

## QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIAL INSPECTORS

The minimum qualifications listed below are from the IAS Document AC291-Accreditation Criteria for IBC Special Inspection Agencies and are given for examples of qualifications. Experience is hard replace with education and where the responsible professional for an agency provides his signature as evidence of competency for the special inspector, it should be respected. Ultimately, the IBC places the responsibility for approval of special inspectors and special inspection agencies upon the building official.

### Experience

1. In order for experience to count toward qualifications, it must be based on verifiable work directly related to the category or type of inspection involved.
2. An engineering degree (BS) plus appropriate in-house training may be substituted for not more than one year of experience. An engineering technology degree (AA) plus appropriate in-house training may be substituted for not more than six months of experience. (Degree experience may not be substituted for more than half of the experience requirements in any category.)
3. Five or more years experience as a qualified special inspector in one or more category, at the discretion of the (agency's) responsible professional engineer.

### Certification

Certification, when specified, is intended to mean successful completion of an ICC examination appropriate to the category of work involved.

### Special Inspector in Training

1. The intent of this provision is to provide practical opportunities for an inspector to gain the needed experience to qualify as a special inspector.
2. An inspector who does not meet the qualifications for special inspector may be allowed to perform "special inspection" at the discretion of the agency's responsible professional engineer, provided one or more of the following conditions are met:
  - a. Individual is working under direct and continuous supervision of a special inspector fully qualified for the type of work involved.
  - b. Individual is working under indirect or periodic supervision of a special inspector, and the scope of work is minor and/or routine and within the capabilities of the individual.
  - c. Individual is specifically approved by the building official.

## Minimum Qualifications for Special Inspectors

### CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION (PRESTRESSED AND REINFORCED)

#### 1. PRESTRESSED

Current certification in ICC prestressed concrete inspection.

#### 2. REINFORCED

**2.1** Current certification in Reinforced Concrete Special Inspection by ICC (see note below)

**2.2** P.E. and a minimum one year of direct experience in reinforced concrete construction. Applicant must be qualified under Section 6.2 within 12 months of accreditation.

**2.3** Bachelor's degree in Civil or Structural Engineering from an accredited institution and a minimum two years of experience. Applicant must be qualified under Section 6.2 within 12 months of accreditation.

**2.4** ACI Concrete Construction Inspector and a minimum one year of experience.

**NOTE** Passing the ICC exam on reinforced concrete special inspection or having the reinforced concrete associate certification will not be considered without meeting the education/work experience requirements by ACI and ICC.

#### 3. NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING (NDT)

**3.1** Current American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT) Level II as determined by Level III Examiner and a minimum one year of direct testing experience.

**3.2** Personal qualified in accordance with nationally-recognized NDT personnel qualifications practice or standard, such as ANSI/ASNT-CP-189 or SNT-TC-1A.

#### 4. PIER AND PILE FOUNDATIONS

**4.1** Current ICC certification in Reinforced Concrete Special Inspections.

**4.2** P.E. and a minimum one year of experience.

**4.3** NICET III or IV (geotechnical/construction or construction material testing/soils) and a minimum five years of experience.

**4.4** NICET CT Certified Engineering Technologist and a minimum five years of experience.

#### 5. POSTINSTALLED STRUCTURAL ANCHORS IN CONCRETE

**5.1** Current ICC certification as a Residential or Commercial Building Inspector, as applicable, and a minimum two years of experience in the activity being inspected.

**5.2** P.E. and a minimum one year of experience in the activity being inspected.

**5.3** Bachelor's degree in Civil or Structural Engineering from an accredited institution and a minimum two years of experience in the activity being inspected.

**6. SOILS**

**6.1** NICET II, III, IV or CT (geotechnical/construction or construction material testing/soils) and a minimum two years of experience.

**6.2** Technician with a minimum three years of documented experience directly related to soils testing and inspection under a licensed P.E.

**6.3** Bachelors degree in Civil or Structural Engineering/Geologist from an accredited institution and a minimum two years of experience.

**6.4** P.E. in geotechnical engineering or equivalent P.E

**7. SPRAYED FIRE-RESISTANT MATERIALS**

**7.1** Current ICC certification as a Spray-applied Fireproofing Special Inspector.

**7.2** P.E. and a minimum one year of experience in fireproofing applications.

**7.3** Bachelor's degree in Civil or Structural Engineering from an accredited institution and a minimum two years of experience in fireproofing applications.

**8. STEEL (BOLTING AND WELDING)**

**BOLTING**

**8.1** Current ICC certification in structural steel and bolting and a minimum one year of experience

**WELDING**

**8.2** AWS Certified Welding Inspector (CWI).

**8.3** Current ICC certification in structural steel and welding and a minimum one year of experience.

**9. STRUCTURAL MASONRY CONSTRUCTION**

**9.1** Current ICC certification in masonry and a minimum one year of experience.

**9.2** P.E. and a minimum one year of relevant experience.

**9.3** Bachelor's degree in Civil or Structural Engineering from an accredited institution and a minimum two years of experience.

**10. STRUCTURAL WOOD CONSTRUCTION**

Current ICC certification as a commercial or residential building inspector, as applicable, and one of the following:

**10.1** A minimum two years of direct experience in engineered wood products, or

**10.2** A minimum five years of direct experience as a journeyman carpenter.

**11. SPECIAL CASES**

**11.1** Current ICC certification as a Special Inspector and a minimum two years of experience in the activity being inspected.

- 11.2** P.E. and a minimum one year of experience in the activity being inspected.  
**Exception:** Individuals who have proven expertise in a specialty field, either through education or field experiences of not less than five years, may be considered as meeting criteria to conduct one or more classes of specialty inspections.
- 11.3** Bachelor's degree in Civil or Structural Engineering from an accredited institution and a minimum two years of experience in the activity being inspected.

**Reference Abbreviations and Recognized Certifying Agencies**

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| 1.  | AA       | Associate of Arts   |
| 2.  | ACI      | American Concrete Institute                                       |
| 3.  | ACIA     | American Construction Inspectors Association                      |
| 4.  | ASTM     | American Society for Testing and Materials                        |
| 5.  | ASNT     | American Society for Nondestructive Testing                       |
| 6.  | AWS/ACWI | American Welding Society/Associate Certified Welding Inspector    |
| 7.  | AWS/CWI  | American Welding Society/Certified Welding Inspector              |
| 8.  | BS       | Bachelor of Science   |
| 9.  | IBC      | International Building Code                                       |
| 10. | NICET    | National Institute for Certification of Engineering Technologists |
| 11. | NRCA     | National Roofing Contractors Association                          |
| 12. | IAS      | International Accreditation Service                               |
| 13. | PDS      | Professional Development Services (Division of ICC)               |