



Information for New Concrete Laboratory Applicants

This document supplements the information contained in the document “CCIL Concrete Testing Laboratory Certification Program” and provides a more informal description of the certification process for new applicants considering certification of a concrete testing laboratory.

CCIL certifies concrete laboratories in accordance with the requirements of CSA Standard A283-06 “Qualification code for concrete testing laboratories”. The following documents are relevant to the certification process and are available on the CCIL website:

- i) CCIL Concrete Testing Laboratory Certification Program Description;
- ii) CCIL Concrete Testing Laboratory Certification Program - Compliance Report;
- iii) CCIL Concrete Testing Laboratory Certification Checklist;
- iv) Training and Certification of Concrete Technicians.

In addition, the laboratory must purchase copies of CSA Standard A283-06 (reaffirmed 2016) “Qualification code for concrete testing laboratories”, CSA Standard A23.1-14 “Concrete materials and methods of concrete construction” and CSA Standard A23.2-14 “Test methods and standard practices for concrete” (including Update No. 1 dated September 2015).

The certification process begins when the laboratory completes an application through the CCIL Portal (<https://portal.ccil.com>). The laboratory’s supervising engineer or the laboratory’s main contact may create a login and fill out the Application for Services. However only the Supervising Engineer will be authorized to submit it to CCIL. The following steps are involved in completing an application:

- Register and create a password.
- Provide the name and address of the laboratory, and contact information for the supervising engineer and main contact person (commonly, but not necessarily, the laboratory supervisor).
- Enter the Category of certification requested, and any additional tests (if applicable).
- Upload the CV of the supervising engineer (to comply with Clause 5.2.2 of CSA A283), the organization chart for the laboratory (to comply with Clause 5.2.3 of CSA A283) and a Letter of Undertaking (a template that complies with Clause 5.4.1 of CSA A283 is available for download).
- The names of all Field Technicians and Laboratory Technicians, and the test methods for which certification is requested.

The three categories (basic, intermediate and advanced, otherwise identified as 0, 1 and 2 respectively) are defined in CSA A283-06. A Category 0 laboratory may apply to be certified to

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mould and test flexural specimens in addition to the basic tests. Laboratories certified at the intermediate or advanced category may also apply to be certified to perform any of the additional tests listed in Clause 6.4 of A283-06 and test methods CSA A23.2-22C and 23C. Field technicians must complete a written (closed book) examination and a practical examination. Laboratory technicians must complete a written (open book) examination and demonstrate competence in the laboratory test methods. The test methods included in each category are given in A283-06. Details of the examinations are given in the document "Training and Certification of Concrete Technicians".

Concrete field technicians passing the written and practical examinations are issued CCIL certification cards valid for a period of 5 years. The certification of laboratory technicians is also valid for five years. Individual cards are not issued to laboratory technicians because the examination results are recorded in the Exam Results letter sent to the laboratory by the CCIL Certification Office.

Upon receipt of the application, the laboratory will be contacted by CCIL to review the application and answer any questions relating to the certification process. An invoice for the annual maintenance fee (used to cover program overheads) will be issued. Upon receipt of payment, the laboratory will be contacted by a CCIL Inspector to arrange for an audit. The inspector will complete the CCIL Compliance Report and the CCIL Checklist at the time of his visit, and also conduct the written and practical examination of the technicians. The cost of the inspector's visit will be invoiced following completion of the audit.

In addition to the requirements contained in the CSA A283-06, there is a requirement for correlation testing of a minimum of twelve concrete cylinders to ensure the acceptability of test results for compressive strength. Six cylinders must be cast and tested by technicians employed by the new laboratory and the results compared with those from six cylinders (from the same batch of concrete) cast and tested by technicians from a CCIL certified laboratory. The concrete shall be commercial ready-mixed concrete having a specified strength of not less than 25 MPa at 28 days. All testing is to be done in accordance with CSA A23.2-1C, A23.2-3C and A23.2-9C, and the final report must include the test results reported by the two laboratories on each laboratory's Concrete Test Report form. It is preferable that the cylinders be tested at age 28 days, although results from cylinders tested at age 7 days will be accepted where the correlation testing is the only outstanding item in the certification process, and providing that the specified strength of the concrete is not less than 30 MPa at 28 days. Where cylinders are tested at age 7 days, all twelve cylinders must be tested age 7 days.

A list of all CCIL concrete certified laboratories is posted on our web site at www.ccil.com.

Following certification, concrete testing laboratories are audited annually to verify continued compliance with the requirements of CSA A283-06.

For further information, please contact the CCIL Certification Office by phone at 289 337 8888 or by email to gkermath@ccil.com.

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