



The Fiber Optic Association, Inc.

Tel: 1-760-451-3655 Fax: 1-781-207-2421
Email: info@thefoa.org <http://www.TheFOA.org>

What is The FOA?

The FOA is a international non-profit educational organization that is dedicated to promoting professionalism in the field of fiber optics through education, certification and standards. Founded in 1995 by a dozen prominent fiber optics trainers and industry personnel. As of the end of 2018, about 75,000 fiber techs have successfully completed requirements for the FOA CFOT® certification.

What Does the FOA Do for You?

- Helps you get trained and certified
- Confirms your certification to employers or customers
- Provides technical reference material
- Writes and co-operates on standards you will use every day
- Represents the industry on your behalf

What is FOA Certification?

Proof of competence in KSAs (knowledge, skills, abilities) administered by a recognized organization.

What Certifications Does the FOA Offer?

The FOA now offers certifications in basic fiber optics (CFOT), Premises Cabling (CPCT), and specialist certifications in a variety of FO specializations. For more information go to the "FOA Certifications" link at www.thefoa.org

What are the Benefits of FOA Certification?

In today's high tech world, certification is considered proof of professional status. FOA Certifications assure employers of worker competence and open up job opportunities, whether the worker is new to the industry or looking to move up.

Who recognizes FOA Certification?

A diverse group of organizations around the world who rely on workers with CFOT certification as proof of worker competence. The list includes telcos, military, government agencies at all levels, many major corporations and unions including IBEW and CWA.

FOA Certifications Recognized by US Department of Labor

All FOA Certifications have now been recognized by the US Department of Labor. The DoL reviews certifications and how they relate to job opportunities and training.

What Must I Do to Become FOA Certified Through an FOA-Approved School?

- Participate in class and hands-on labs
- Meet KSA requirements
- Show abilities and skills appropriate for certification, verified by your instructor
- Pass a written exam demonstrating your knowledge

How is My Certification Confirmed?

- Your school will give you a certificate with your FOA certification number and a receipt showing your grade
- FOA will add you to our database and send you a ID card showing your certification(s)
- Be sure to give us your permanent address and email so we may contact you regarding your certification.

What Happens if I Don't Pass the Exam?

- You may study and take the exam a second time
- Keep your exam receipt as a record of having taken the exam
- Study and reapply to be tested
- May take directly from FOA if not possible to return to same school



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How Do I Maintain my FOA Membership?

- The membership card you receive from the FOA will show your certification which needs to be renewed in one year.
- The FOA will email an renewal notice the month before your application expires. Ensure we have your correct email.
- You can also contact the FOA for details on how to renew your membership at the email above.
- Renewal for three years is \$100

What if My Certification/FOA Membership Expires?

- The record of the CFOT certification you received remains in the database but if you do not renew your membership, your status is considered "inactive"— meaning we cannot verify that the certification is current.
- Contact the FOA to find out about reinstating your certification at the email above.

Now That You Are Certified, How Can the FOA Help?

Jobs

The information on the FOA Jobs Page is designed to help you understand what jobs are available in fiber optics, how to find them and apply for them.

<http://www.thefoa.org/jobs/jobs.html>

We also run [job listings in our monthly online newsletter](#) and on the [FOA LinkedIn Group "The Fiber Optic Association Inc."](#)

Mailing List/Newsletter

FOA has an online monthly newsletter that is our "member magazine" and includes technical articles and industry news, plus links to other interesting online information. You can sign up to get an online notice when the newsletter is published and summaries of the articles.

Sign-up is a link at the top of FOA homepage.

FOA Online Guide

The FOA Online Guide is the world's largest and most used source of technical information on fiber optics and premises cabling. It's enormous - so big we have our own search feature just for the Guide. Bookmark the Guide for times when you need technical information. It is linked from the FOA Home Page: www.thefoa.org

The FOA's Fiber U Free Training Materials

Fiber U is the FOA online learning website. Here you will find free online self-study programs, tutorials, textbooks, videos, iPad apps and links to other FOA pages that will help you learn about fiber optics and premises cabling. Also monthly online newsletter covering industry news and technology.

LinkedIn

LinkedIn is the business network used by millions of professionals worldwide. FOA has a LinkedIn group "[The Fiber Optic Association Inc.](#)" for members that includes technical discussions, news and job opportunities and a "[Fiber Optic Training](#)" group devoted to online courses, announcements of training courses and discussions on training. Join LinkedIn if you are not already a member then join the FOA groups.

Also find us on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest, linked from the FOA homepage