

Communications Technician

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: What do I need to work in the Communications Technician trade in Nova Scotia?

You require a Certificate of Competency issued by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Building, Fire and Technical Safety Division.

Question: How do I obtain a Certificate of Competency?

1. If you have communications cabling theory training and experience and:

- are a certified Construction Electrician

you may be eligible to receive the Communications Technician Certificate of Competency without challenging the certification exam.

OR

2. If you have communications cabling theory training and experience (typically 3 years) and:

- are a certified Industrial Electrician; or
- are a certified Electrical Engineering Technologist or Technician; or
- have basic electronics training; or
- have utility communications theory training (i.e. Aliant, etc.); or
- have other training and experience relevant to communications cabling

you may be eligible to challenge the Communications Technician certification exam in order to receive your Certificate of Competency.

- Notes:**
1. A cabling permit is required for most types of communications cabling work. For more information, visit the Labour and Advanced Education website: www.novascotia.ca/snsmr/paal/lae/paal240.asp
 2. In order to obtain a cabling permit, you must be certified in the Communications Technician trade.
 3. Although this trade is not currently compulsory certified, when the cabling work is exempt from requiring a permit, the individual performing the work must be certified. Refer to section 13 of the Electrical Code Regulations for the exemptions: www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/eiicode.htm
 4. Changes are being proposed (for tentatively spring of 2013) that may require individuals in this trade to be licensed in order to perform any communications cabling work. These changes will be noted on the following webpage: www.novascotia.ca/lae/electricalsafety

For more information about how to obtain a Certificate of Competency, contact the Provincial Chief Electrical Inspector:

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www.novascotia.ca/lae/publicsafety/electricalsafety.asp