

The Facts about CWI Endorsements

The answers to these questions should give you a better understanding of the supplemental inspection credentials.

There has been much discussion about the purpose and function of supplemental inspection credentials, also known as “endorsements.” The AWS Certification Committee has always held and continues to hold the CWI as the internationally recognized best program for certification of welding inspection personnel. The CWI is considered able to inspect welds to any industry standard or code regardless of which open book code exam was used, provided the CWI is deemed capable and qualified by the employer or contracting parties to inspect to the requirements of the specific standard used for the job.

With that in mind, and to clear up any confusion about supplemental inspection credentials, the following questions and answers present some facts about the program. Please note that this summary is provided for information only. Refer to AWS QC1, *Standard for Certification Of Welding Inspectors*, for specific requirements and additional information.

Q: What are endorsements?

A: Endorsements are supplemental inspection credentials available to all AWS Certified Welding Inspectors (CWIs) and Senior Certified Welding Inspectors (SCWIs).

Q: As a non-CWI, may I take these examinations as stand-alone exams?

A: The examinations offered as endorsements to the CWI/SCWI programs are also offered as standalone exams to non-CWIs/SCWIs who wish to enhance their educational background. Only a certificate of completion is issued to those who pass these exams as non-CWIs/SCWIs. Having passed any of these exams does not exempt one from having to take Part C (codebook portion) when applying for CWI certification.

Q: What effect does attaining an endorsement have on my status as a CWI or SCWI?

A: Endorsements do not change a CWI’s or SCWI’s status (past or present) as a Certified Welding Inspector. If a CWI or SCWI does not wish to take any of these supplemental inspection exams to acquire such endorsements, that does not change his/her status with AWS as a Certified Welding Inspector.

Q: What is the purpose Of endorsements?

A: Endorsements enhance a welding inspector’s credentials not supplant them.

Q: Why were endorsements developed?

A: Endorsements were created to broaden an inspector’s credentials, possibly permitting performance of inspections from which he/she was previously excluded due to customer or jurisdictional requirements.

Q: What benefit do endorsements have regarding nine-year recertification?

A: Committee-approved endorsements are another means by which CWIs and SCWIs may satisfy the examination and/or continuing education requirements for CWIs and SCWIs at their nine-year recertification.

Q: How will endorsements be noted?

A: Endorsements will only be listed on a card that is separate from the inspector’s CWI/SCWI card. It will only list the supplemental inspection exams that the individual passed to attain the endorsement(s). If an individual does not want such a card, none will be provided. A certificate for successfully passing the examination will also be issued.

Q: *Is this concept of endorsements used by other certifying organizations?*

A: Endorsements are used by other organizations that offer certification programs. The American Petroleum Institute (API), the National Board of Boiler Inspectors, and the American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT) are some organizations that use the endorsement concept for some of their programs.

Q: *What current endorsements are offered by AWS?*

A: Currently, the following examinations or certification programs may be considered as endorsements for CWIs and SCWIs if the candidate passes the exams. With the exception of AWS Structural Bolting Inspection exam, endorsement exams and the CRI count as full credit for 9-year CWI/SCWI recertification if obtained any time during the current 9-year cycle.

- a. AWS D1.1 Structural Steel *
- b. AWS D1.2 Structural Aluminum *
- c. AWS D1.5 Bridge Welding *
- d. AWS D15.1 Railroad *
- e. API 1104 Pipeline *
- f. AWS D17.1 Aerospace *
- g. AWS Structural Drawing Reading (Closed book)
- h. ASME Section IX, B31.1, + B31.3 *
- i. ASME Section VIII, Div. 1 and Section IX *
- j. AWS Certified Radiographic Interpreter (CRI) program *(also a stand-alone program and credential)*
- k. AWS Structural Bolting Inspection (Open book) - Earn 20 PDHs toward your 9-Year recertification

* Indicates an open codebook exam

Q: *What future endorsements will be offered by AWS?*

A: The following examinations are planned and will be offered in the near future:

- a. AWS Penetrant Testing exam

This information was prepared in cooperation with the AWS Certification Committee.



Endorsement Exam Application

Mail to: 8669 Doral Blvd. Suite 130 Doral, FL 33166-6640 (800) 443-9353 or (305) 443-9353, ext. 273

FAXED OR EMAILED APPLICATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED

APPLICANT'S LAST NAME
FIRST NAME MI
MAILING ADDRESS
ADDRESS CONT'D APT #
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER DATE OF BIRTH MM/DD/YY
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER WORK TELEPHONE NUMBER
MOBILE PHONE NUMBER
EMAIL ADDRESS (CONFIRMATION NOTIFICATION WILL BE SENT TO THIS ADDRESS)

METHOD OF PAYMENT
Please make checks payable to AWS
Payment must accompany your application.
Check or money order #
VISA MC AMEX Diners Discover
Credit Card #
Expiration Date
Signature
AWS USE ONLY
Date
Acct #
Amt \$ SIE

AWS Seminar/Exam Schedule- Please visit our website
http://www.aws.org/certification/seminarexam/

1. PLEASE INDICATE THE EXAM TYPE AND LOCATION OF YOUR CHOICE:
PLEASE ALLOW 3-4 WEEKS PROCESS TIME. CONFIRMATION LETTERS WILL BE EMAILED UNLESS EMAIL ADDRESS IS NOT INDICATED
1st Time Exam Re-Exam:
1st Site Code: Exam Date: City/State: *Submission Deadline:
2nd Site Code: Exam Date: City/State: *Submission Deadline:
3rd Site Code: Exam Date: City/State: *Submission Deadline:
NOTE: AWS strongly recommends the applicant indicate an alternate second and third site location. If the first choice is not available, registration will indicate the next available choice site. Please do not make any hotel or flight arrangements until you have received your exam confirmation letter from the Certification Department via email.

2. PLEASE CHECK AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
CURRENT CERTIFICATION STATUS
CAWI CWI CWE SCWI None
CERTIFICATION NUMBER YOUR AWS MEMBER NUMBER
FOR INDIVIDUAL CODE CLINICS/WORKSHOPS:
D1.1 CODE CLINIC (CODEBOOK NOT SUPPLIED)
API-1104 CODE CLINIC (CODEBOOK NOT SUPPLIED)
NONE/ EXAMINATION ONLY

Exam Fees-Please visit our website
http://www.aws.org/certification/pricelist/

AWS Policies and Fees- Please visit our website
http://www.aws.org/certification/policiesfees/

For code book editions and other exam information
please visit our websitehttp://www.aws.org/certification/endorsebok

3. PLEASE SELECT EXAM(S) OF THE FOLLOWING FORYOUR
ENDORSEMENT EXAM:
(OPEN BOOK FORMAT)
CODEBOOK EXAMS
AWS D1.1 – Structural Steel
AWS D1.2 – Structural Aluminum*
AWS D1.5 – Bridges *
AWS D15.1 – Railroad *
AWS D17.1 – Aerospace *
API-1104 – Pipelines
ASME Section IX, B31.1 and B31.3 *
ASME Sections VIII (Div 1) + IX *
Structural Drawing Reading *
*Code Clinic not available.
NON-CODEBOOK EXAMS
Structural Bolting Inspection (20 PDHs)