

10 Ways Business Can Benefit From NICET Certification

1. Licensing

NICET certification is specifically required for licensing considerations in more than 20 states. Although the specific requirements vary, some states require NICET certification for fire alarm system design and others for installation or service. The key point here is jurisdictions are looking for a way to ensure professionalism in the fire alarm systems industry and they are using NICET certification as the evaluation tool.

2. Specification Requirements

It is common today to find NICET certification listed as a requirement on job specifications. Without employees who have this certification, your business may be knocked out of the sales process before the bidding even starts. Federal projects and Military projects frequently specify NICET certification as a requirement. Any Veteran's Administration project has NICET certification specified. Also, it is becoming common for industrial and corporate projects to specify NICET certification. Although not all project specifications include a NICET requirement, it is specified enough to have an impact on your business if you are not able to even bid these projects.

3. Marketing Advantage

We all need an advantage these days. NICET certification is a way to distinguish your company from your competition. Being able to include this certification in your marketing and sales materials can be a big deal. Your team has something which is highly valued by building owners, general contractors and authorities having jurisdiction. That something is documented professionalism.

4. Employee Retention

Good employees are hard to find. Great employees are hard to keep. One of the key things employees look to their employers to provide is professional development. Employees value training and educational opportunities more than a pay raise according to the ASTD. As a business owner, you have felt the pain of losing a valued employee. Such turnover is costly, and will require the training of a replacement anyway. So no matter how you look at it, training is something which employers must provide. Providing your employees with the opportunity to achieve NICET certification may be just what they need to stay with your company.

5. Risk Mitigation

Being in business has risks. For those who design and install fire alarm systems, life safety systems, these risks are very real. Employees who make mistakes can be very costly in terms of time, equipment and potentially lawsuits. NICET certification cannot prevent an employee mistake. This certification can drastically reduce mistakes which are code violations. NICET certification is code based. The only way to achieve it is to know the code requirements. Your NICET certified employees are not likely to be involved in code violations which are a major source of lawsuits in the fire alarm industry. NICET certified employees can significantly reduce your risk.

6. Employee Evaluation Tool

Most businesses have a method for employee evaluation. NICET certification can provide a very effective employee evaluation tool, above and beyond your normal evaluation process. Getting certified is a process which requires some degree of dedication and determination. These are just the qualities which employers value in employees. If your employees are dedicated and determined to get NICET certified, chances are pretty good that they will apply that same dedication and determination to getting the job done.

7. Professional Development

The fire alarm industry is a code driven, and technology based industry. The codes change on a regular basis. The technology we use changes even more rapidly than the codes. Based on this, your work force needs to be kept up to date with both. NICET certification can help with this. Just like with any other program, NICET certification will not be all inclusive, but it will provide one method of keeping current.

8. Build Value in your Business

Real business value comes from processes and talent. Assets have some value but they are readily available to anyone. Process and talent is where the true value of a business can be found. One of the best ways to develop the talent of your business is through a verifiable, objective and independent third party. NICET certification provides verifiable, objective and independent evaluation of the skill level of your employees. NICET certification is a way for demonstrating the talent your business possesses. In the low voltage contracting business NICET is the most recognized certifying agency.

9. Cost Savings

Although there is an expense involved in getting your employees NICET certified, there is also a cost savings involved. The expense is direct, while the cost savings is indirect. The savings will come in the form of better work. This means fewer new install service calls due to installation error or code violation. This means fewer installation problems due to design errors. This means better working relationships with your AHJ's because your company has proven and verified professional skills. These indirect savings are not easy to identify when you have them. It is painfully obvious when these indirect savings are not being realized by your business however.

10. It is about LIFE SAFETY

Fire alarm systems are life safety systems. Occupants of a building depend on the life safety systems, such as fire alarm, in the event of a fire emergency. All industry professionals in the low voltage contracting business have a responsibility to ensure that the life safety systems we design, install and service live up to their role in saving lives should the need arise. NICET certification forces industry professionals to gain a deep understanding of the code requirements. Code compliant systems meet the expectation of life safety in a building. Although there are other ways to get a deep understanding of the code requirements, in our industry NICET certification is the recognized path for code compliance.

Why NTC?

NTC, provider of The Very Best in Training, offers training in NICET Fire Alarm Certification via live, webinar, and online self-study training, as well as Professional Reference Books. NTC students have a 92% success rate passing the NICET exam the first time. We're so confident in your success that we GUARANTEE it. If you don't pass the exam, we'll work with you until you do!

For details, visit www.NationalTrainingCenter.net



NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER

THE VERY BEST IN TRAINING