



IPC Certified Standards Expert (CSE)

A CSE is an individual who has demonstrated the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to act as a subject matter expert for a specific IPC standard or group of standards. Unlike a Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) or Master IPC Trainer (MIT), a CSE is not required to conduct training during their two-year certification period.

- Is the subject matter expert on a specific IPC Standard
- Is the Standards Liaison between your organization and industry experts
- Updates your organization on the latest standards and best practices
- Provides feedback to IPC Standards Committees
- Interfaces with designers and process engineers
- Judges organizational conflicts and provides expert opinion on IPC standards

A CSE can be certified in one or more of the following IPC Standards:

- IPC-A-610
- IPC J-STD-001
- IPC/WHMA-A-620
- IPC-A-600
- IPC-6012
- IPC-7711/21

How does the CSE certification differ from the IPC Certified IPC Trainer (CIT)?

While both a CIT and CSE are required to demonstrate the same level of proficiency in understanding and applying a given IPC standard, there are some differences between the programs:

- CSEs are not trainers and are not required to train IPC Certified Specialists (CIS) as a requirement in order to be eligible for recertification
- Unlike a CIT, a CSE is not required to complete training prior to sitting for the certification exam.

CSE candidates must successfully complete the following exams:

1. Enhanced Policies and Procedures Exam
 - assesses knowledge of IPC P&P document and IPC Essentials program
 - comprised of closed book exam, 30 questions
 - 1-hour time limit

2. General Knowledge Exam

- assesses knowledge of content and structure common to all IPC standards
- comprised of a closed book exam, 30 questions
- 1-hour time limit

3. Standard Endorsement Exam

- assesses knowledge of content and structure of a specific IPC standard
- comprised of open book exam, 70 questions
- 2.5 hours to complete

Other Requirements/Information

- Certification is valid for two years
- Exam retakes are possible and explained in the Enhanced Policy and Procedures
- Candidates are only required to take the Standards Endorsement Exam for certification in additional standards