**Structures Inspector**

**Requirements:**

Prequalification as Project Inspector

 AND

Advanced Structures Test

 AND

NICET Highway Construction Level III with Structures Work Elements

**How to get training/Certification:**

Advanced Structures Testing

Offered only by ODOT see Office of Construction Management’s web page for further information

[http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/ConstructionMgt/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/ConstructionMgt/Pages/default.aspx)

**National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET)**

NICET has established the following criteria for certification in Highway Construction:

* Sufficient appropriate work experience
	+ Work History Form - a detailed description of responsibilities and job tasks for each position held
* Successful performance on a written exam based on job tasks
* Supervisor verification of job task competency
	+ Work Element Verification Form - supervisor attests that he or she has witnessed performance of that work element's tasks repeatedly and competently
* A personal recommendation is required at Levels III and IV

**NICET Highway Construction Level III** intermediate-level technicians who, under little or no daily supervision, work with standards, plans, specifications, and instructions (at least 5 years relevant experience)must pass 6 general and 6 special Level I work element tests, 6 general and 14 Level II tests and 10 general and 3 Level III tests (to meet ODOT’s Structures Inspector requirements **these 3 must be: Construction of Concrete Structures, Construction of Steel Structures and Construction of Composite Structures)**

How long does it take and how much does it cost?

Since only 34 work elements can be tested at any time and Level III requires 45 work element tests you would have to take the first 34 at one location in Cycle 3 and go to a different location to take the balance of the tests or wait until Cycle 4. So it could be done **as early as 6 months** if you take all the tests in the same cycle or **worst case 1 year** if you begin at the worst case in the cycle and take tests in two different cycles. (2x$260 + $250 = **$770)**

Testing Process

Currently the tests are paper and pencil format but are being transitioned to computer based testing. The tests are made up of multiple-choice questions, designed to be answered with little difficulty by those who regularly perform the tasks within the covered areas. The tests will be custom-made according to the work elements requested. The work element descriptions in the program detail manual give a good idea of what material will be tested in each work element. The examination is open-book; standards, references, and calculators (computers are not allowed) are allowed. The time limit will be based on the specific questions. The maximum time allowed (for a maximum of 34 work element tests) will be 420 minutes with 1 hour for lunch.

Exam test centers and exam dates for 2013 in Ohio are shown at:

<http://www.nicet.org/candidates/scheduling.cfm>. The flat fee for up to 34 work element tests is $260. In specific instances testing can be offered with a reduced fee for mass testing.

Applications must be received 7 weeks prior to the testing date. Applicants will be sent confirmation letters 30 days prior to the testing date. Applicants will receive their scores about 2 weeks after the exam. If examination requirements are met NICET will then evaluate work history and performance verifications. About 90 days after the test applicant will receive either a NICET certificate and approval letter/wallet card or a letter explaining criteria that remains unmet. The applicant is then given a chance to submit the missing criteria.

The fee for review of the work history and performance verification runs from $78 dollars to $354 depending on the current certification level and the certification level being requested. That fee includes one subsequent review of additional information if necessary.

Re-certification

Certifications are good for three years. At the end of each 3 year period an applicant must document 90 points of continuing professional development activities (2 points for each month worked up to 72 hours and various options of training, participation in professional programs, etc.) The fee to recertify is $172 for a single certification. Second and subsequent certifications are an additional $47 for another 3 year period.

Complete NICET Information can be found at: <http://www.nicet.org> and see Programs then choose Transportation: Highway Construction