

UNDERSTANDING FOA CERTIFICATIONS

FOA Certifications are in three phases : The Primary certifications, the Skill Certifications and Applications Certifications

Click on any certification to jump to that certification's KSAs

Primary Certifications:

[CFOT](#), [CPCT](#), [CFOS/D](#)

Skills Certifications:

[CFOS/O](#), [CFOS/S](#), [CFOS/C](#), [CFOS/T](#), [CFOS/FC](#)

Applications

Certifications: [CFOS/H](#), [CFOS/DC](#), [CFOS/L](#), [CFOS/W](#), [CFOS/A](#), [CFOS/DAS](#)

FOA Certifications	Designation	Comments
<p>Primary Certifications</p> <p>These certifications are designed for techs without prior fiber optic experience who want to learn how to use fiber optics. Each course involves both knowledge and skills training. See FOA KSAs (knowledge, skills and abilities) for each certification.</p>		
Fiber Optics	<u>CFOT®</u>	Basic fiber optic course for all techs and all applications
Fiber Optic Network Design	<u>CFOS/D</u>	Basic fiber optic course focused on designing fiber optic networks The Design course is available online free at <u>Fiber U</u> with options for obtaining a certificate of completion or, for those with applicable experience, FOA CFOS/D certification.
Premises Cabling	<u>CPCT</u>	Premises cabling for LANs, DAS, security, building management

		systems, etc. covering copper, fiber and wireless

Skills For Techs/Installers

These courses are designed to train techs in the skills needed for fiber optic installation and provide sufficient practice to develop those skills

Fiber Optics For OSP	CFOS/O	Course focused on OSP (outside plant) construction and installation
Splicing	CFOS/S	How to splice fibers using fusion and mechanical splices
Connectors	CFOS/C	Overview of termination techniques and extensive labs to develop skills
Testing	CFOS/T	Comprehensive training on fiber optic testing techniques
Fiber Characterization	CFOS/FC	Advanced fiber optic testing including dispersion testing for long haul fibers

Applications for Contractors/Techs/Managers

These applications courses are open to anyone interested in learning how fiber is used in various applications. An introduction to fiber provides background for understanding the course. Those not interested in certification are welcome to take the course for a Certificate of Completion.

Fiber To The Home	CFOS/H	Comprehensive training on fiber to the home applications including standards, network architecture, design, installation and test
Optical LANs	CFOS/L	Overview of fiber optic LAN designs using structured cabling and passive optical network architectures
Data Centers	CFOS/DC	Design and implementation of data centers from small to mega- focused in larger data centers and upgrades to higher speeds
Fiber For Wireless	CFOS/W	How fiber optics is used to implement cellular, small cell, WiFi and other wireless networks

DAS – Distributed Antenna Systems	<u>CFOS/DAS</u>	How fiber optics is used in various DAS (cellular distributed antenna system) implementations
FTTA - Fiber To The Antenna	<u>CFOS/A</u>	How fiber optics is used in cellular fiber to the antenna applications.