring

# PV Installer Specialist (PVIS) Certification



## **IBT Alignment:**

- IBT provides NABCEP-recognized Continuing Education Units (CEUs) aligned with the PVIS JTA.
- IBT fulfills the 24 hour training requirement.
- Ideal for trainees pursuing hands-on installation roles.

# PV Installation Professional (PVIP) Certification

## Eligibility Requirements:

- **Prerequisites:**
  - **Training:**
    - 58 hours of advanced PV training
    - 10 hours of OSHA Construction Industry Training
  - **Experience:** Completion of PV installations totaling 6 project credits, with documentation of system details and the applicant's role
  - **Exam:** Covers design, installation, commissioning, and maintenance; can be taken before completing experience under the Board Eligible pathway
  - **Board Eligible Option:** Allows candidates to take the exam first and submit experience later (within 3 years)



# PV Installation Professional (PVIP) Certification



## **IBT Alignment:**

- IBT contributes toward the 58-hour training requirement.
- Trainees can stack IBT with additional coursework and experience to qualify for PVIP.
- Ideal for those aiming for supervisory, design, or project management roles.

# NABCEP - Associate Certification

## Eligibility

- **Education Pathway:** Complete a course with a Registered NABCEP Associate Provider (online or in person)
  - <https://coursecatalog.nabcep.org/>
  - GRID is working on becoming an Associate Provider

## OR

- **Experience Pathway:** Document at least 6 months of full-time employment related to the technology
  - 910 hours of experience (26 weeks x 35 hours)
  - SolarCorps fellowships can count towards these hours



# NABCEP Resources

# NABCEP Resources



## Website:

- [NABCEP Home - NABCEP](#)

## Scholarships and Grants:

- **Les Nelson Scholarship Fund for Volunteers :** [Les Nelson Scholarship - NABCEP](#)
- **DOE–NABCEP Veteran Workforce Program:** [DOE Awards NABCEP Funding for Program With Veterans - NABCEP](#)
  - *Who: Veterans training in solar installation and seeking leadership roles.*
- **DOE- State Energy Program Funding:** [Alternative Fuels Data Center: State Energy Program \(SEP\) Funding](#)

## NABCEP Career Page:

- [Career Resources](#)