

# candidate handbook



**NCQLP**

National Council on Qualifications  
for the Lighting Professions

Dear Candidate for Lighting Certification:

The NCQLP prepares the LC Candidate Handbook to assist you as a prospective candidate in deciding if you are ready to take the Lighting Certification Examination and to help you to prepare for it. It has been specifically developed by NCQLP and its testing agency, PSI Services, to direct you to the information you will need to study for and to take the LC Examination. If you review this manual carefully, we believe the material it contains and the advice it offers will be extremely valuable to you.

The Lighting Certification Program was established by the lighting industry in 1991. Both lighting organizations as well as several governmental agencies whose mission encompasses lighting have been involved since the beginning. Lighting Certification sets a baseline standard that covers the entire scope of the vast lighting field. Utilizing the NCQLP's testing mechanism, qualified individuals can earn their Lighting Certification designation. PSI, as NCQLP's professional testing agency, provides the expertise of an independent testing company to construct a valid and reliable examination that encompasses our entire field. The LC Examination is continuously reviewed by the NCQLP Examination Committee to ensure that the questions asked are current, comprehensive, fair and reflective of lighting applications as they are being practiced across our industry today.

The scope of the material covered within the Examination is quite comprehensive. Therefore, we encourage each candidate to thoroughly prepare to take this Examination. No matter what our level of experience, all of us have areas within lighting that are less familiar to us than others. The Lighting Certification Examination is broadly based. However, anyone who has the required background can be successful. Students as interns do equally well as practitioners. But, it is important to remember to pay particular attention to those areas in your study in which your involvement in lighting education or practice has been less extensive so you are thoroughly familiar with all aspects of lighting.

Of course, there are a number of ways to enhance your preparation. Some find it useful to become a part of a Study Group. (NCQLP does not become involved in any test study activities beyond the LC candidate handbook.) For others, it is more effective to study on their own. Or, you might do both to support your efforts to organize the reference texts in a meaningful way and identify topic areas within the Content Outline for which you feel you need to study in greater depth.

On behalf of all the NCQLP volunteers involved in this Program, we are pleased that you are interested in becoming Lighting Certified. We hope the information in this Handbook will contribute to your success in achieving this objective. It is very encouraging to see the growing commitment to excellence that lighting professionals are exhibiting and we look forward to your joining those within our field who have chosen to become Lighting Certified.

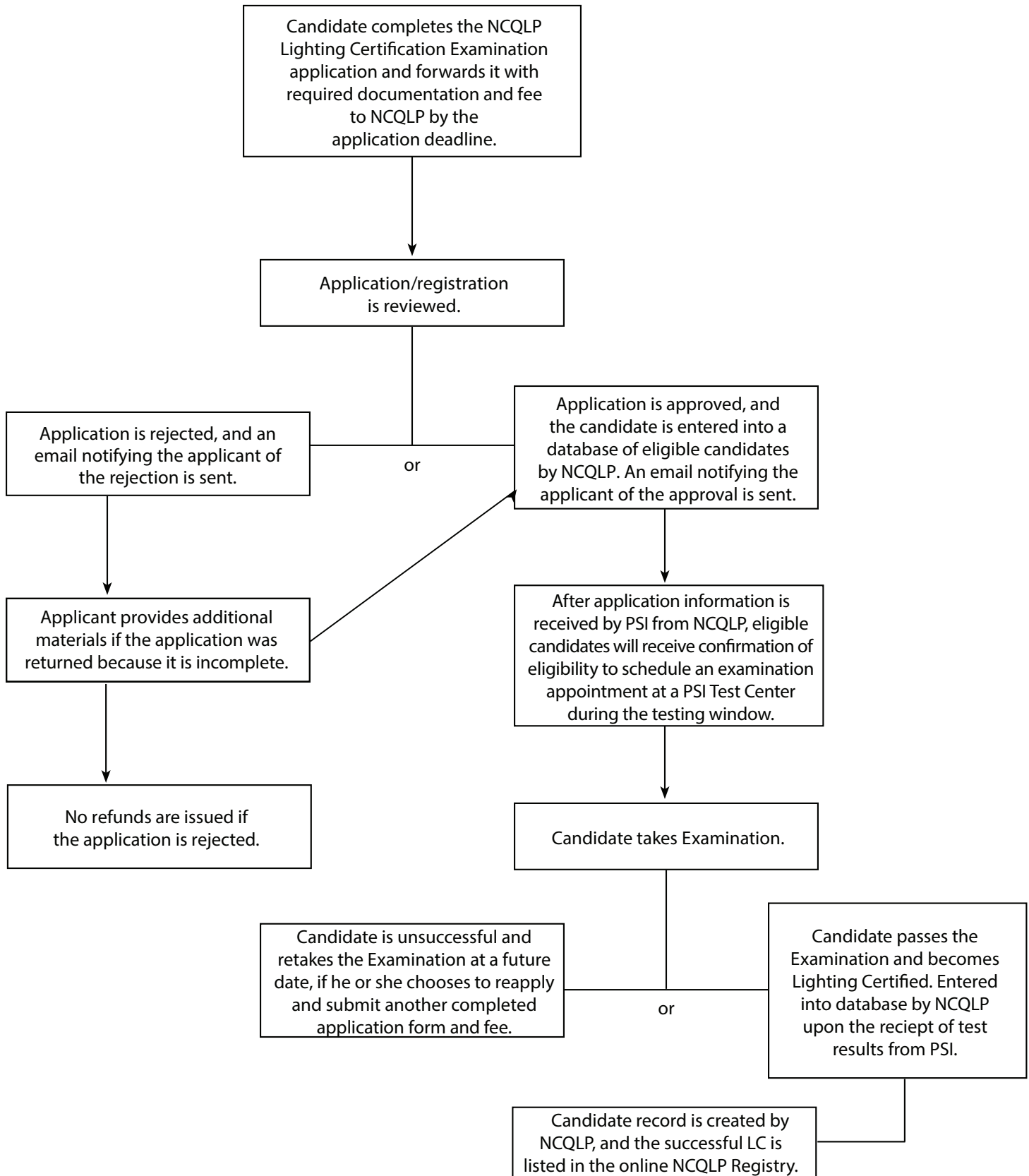


NCQLP Board of Directors

# NCQLP | Candidate Handbook

## i. NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination Process

The following flow chart helps explain the entire Lighting Certification application and examination process.



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Lighting is the single most important element in the visual environment. Effective lighting improves productivity and strengthens security. Lighting consumes up to 40 percent of the energy used in our buildings. A well-designed lighting system reduces energy, maintenance, and potential liability costs. Both public and private interests are served by more effective lighting and reduced operating costs. Rapid improvements in lighting systems and equipment offer potential solutions, yet they have also made lighting practice more complex.

As the lighting industry has grown, a number of efforts have been undertaken to differentiate knowledgeable and qualified lighting practitioners. As a result, a need was recognized for an independent, industry-wide credentialing effort. Such a program addresses multiple issues that include: safety, health, productivity, energy conservation and effectiveness, environmental concerns, governmental policy, lighting technology, and competent, knowledgeable lighting practice.

## 1. About NCQLP

The National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions (NCQLP) is an independent certifying body. NCQLP, a non-profit credentialing body composed of membership organizations, sponsors a baseline certification program for individuals in lighting and lighting related professions.

NCQLP is governed by a Board of Directors that represents its member organizations. Member organizations include the:

- Design Lights Consortium (DLC)
- Illuminating Engineering Society (IES)
- International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD)
- interNational Association of Lighting Management Companies (NALMCO)
- Lighting Research Center (LRC)
- National Association of Independent Lighting Distributors (NAILD)
- National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
- New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA)
- U.S. Department of Energy – (USDOE)

## 2. Testing Agency

PSI Services is the professional testing agency under contract with NCQLP to assist in the development, site management, scoring and analysis of the Lighting Certification Examination. PSI services also include reporting of scores to candidates who take the Examination. PSI is a leader in the testing industry, offering certification, licensing, talent assessment and academic solutions worldwide.

## 3. Statement of Nondiscrimination Policy

NCQLP and PSI do not discriminate among applicants on the basis of age, gender, race, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or marital status.

## 4. NCQLP Certification

NCQLP Certification is a voluntary, industry-led effort. It is a recognition of those professionals who have met specified minimum standards, as measured by a systematic evaluation of the likelihood of success in executing a set of skills. Those who successfully complete the LC Examination and maintain their certification are entitled to use the appellation LC, Lighting Certified, after their name.

## 5. NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination

NCQLP offers the Lighting Certification Examination for lighting professionals engaged in the design, installation, manufacture, sales, operation, and maintenance of lighting equipment and systems. The Examination tests both your knowledge of basic concepts and the design process as well as your ability to solve design problems.

The Lighting Certification Examination is a **200-question, 4-hour examination** split into two sections described below. All questions are multiple choice, and candidate performance is based on 180 scored questions. There are also 20 unscored pretest questions randomly distributed throughout the examination for the purpose of analysis and statistical evaluation. Beginning in 2025, NCQLP increased the total number of examination questions to 200 to:

**(1) ensure the exam content remains updated and relevant to today's lighting industry, and**

**(2) enable candidates to receive a pass/fail notification immediately after testing.**

### Section 1: Multiple-Choice Questions

The multiple-choice section includes 100-120 questions on the following three major content areas (see the Lighting Certification Examination Content Outline below for additional information):

- Existing Conditions (at least 25 questions)
- Design Phase (at least 50 questions)
- Bidding and Construction Phase (at least 25 questions)

## Section 2: Case Studies

This section includes 16-20 case studies each comprised of five (5) multiple-choice questions centered on one of the five basic construction applications and subcategories listed below:

1. Commercial (at least 5 case studies)
  - Office
  - Retail
  - Hospitality and Entertainment
  - Sports and Recreation
2. Institutional (at least 6 case studies)
  - Education
  - Health Care
  - Transport
  - Museum
  - Worship
  - Libraries
  - Government (Municipal and Correctional Facilities)
3. Residential (at least 1 case study)
  - Single Family
  - Multi Family
  - Assisted Living
4. Industrial (at least 2 case studies)
  - Manufacturing
  - Warehouse
5. Exteriors (site and roadway) (at least 2 case studies)

**Note:** Questions will be included on Art; Common Applications; Daylighting; Emergency, Safety, and Security; and Miscellaneous among the above applications.

NCQLP, with the advice and assistance of PSI, prepares the Examination based on the following content outline. The questions are created by Item Writers (certified volunteers with content expertise in lighting) and are reviewed for relevancy, consistency,

## 6. Examination Dates and Application Deadlines

Examination Dates	Early Application Deadline	Final Application* Deadline
Oct 12 - Nov 20, 2026	July 31, 2026	September 11, 2026

### Computer Testing at PSI Test Centers October 12 through November 20, 2026

A Lighting Certification Examination Sample Application is included in this handbook. You must submit an application online through [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org). Applications must be completed and submitted **together** with the required recommendations and the appropriate fee to NCQLP by September 11, 2026. (See application for checklist.)

\*September 11, 2026, is the final deadline for the application submission through [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org). THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE!

## 7. Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination, candidates must meet **one** of the following requirements:

1. Have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and a minimum of three years of lighting-related work experience.
- OR
2. Have a minimum of six years of lighting-related work experience.

Intern LC candidates: Visit the NCQLP website, [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org) for information about the Intern LC Program. Qualified students or graduates within one year following graduation with a bachelor's degree only may take the Examination as an Intern.

**Letters of Recommendation: All candidates, including Intern LC candidates, are required to submit two Recommendations with their application.** These can be from peers, colleagues or supervisors who are non-family members. The Recommendation Form is included in this handbook and may be duplicated. These Recommendation Forms are to substantiate your level of experience.

**How to Apply:** Submit or transmit through the online process under [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org) the: completed application (Parts A and B); application Consent Form, two completed Recommendations and appropriate fee to NCQLP by July 31 (early application submission deadline) or September 11 (final application postmark deadline). **If you have less than six years of lighting-related experience, you MUST include a PDF copy of an official, college transcript with your application. The transcript CANNOT be sent separately.**

Please wait at least 30 business days following the application submission before contacting NCQLP about your application. An email confirmation of receipt will be sent to all eligible candidates within 30 business days of receipt of the application. **Incomplete applications will be returned.** All application materials must be submitted by September 11, 2026.

## 8. Examination Fees

Application fees may be paid by credit card (American Express, MasterCard, and VISA only).

### Early Application Deadline Fee for U.S./Canada

(by August 1) .....\$625

### Final Application Deadline Fee for U.S./Canada

(by September 11) .....\$675

International Application Fee.....\$725

Intern Application Fee ..... \$100

## 9. Test Center Information

Examinations are delivered at PSI Test Centers geographically located throughout the United States and Canada and at international locations. A current listing of PSI Test Centers, including addresses and driving directions, may be viewed at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/ncqlp>. The examinations are administered by appointment only, Monday through Saturday.

## 10. Scheduling an Examination Appointment

After your application information is received by PSI from NCQLP, you will receive confirmation of eligibility to schedule an examination appointment. You may schedule the examination by one of the following methods. Be prepared to confirm a date and location for testing. Individuals are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Unscheduled candidates (walk-ins) will not be admitted to the Test Center.

**Online Scheduling:** You may schedule an examination appointment online at any time at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/ncqlp>. To use this service on our website, follow these easy steps:

- Go to <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/ncqlp> and select “Begin Scheduling.”
- Follow the simple, step-by-step instructions to choose your examination program and register for the examination.

**Telephone Scheduling:** Call PSI at 888-519-9901 to schedule an examination appointment. This toll free number is answered from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Central Time) Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

After the appointment is made, you will be given a time to report to the Test Center, and if an email address is provided, you will be sent an email confirmation notice.

**International Scheduling:** Email the following information to [AMPIntlExamServices@psionline.com](mailto:AMPIntlExamServices@psionline.com):

1. First and Last Name as provided on your application
2. Preferred email address
3. Examination name
4. Preferred Test Center location
5. Three (3) test dates you are available to test, in order of preference.

Submit this information approximately two to four weeks prior to your requested test dates. Email correspondence confirming that PSI has received your request will be sent within two to three business days. PSI will then check availability for testing and email the candidate once a date has been confirmed.

## 11. Examination Rescheduling

You may reschedule your examination to a date within the same testing window once at no charge online at <https://test-takers.psiexams.com/ncqlp> or by calling PSI at 888-519-9901 at least two business days prior to your scheduled examination appointment.

## 12. Requests for Special Accommodations

NCQLP and PSI comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and want to ensure that individuals with disabilities are not deprived of the opportunity to take the Examination solely by reason of a disability, as required and defined by the relevant provisions of the law. Special Examination arrangements may be made for these individuals, provided that an appropriate request for accommodation is submitted with the application materials to NCQLP by the application deadline and the request is approved. A form to request accommodation is in this handbook. This form must be signed by an appropriate medical/healthcare professional and submitted with the Examination application and must include all required documentation materials to substantiate the specific needs of each individual.

## 13. Refunds and Rollovers

**REFUNDS WILL NOT BE GIVEN TO INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING TO WITHDRAW FROM THE EXAMINATION AFTER THE APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED.** Medical requests signed by the candidate’s physician, or conditions beyond the control of the individual, received in writing at least 15 days prior to the Examination date, will qualify the candidate’s application to be rolled over to the following year. A rollover is permitted one time only. A \$150 administrative fee is charged, if approved. However, these individuals must submit another set of completed application materials to apply to sit for the Examination the next year. **OTHERWISE, ANY CANDIDATE WHO FAILS TO APPEAR FOR THE EXAMINATION ON THE SCHEDULED DATE WILL FORFEIT THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE EXAMINATION FEE.** Examination fees are not transferable to another testing date unless a rollover has been granted. They can never be transferred to another individual.

## 14. On the Day of the Examination

Your examination will be given by computer at a PSI Test Center. You do not need any computer experience or typing skills to take your examination. On the day of your examination appointment, report to the Test Center at least 15 minutes before your scheduled testing time for check in and testing instructions. Look for signs indicating PSI Test Center Check-in. **A CANDIDATE WHO ARRIVES MORE THAN 15 MINUTES AFTER THE SCHEDULED TESTING TIME WILL NOT BE ADMITTED.** You will have 4 hours to complete the Examination. Additional time is not allowed. No breaks are scheduled during the Examination.

## 15. Admission to the Test Center

To gain admission to the test center, two forms of identification are required.

- One form must be a current, permanent identification card issued by a governmental agency that includes both your signature and photograph. Only a driver’s license, state or federally issued ID, military ID or passport will be accepted. No form of temporary identification will be accepted.

- The second form of identification must include the candidate's name and signature to verify the signature on the primary form of identification and must be a document commonly used for identification within the United States. Acceptable second forms of identification include a signed credit or debit card, employee identification card, or other U.S.-issued identification that includes the candidate's name and signature. Passports are accepted only as primary identification and will not be accepted as a second form of identification.
- If your name is different from what appears on either form of identification, you must bring proof of your name change such as a marriage license, divorce decree or court order.

All candidates will also be required to sign a roster for verification of identity. **PROPER IDENTIFICATION IS REQUIRED TO GAIN ADMISSION TO THE TEST CENTER.**

## 16. Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather, natural disasters or unforeseen emergencies on the day of a scheduled Examination, NCQLP and PSI will determine whether circumstances warrant the cancellation of the Examination at a specific site, and subsequent rescheduling of an Examination at a particular test center(s). The Examination will usually **not** be rescheduled if the supervisor is able to open the test center. Candidates may visit the website [www.psonline.com/openings](http://www.psonline.com/openings) prior to the Examination to determine if PSI has been advised that any Test Centers are closed. Every attempt will be made to administer all Examinations as scheduled. However, should an Examination be canceled at a Test Center(s), all scheduled candidates will receive notification regarding rescheduling procedures.

## 17. Test Center Security and Restrictions

PSI administration and security standards are designed to ensure all candidates are provided the same opportunity to demonstrate their abilities. The Test Center is continuously monitored by audio and video surveillance equipment for security purposes.

The following security procedures apply during the examination:

1. Examinations are proprietary. No cameras, notes, tape recorders, pagers or cellular/smart phones are allowed in the testing room. Possession of a cellular/smart phone or other electronic devices is strictly prohibited and will result in dismissal from the examination.
2. A basic hand-held, battery-operated or a solar-operated calculator without paper tape printing or alphabetic memory capabilities and scientific calculators without memory **are permitted**. Candidates are not allowed to share calculators. Guidelines for Calculators: **What is Allowed?**
  - Basic calculators
  - Scientific calculators that are non-programmable, do not have a full alphabetic (A–Z) keypad, and do not store text, formulas, or data
  - Financial and real estate calculators meeting the above criteria
  - Calculators with single-line or multi-line displays, provided they are non-programmable and have no alphabetic keypad

- Examples of permitted calculators (without full alphabetic keypads) include: HP 12C, HP 17BII, TI-BA II Plus, TI-BA II Plus Professional, and comparable models.

Guidelines for Calculators: **What is NOT Allowed?**

- Programmable calculators
- Graphing calculators
- Calculators with full alphabetic keyboards
- Printing calculators
- Calculators integrated into phones or other electronic devices

The I-Touch and I-Pad, TI-83 Plus, HP 19BII, 39G, 49G, 48Gx calculators are true programmable devices with alpha keypads and are NOT allowed.

Graphing calculators and phones of any kind, even with calculator functionality, are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**.

Please note that all calculators are subject to inspection by test center staff. Any calculator deemed unacceptable will not be permitted during the examination.

3. No guests, visitors or family members are allowed in the testing room or reception areas.
4. No personal items, valuables, or weapons should be brought to the Test Center. Only wallets and keys are permitted. Coats must be left outside the testing room. You will be provided a soft locker to store your wallet and/or keys with you in the testing room. **If any personal items are observed or heard (e.g., cellular/smart phone, alarm) in the testing room after the examination is started, the administration will be forfeited.**
5. You will be provided with one piece of scratch paper at a time and a pencil to use during the examination, unless noted on the sign-in roster for a particular candidate. **You must return the scratch paper to the supervisor at the completion of testing, or you will not receive your score report.**
6. No books, reference materials, food or drink may be taken into the Examination room.
7. No Examination materials, documents or memoranda of any kind may be taken from the Examination room.
8. You must have the supervisor's permission to leave the room during the Examination. You will not be allowed additional time to make up for time lost during breaks.
9. No questions concerning the content of the Examination may be asked during the testing period. The candidate should listen carefully to the instructions given by the proctor/supervisor and should carefully read the directions before beginning the Examination.
10. The supervisor may dismiss a candidate from the Examination for any of the following reasons:
  - if the candidate's admission to the Examination is unauthorized;
  - if a candidate creates a disturbance, is abusive or otherwise uncooperative;
  - if a candidate gives or receives help, is suspected of doing so or shows any other evidence of cheating;
  - if a candidate attempts to remove Examination materials or notes from the testing room;
  - if a candidate attempts to take the Examination for someone else;

- if the candidate displays and/or uses a cellular/ smart phone or other prohibited electronic device during the Examination;
- if the candidate attempts to use unauthorized aids; and/or
- if the candidate fails to follow Examination regulations or the instructions given by the test center supervisor.

## 18. Taking the Examination

After your identification has been confirmed, you will be directed to a testing carrel. You will be instructed on-screen to enter your identification number. Your photograph, taken before beginning the examination, will remain on-screen throughout your examination session. This photograph will also print on your score report.

Prior to attempting the examination, you will be given the opportunity to practice taking an examination on the computer. The time you use for this practice examination is NOT counted as part of your examination time or score. When you are comfortable with the computer testing process, you may quit the practice session and begin the timed examination.

Before beginning the examination, instructions for taking the examination are provided on-screen. The computer monitors the time you spend on the examination. The examination will terminate if you exceed the time allowed. You may click on the Time box in the lower menu bar on the screen to monitor your time. A digital clock indicates the time remaining for you to complete the examination. The Time feature may be turned off during the examination.

Only one examination question is presented at a time. The question number appears in the lower right portion of the screen. Choices of answers to the examination question are identified as A, B, C, or D. You must indicate your choice by either typing in the letter in the response box in the lower left portion of the computer screen or clicking on the option using the mouse. To change your answer, enter a different option by typing in the letter in the response box or by clicking on the option using the mouse. You may change your answer as many times as you wish during the examination time limit. When the examination is completed, the number of examination questions answered is reported. If not all questions have been answered and there is time remaining, return to the examination and answer those questions. **There is no penalty for guessing.**

## 19. Scores Canceled by NCQLP and/or PSI

NCQLP and PSI are concerned with reporting only valid scores. On rare occasions, circumstances may make Examination scores invalid. NCQLP and/or PSI reserve the right to cancel or withhold any Examination scores if, in their sole discretion, there is cause to question the validity of the scores. Scores declared invalid and canceled by NCQLP and/or PSI may be grouped into two categories:

1. Doubts may be raised about the validity of candidates' scores because of suspected misconduct; in such circumstances, candidates are to cooperate in the investigation of their scores. If scores are canceled because of suspected candidate misconduct, NCQLP will investigate such matters to determine if the candidate will be eligible for retesting.

2. Some scores may be rendered invalid because of circumstances beyond the candidates' control. NCQLP and/or PSI will investigate such situations. When such occurrences result in canceling candidates' scores, NCQLP is notified that there are no reportable scores for reasons beyond the candidates' control. In this event, NCQLP and PSI will determine the appropriate action to take for these candidates.

In addition to the reasons listed above, NCQLP may cancel or invalidate Examination results if, upon investigation, violation of the policies outlined in this publication are found to have occurred.

## 20. Questions About the Examination

Candidates may comment on any Examination question at the time of the Examination if a question is believed to be misleading or deficient in accuracy or content by clicking on the Comment button to the left of the Time button. This opens a dialogue box where comments may be entered. Each comment will be individually reviewed before Examination scoring. Individual responses to comments on questions will not be provided. **No comments on questions will be considered after Examination results are released to candidates.** Following the Examination, candidates may not have access to the Examinations or to specific questions.

Any complaints about the conduct of the Examination or the test center have to be submitted in writing to the Operations Department, PSI, 18000 W. 105th St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543 within **10 days** following the Examination, with a copy to NCQLP.

## 21. Report of Results

**Candidates will receive a pass/fail notification immediately after testing with detailed score reports to follow via email.**

Examination scores are reported as raw scores and a total scaled score is given. A raw score is the number of correctly answered questions. The scaled score is statistically derived from the raw score. Your total raw score determines whether you pass or fail, and is converted to a scaled score ranging between 0 and 99. A scaled score of 70 is required to pass.

The reason for reporting scaled scores is that different forms or versions of the Examination may vary in difficulty. As new forms of the Examination are introduced, many questions in each content area are replaced. These changes may cause one form of the Examination to be slightly easier or harder than another form. To adjust for these differences in difficulty, a procedure called "equating" is used. The goal of equating is to ensure fairness to all candidates.

In the equating process, the minimum raw score which is the number of correctly answered questions required to equal the scaled passing score, is statistically adjusted, or equated. For instance, if the Examination is determined to be more difficult than the base form of the Examination, then the

minimum raw passing score required will be slightly lower than the original raw passing score. If the Examination is easier than the base form of the Examination, then the minimum raw score will be higher. Equating helps to assure that the scaled passing score represents the same level of difficulty no matter which form of the Examination a candidate takes.

In addition to the candidate's total raw and scaled scores, raw scores are reported for all the major content categories of the Multiple-Choice Examination. The number of questions answered correctly in each content category is compared to the total number of questions that is possible in that category on the Examination such as 15/20. However, passing the Examination is based only on the candidate's total scaled score. Successful candidates receive their Credly digital badge and access to their downloadable certificate by January 31.

## 22. Confidentiality

Individual Examination scores are released ONLY to the individual candidate. NEITHER NCQLP OR PSI CAN DISCUSS ANYTHING RELATED TO AN INDIVIDUAL WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN THAT INDIVIDUAL. Successful candidate names may be listed in NCQLP member organizations' publications.

## 23. Disclaimer

The report of Examination results by PSI is for the sole use of the individual candidate. Any use of Examination results by other entities is inappropriate and NCQLP can assume no responsibility or liability for such use.

## 24. Duplicate Score Reports

Requests for duplicate score reports must be made in writing to PSI within one year of the Examination date. Your request must include your name, mailing address, Examination date, test site and signature. The fee for a duplicate score report is \$25; include a check or money order made payable to PSI Services Inc. for this amount with your request and mail to: PSI, 18000 W. 105th St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543.

## 25. Requests for Handscoring

Candidates who do not pass the Examination may request a manual verification of the computer scoring. Requests for manual rescoring must be submitted to PSI, 18000 W. 105th St., Olathe, KS 66061-7543 in writing within one year of the Examination with a copy to NCQLP. The fee to hand score the Examination is \$25. The request should include: your name, mail-ing address, Examination date, test site, signature and a copy of your score report. Upon receipt of the request and appropriate fee, the candidate's answer sheet will be inspected and handscored. This process takes approximately 30 days. Candidates near a passing score should be aware that to ensure correct reporting of results, the testing agency selects a random sampling of Examinations of candidates who score within one unit of passing. These Examinations are automatically hand-scored before results are

mailed as a quality control measure. Thus, it is extremely doubtful that any Examination results will change from "fail" to "pass" through handscoring.

## 26. Re-Examination

There is no limit to the number of times unsuccessful candidates may take the Examination, provided that all eligibility requirements in effect at the time of application for Re-Examination have been met. To apply for Re-Examination, candidates must request, complete and resubmit all required application forms and pay the appropriate Examination fees.

## 27. Certification Renewal

LCs are required to renew their certification every three years. Retaking and passing the LC Examination satisfies this requirement for one three-year cycle. For complete information on Certification Renewal refer to the *Certification Renewal Guidelines* at [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org).

## 28. Lighting Certification Syllabus Content Outline

To begin your preparation in an informed and organized manner, you need to know what to expect from the actual Examination in terms of content. Information regarding the content of the Examination is presented in this handbook. The content outline provides a general overview of the Examination and, with closer inspection, can give you specific study direction because the percentages indicate the relative importance of each category on the Examination.

The content of the Examination is based on a job analysis and is described in the detailed content outline that follows.

### Lighting Certification Examination Content Outline

This Examination tests both knowledge of basic concepts and ability to solve design problems.

#### I. EXISTING CONDITIONS (at least 25 Questions)

##### A. Assess Lighting Systems

1. Luminaire types
2. Luminaire placement
3. Luminaire mounting
4. Light quality (e.g., CCT, CRI, spectral distribution)
5. Light source: (e.g., Incandescent and Halogen lamps, Fluorescent lamps, Metal Halide lamps, Sodium Vapor lamps, Existing LED lamps and luminaires)
6. Control gear: Drivers/ Ballasts (e.g., types, voltage current, location)
7. Illuminance levels
8. Daylighting conditions and characteristics
9. Lighting controls (e.g., occupancy sensors, timer switches, photocells, dimmers, energy management systems)
10. Emergency lighting and exit signs
11. Light impact (e.g., underlit/overlit, glare, light pollution, light trespass)
12. Equipment (e.g., failure, flicker, cycling)

## B. Review Building Conditions

1. Ceiling types
2. Plenum depth (e.g., HVAC diffusers, ducts)
3. Building or space characteristics (e.g., age, height, width, length, orientation, latitude, surface reflectances, available daylighting, aesthetic conditions)

## C. Verify Factors Affecting Energy Usage

1. Hours of operation
2. Utility rates and cost (e.g., demand charges, load shedding, time of use)
3. Control schedules and technologies (e.g., bi-level, sensors)

## D. Evaluate Human Factors

- Tasks being
- Performed
- Age
- Physiological issues

## E. Establish Baseline or Existing Annual Costs

- Energy
- Maintenance

## II. DESIGN PHASE (at least 50 Questions)

### A. Programming

1. Establish design constraints
  - a. codes (e.g., NFPA 101, NFPA 70, building codes, energy codes)
  - b. standards (e.g., ASHRAE 90.1, OSHA, ADA Accessibility, IES Recommended Practices),
  - c. regulations (e.g., product safety certification, EPACT/EISA, BABA, BAA, TAA)
  - d. ordinances (e.g., DarkSky, local jurisdictions)
  - e. project constraints (e.g., budget, maintenance, flexibility, schedule)
  - f. physical constraints (e.g., architectural, mechanical, structural, electrical, acoustic, fire ratings)
2. Establish design criteria
  - a. design intent, project goals, and overall aesthetic
  - b. daylight
  - c. sustainability (e.g., LEED, Green Globes, RoHS)
  - d. human health and performance (e.g., WELL standard, CDC Health Impact Assessment, IEEE1789)
  - e. luminaire sustainability (e.g., Declare)
3. Define proposed conditions
  - a. colors
  - b. finishes (e.g., material, secularity, reflectance)
4. Human Factors (Psychological/Physiological)
  - a. determine users' needs (e.g., activities, visual performance, visual comfort, acoustics)
  - b. assess users' expectations
5. Establish Programming Report
  - a. electrical requirements
  - b. lighting power density
  - c. brightness hierarchies (e.g., horizontal and vertical illuminances of key surfaces, surface colors/reflectances)
  - d. budget
  - e. schedule

## B. Schematic Design

1. Develop preliminary design concept
  - a. evaluate ideas of owner, architect, interior designer
  - b. determine design objectives
  - c. determine lighting system
    - lighting qualities/design issues (e.g., color, surface color enhancement, texture)
    - luminous composition
    - illuminances/light levels (e.g., lux, uniformity, CRI, age adjustments)
2. Prepare preliminary cost projection
3. Refine design concept (e.g., design iterations)
4. Specify critical product criteria (e.g., dimensions, matching of components, lighting performance, custom fixtures, control requirements and protocols, product certification needs (e.g., wet, damp, dry, IC, IP, IK, NSF, Air Tight))
5. Prepare design report and presentation
6. Evaluate/select lighting technologies
  - a. electric light sources (e.g., fluorescent and compact fluorescent, LED, OLED, fiber optic, human centric luminaires and controls)
  - b. controls intent
  - c. cost and energy evaluation
  - d. daylighting solutions (e.g., side lighting, top lighting)
  - e. ease and cost of installation, operation, maintenance, and product serviceability
  - f. integration (e.g., systems, materials, finishes)
  - g. photometrics
  - h. warranty/reliability
7. Perform preliminary calculations and estimates
  - a. lighting calculations
  - b. energy and code compliance analysis
  - c. budget (e.g., base budget and value engineering)

## C. Design Development

1. Compare and confirm design concepts with detailed technical analyses
  - a. review manufacturer's data
  - b. evaluate performance (e.g., photometrics, color, uniformity, luminance ratios)
  - c. perform lighting calculations
  - d. compatibility (e.g., dimming, controls, electrical)
  - e. finalize lighting techniques (e.g., direct, indirect) and select equipment (e.g., luminaire, driver, controls)
  - f. select equipment (e.g., lamp, driver, retrofit kit, luminaire, controls)
2. Develop plans and specifications
  - a. layout/drawings
  - b. specifications and details
  - c. daylighting
3. Develop controls concept
  - a. create control narrative (e.g., sensor settings, schedules, equipment)
  - b. select technologies and equipment (e.g., review samples, manufacturer's data, dimming capabilities (e.g., 0-10V, pulse width modulation, DALI, DMX), occupancy and vacancy sensors, daylight harvesting (e.g., open loop, closed loop), scheduling and scene programming, LLLC (e.g., wireless mesh controls))

4. Verify product availability
5. Review with project team
6. Prepare presentation for owner/client

#### **D. Construction Documents**

1. Finalize lighting drawings and specifications
2. Finalize control drawings and specifications
3. Finalize commissioning/programming documents
4. Perform QA/QC review

#### **E. Determine Proposed Energy Use and Costs**

- Installation (e.g., equipment, labor, disposal, recycling)
- Energy
- Operations & maintenance

#### **F. Identify and Evaluate System Costs and Savings**

- Simple payback
- Life cycle cost benefit analysis
- Return on investment
- Net present value
- Internal rate of return

#### **G. Identify and Evaluate System Costs and Savings**

- Embodied carbon
- Product end of life instructions
- Declare label and EPDs (e.g., red label)
- Component replaceability (e.g., ZHAGA, D4i)

### **III. BIDDING AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE (at least 25 Questions)**

#### **A. Respond to Bid Requests for Information (RFIs)**

#### **B. Issue Bid Addenda**

#### **C. Review and Respond to Contractor Proposals (e.g., substitutions, scope of work, schedule, value engineering)**

#### **D. Prepare / review Submittals**

#### **E. Prepare / respond to RFIs**

#### **F. Perform Field Observation Reports**

#### **G. Prepare Supplemental Instructions / Change Orders**

#### **H. Prepare / review Record Drawings and Specifications**

#### **I. Develop Punch List**

#### **J. Evaluate Lighting Performance vs. Design Criteria**

#### **K. Focus and Adjust Luminaires**

#### **L. Commission Control Functions and Program**

#### **M. Develop Documentation**

1. Luminaire, lamp, and control schedules
2. Control settings

#### **N. Train Client**

#### **O. Troubleshoot (e.g., premature component failure, control systems operating improperly, flicker, low lumen output, color shift, lamp cycling) Post Occupancy Evaluation**

#### **P. Post Occupancy Evaluation**

## **Case Study Information**

The case studies are classified into 5 basic construction applications with the following subcategories listed as below. Note: Questions based on the Lighting Applications section of the IES Lighting Library may be distributed across any case study.

#### **1. Commercial**

- Office
- Retail
- Hospitality and Entertainment
- Sports and Recreation

#### **2. Institutional**

- Education
- Health Care
- Transport
- Museum
- Worship
- Libraries
- Government (Municipal and Correctional Facilities)

#### **3. Residential**

- Single Family
- Multi Family
- Assisted Living

#### **4. Industrial**

- Manufacturing
- Warehouse

#### **5. Exteriors (site and roadway)**

**Note:** Questions within the above applications will include Art; Common Applications; Daylighting; Emergency, Safety, and Security; and Miscellaneous.

## **Suggested Reference List**

The Reference List below is intended to assist candidates in preparing for the Lighting Certification Examination. A thorough understanding of the topics covered by these references correlates with success on the LC Examination. However, it is not the intention of NCQLP and its volunteers that a candidate purchases all listed references.

Much of the information on the Examination is based on the general knowledge required for competent practice at the three to six years of experience level. Candidates may have other references that cover the same content areas within the Examination. If the references are current and reflect common practice, they will provide general background for the Examination.

Candidates are expected to be familiar with regulations that directly impact lighting and are broadly applied across the U.S. in Regional/Local codes such as ASHRAE 90.1, NFPA 70, and NFPA 101.

Candidates are also expected to have an understanding and working knowledge of the guidelines, standards and regulations that apply to lighting such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA Safety and Health Standards, and UL.

Many books are available and can be obtained in bookstores or by contacting individual publishers. IES specifically carries the following references in its publications catalogue, and candidates may purchase them there.

### Reference List 2026 – See all lighting-related sections of the following sources.

- IES Lighting Library
  - Lighting Applications
  - Lighting Practice
  - Lighting Science
  - Roadway and Parking Facility Lighting
- ANSI/IES LS-1-22, Nomenclature and Definitions for Illuminating Engineering. (Free - available online at IES.org)
- ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2022, American Society of Heating Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), Atlanta, GA. 2022. (Lighting Section 9 included in the IES Lighting Library)
- LEED Reference Guide for Building Design and Construction, Version 5. USGBC. 2025.
- NFPA 101: Life Safety Code, 2021 Edition. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Quincy, MA.
- NFPA 70 National Electrical Code, 2020 Edition. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Quincy, MA.

### Study Advice

The advice offered here may be helpful as you prepare for the Examination. Try to be objective about yourself and your individual learning needs when you are deciding how to proceed with your study.

Determine how you study best. Some students seem to learn faster by hearing the information, while others need to see it written or illustrated, and still others prefer to discuss material with colleagues. A combination of these alternatives can often produce the best results. If you had success in lecture courses, you may need to hear information for best retention. If you find that you prefer to read material, then you might consider writing important facts on 3x5 cards. You can refresh your memory by periodically reviewing these cards. This technique is especially useful if you write the material thoughtfully and concisely, which allows you to digest the material through both reading and writing. You may wish to organize a study group or find a study partner. **(NCQLP IS NOT INVOLVED IN FORMING STUDY GROUPS.)** You may contact IES to inquire about LC Study Group which is conducted as an aid in the preparation for the LC Exam. Once you decide on the most effective and comfortable method for you, focus on that preference and use the other techniques to complement it.

Plan your study schedule well in advance. Use learning techniques such as reading or audio visual aids. Be sure you find a quiet place to study where you will not be interrupted. We suggest you concentrate your study efforts on a few carefully chosen references from the resource list provided.

### Sample Questions

1. When evaluating daylighting systems in terms of glare, the MOST important illumination conditions to be evaluated are those occurring (*See IES LP-3-20, pp 5-8*)
  - A. when cooling loads due to solar gains are greatest.
  - B. when direct sunlight would penetrate the fenestration.
  - C. at 2-hour intervals from sunrise to solar noon.
  - D. at the solstices and the equinoxes.
2. The term luminaire refers to a (*See IES LS-1-20*)
  - A. lighting unit exclusively for roadway illumination.
  - B. lighting unit exclusively for interior illumination.
  - C. complete lighting unit without light source and electrical components.
  - D. complete lighting unit including light source and electrical components.
3. Which of the following is the BEST definition of illuminance? (*See IES LS-1-20*)
  - A. luminous flux density incident on an object per unit area
  - B. flux density emitted from an object without regard for direction
  - C. flux density emitted from an object in a given direction
  - D. time rate of flow of light energy
4. Which of the following is an IES distribution classification for interior luminaires? (*See IES RP-1-20, p 20*)
  - A. semi-direct
  - B. concentrating
  - C. forward throw
  - D. wall wash
5. A hospital is experiencing EMI problems with its radiology equipment. The lighting system in this area has been identified as a 2 x 4 lensed troffer. The interference can be attributed to the luminaire's (*See IES RP-29-20, p 29*)
  - A. size.
  - B. proximity.
  - C. electrical characteristics.
  - D. spectral power distribution.

6. When evaluating an existing fluorescent lighting system for an LED upgrade, mean lumens to rated lumens is (See IES LP-9-20, section 3.6.6)
- initial ballast factor.
  - initial lumen output.
  - lamp lumen depreciation.
  - luminaire dirt depreciation.
7. A ray of incident light being reflected in one distinct direction is representative of which of the following types of reflection? (See IES LP-1-20, p 64)
- spread
  - diffuse
  - specular
  - semi-specular
8. The ANSI/IES document LM-80 provides LED fixture manufacturers a method to (See IES LP-4-20, p 13)
- measure lumen maintenance.
  - identify gamut area.
  - quantify fidelity.
  - define efficacy.
9. A lighting practitioner is designing a new car dealership to meet LEED requirements. The owner wishes to leave all of the parking lot luminaires on after business hours. Which of the following lighting control systems is MOST appropriate? (See LEED Reference Guide, p 214)
- on/off switched
  - dimming
  - vacancy sensor
  - photocell
10. An energy-saving measure reducing lighting demand by 24.5 kW costs \$11,000 to install. Given 4,000 annual operating hours and \$0.085 per kWh, what is the simple payback? (See IES RP-31-20, p 15)
- 0.8 years
  - 1.3 years
  - 3.8 years
  - 4.3 years
11. In life-cycle cost benefit analysis, the measure of results is expressed in (See IES RP-31-20, p 11)
- deferred expenses.
  - kWh saved.
  - net present value.
  - risk factors.
12. Before a lighting system can be commissioned, the punch list (See IES LP-7-20, p 19)
- must be completed by the contractor.
  - must be certified by the inspector.
  - must be approved by the owner.
  - cannot be modified by the practitioner.
13. An electrical contractor should notify the lighting practitioner of the anticipated date of substantial completion so that (See IES LP-7-20, p 19)
- the practitioner can walk through with the electrical inspector.
  - drivers can be calibrated by the electrical engineer.
  - alternative luminaires can be ordered to meet the new schedule.
  - a schedule can be set for aiming and adjusting the luminaires.
14. To ensure a lighting design's projected energy savings are realized after installation, which of the following must be completed? (See IES LP-8-20, p 1)
- Calibrate occupancy sensors.
  - Focus the adjustable accent lights.
  - Inspect the branch circuit wiring.
  - Finalize the punch list.
15. How many color samples are used to calculate the CRI/Ra of a light source? (See IES LS-5-20, p 27)
- 8
  - 14
  - 99
  - 256

### Answer Key

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 9. B  |
| 2. D | 10. B |
| 3. A | 11. C |
| 4. A | 12. A |
| 5. C | 13. D |
| 6. C | 14. A |
| 7. C | 15. A |
| 8. A |       |

## Case Study Sample Problem

**Case Study:** A lighting practitioner has been asked to redesign the lighting in the common areas of a retirement facility built in 1968. The facility is privately owned and located in a rural area of the United States. Reflectance values are 70/40/20. The existing overall appearance of the facility is dark and gloomy. Additionally, the owner wishes to decrease energy costs. (See IES LP-1-20, IES LP-3-20, IES LP-7-20, IES LP-9-20 for reference)

16. During the first site visit, which of the following information should the practitioner collect?
- A. resident preferences
  - B. current maintenance procedures
  - C. occupant age and gender distribution
  - D. impact of daylighting in existing spaces
17. After collecting initial project information, which of the following should the practitioner do NEXT?
- A. Establish preliminary design constraints.
  - B. Create a budget for the entire design.
  - C. Prepare plans and specifications for lighting the areas.
  - D. Replace all existing lamps with same wattage and type.
18. Prior to redesigning the 2 x 4 recessed troffer lighting system in the dining room, the practitioner should recommend
- A. replacing the ceiling with a tan acoustical tile.
  - B. painting the walls with a cream semi-gloss paint.
  - C. replacing the flooring with a charcoal-colored carpet.
  - D. painting the north-facing walls with a navy blue high-gloss paint.
19. The 15' x 20' lobby has a 10" plenum depth and a ceiling height of 9' AFF. Artwork is displayed on the walls. Which of the following combinations is the MOST appropriate lighting system?
- | <u>Ambient</u>                      | <u>Accent</u>       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| A. 2' x 2' volumetric troffers      | wall washers        |
| B. two-tier chandelier              | track lighting      |
| C. surface-mounted decorative bowls | linear wall grazers |
| D. recessed downlights              | recessed adjustable |
20. To BEST integrate daylighting into the design solution, which of the following should the practitioner do at this time?
- A. Install a pre-set control system that will control daylighting levels through the control of existing adjustable blinds.
  - B. Recommend all south-facing windows be redesigned to increase light penetration.
  - C. Install a photosensor-activated control system for both ambient lighting and motorized shades.
  - D. Recommend 2700K CCT luminaires be installed to match daylighting.

### Answer Key

- 16. D
- 17. A
- 18. B
- 19. D
- 20. C

# 2026 LIGHTING CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION APPLICATION

## Part A

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE LIGHTING CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION APPLICATION

The following instructions are offered to help you complete your application correctly when applying for the NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination. Read the information provided in the Candidate Handbook before completing the application. **Applications submitted without proper payment will be returned unprocessed.**

**Only online applications will be accepted. However, you must complete your application manually if you are requesting Section 20 – Special ADA Accommodation. The application can be accessed at [ncqlp.org](http://ncqlp.org)**

#### PART A

**SIGNATURE.** You must read, sign and date this section for your application for it to be processed.

**Sections 1, 2 – NAME AND FORMER NAME.** Print your first name, middle initial, last name and former name (if applicable) in the boxes provided. Print only one letter in each box. Do not use hyphens or any punctuation marks in these spaces. If your name has a generational suffix, please indicate Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.

**Section 3 – DATE OF BIRTH.** Write the two digit month of your birth. Next, print the two digits for the day and year of your birth in the boxes supplied. Please use two digits for the month, day (e.g., 03) and year (e.g., 60 for 1960).

**Section 4 – GENDER.** Blacken the circle which corresponds to your gender.

**Sections 5, 6 – COMPANY AND MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS.** Please provide the business and mobile phone numbers where you can be reached on weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Central Time (daytime telephone).

**Section 7 – RESIDENCE STREET ADDRESS.** Print only one number or character per box. Leave a blank box between the numbers and the street name where you would normally leave a space. If your address is too long, please abbreviate the street name. Enter your apartment number, P.O. Box number or any address addendum in the spaces provided to the right of the street address. Please abbreviate where possible. **Important: The mailing address you provide on your application will be used to mail your examination results unless you indicate a change of address no later than 30 days before the Examination. If you move after this time, leave a forwarding address with your post office so the pertinent information can be forwarded to your new address.**

**Section 8 – CITY/STATE.** Print the name of the city in the boxes provided. Use the standard two-character abbreviation, such as, TX for Texas, to indicate the state.

**Section 9 – ZIP CODE/POSTAL CODE.** Enter your nine-digit zip code in the boxes. Applicants with alpha and numeric postal codes must enter their postal codes in the boxes provided.

**Sections 10, 11 – FOREIGN PROVINCE AND COUNTRY.** Enter the Province in which you reside and blacken the circle which corresponds to the Country in which you reside. If you reside in a country other than the United States, please provide the additional information requested.

**Section 12 – EMAIL ADDRESS.** Enter your email address in the boxes provided.

**Sections 13, 14, 15.** Complete each section by entirely blackening the appropriate circles for each question. Where additional information is required, please type or print CLEARLY.

**Section 16 – TRANSCRIPTS.** Complete this section *ONLY* if you are applying as an individual with a bachelor's degree **with less than six years of professional lighting-related work experience.** The transcript **MUST** be included with the application.

**Section 17 – SPECIAL ADA ACCOMMODATION REQUEST.** Complete this section if you have a disability and require special testing accommodations. The Request for Accommodations form on page 20 must be completed and submitted with your application.

#### PART B

Complete the information as requested on Part B of the application.

When completed, follow the online application process located at [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org).

# 2026 Lighting Certification Examination Application

**Read the Candidate Handbook in its entirety before completing this application.  
ALL SECTIONS OF THIS APPLICATION FORM MUST BE COMPLETED, IF REQUIRED. This form  
is only for reference purposes, you must apply online.**

**TO APPLY online, go to [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org).**

**The below form is only for reference purposes, you must apply online.**

1. Checklist:

- Part A
- Part B
- Consent Form
- Recommendation 1
- Recommendation 2
- Appropriate Fee
- Transcript (if less than 6 years of experience)
- Letter of Eligibility from Accredited Institution (if Intern LC)

<b>1</b>	<b>NAME: FIRST</b>		

<b>NAME: LAST</b>	<b>GENERATION</b>

<b>2</b>	<b>FORMER NAME</b>

<b>3 DATE OF BIRTH</b>			
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	

<b>4 GENDER</b>
<input type="radio"/> MALE <input type="radio"/> FEMALE

<b>5 COMPANY PHONE NUMBER</b>									
<b>AREA CODE</b>									

<b>6 MOBILE PHONE NUMBER</b>									
<b>AREA CODE</b>									

<b>7 RESIDENCE STREET ADDRESS</b> (Abbreviate if necessary.)

<b>APT, PO, ETC.</b> (Abbreviate if necessary.)

<b>8 CITY</b>	<b>STATE</b>

<b>9 ZIP CODE/POSTAL CODE</b>

<b>10 PROVINCE</b>

<b>11 COUNTRY</b>
<input type="radio"/> UNITED STATES <input type="radio"/> CANADA <input type="radio"/> OTHER: _____

<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>

**13 ELIGIBILITY STATUS**

Please choose one.

- I have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and a minimum of three years experience. (Complete section 16.)
- I have a minimum of six years of experience.
- I am applying as an Intern to take the examination.
- I am currently Certified and wish to retake the examination to fulfill my current certification requirement.
- I am a reapplicant for the LC Examination. The last time I attempted this examination was:

Write the month and year you last took the examination.

MONTH		YEAR	

**14 EDUCATION**

Indicate the highest degree you have obtained.

- High School Diploma or equivalent
- Trade Certification: \_\_\_\_\_
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree – Field: \_\_\_\_\_
- Doctoral Degree – Field: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**15 FEES**

Indicate the appropriate fee(s). Examination fees may be paid by credit card (**VISA, American Express and MasterCard only**) in U.S. dollars only.

Early Application Deadline Fee for U.S./Canada (August 1).....  \$625

Final Application Postmark Deadline Fee for U.S./Canada (September 15) .....  \$ 675

International Application Fee .....  \$725

Intern Application Fee.....  \$100

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** .....  \$\_\_\_\_\_ **(VISA, American Express and MasterCard only)**

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Card:  Yes  No By signing this form you are agreeing to abide by the policies regarding payment.

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

**16 TRANSCRIPTS**

Individuals applying with a bachelor's or higher degree should complete this section. The transcripts must be included with the application materials for all candidates with less than six years of professional lighting-related work experience.

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates Attended: From \_\_\_\_\_ Through \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

**17 SPECIAL ADA ACCOMMODATION REQUEST**

- YES (Complete the form included in the handbook.)

**SIGNATURE**

Please read, sign and date the statement below.  
*Applications without this section completed will be returned unprocessed.*

I hereby apply to sit for the NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination. I certify that I have read all portions of the Candidate Handbook and application and that all information that has been or will be submitted to NCQLP from me or on my behalf is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if the information I have submitted is determined by NCQLP to be incomplete or inaccurate, my application may be rejected or my examination results may be delayed or invalidated. I hold NCQLP and its officers, directors, volunteers and employees harmless for any action taken pursuant to the rules and standards of the NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination process as outlined in the Candidate Handbook and application with regard to my Certification. I hereby waive any claim or cause of action against the NCQLP including any claims or causes based on negligence arising out of any actions or failures to act by the NCQLP in granting, denying, or revoking any Certifications except claims based on gross negligence or lack of good faith by the NCQLP. By signing this statement, I acknowledge that I have read and understand this information, and agree to abide by these NCQLP policies including keeping confidential specific details of examination items nor will I share this information with outside parties. I certify that all items on the checklist are enclosed. If they are not, I understand that all materials will be returned without processing.

Candidate Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**



# NCQLP Application Consent Form

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby make application to NCQLP for eligibility for NCQLP Lighting Certification, in accordance with its rules and regulations. I certify that all information contained in my application for NCQLP Lighting Certification is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if any statement made on this application or hereafter supplied to NCQLP is false, incomplete or inaccurate or if I violate any of the rules or regulations of NCQLP, I may be denied eligibility for Certification, or my Certification may be revoked or otherwise limited. I understand that if I receive NCQLP certification, it will be my responsibility to remain in compliance with all NCQLP requirements for Certification as they presently exist and as they may be revised, to keep my Lighting Certification current.

In addition, I hereby authorize NCQLP, its officers, directors, committee members, employees, and agents (the "above-designated parties"), to review my application for eligibility for NCQLP Lighting Certification, and, if I receive NCQLP Lighting Certification, to initiate review of my continued eligibility for NCQLP Lighting Certification. I agree to cooperate promptly and fully in any such review, including submitting such documents and information deemed necessary to confirm the information in this application. I hereby authorize NCQLP, now and in the future, to request and procure any information necessary for such review from any individual or institution, each of which shall be absolutely immune from civil liability arising from any act, communication, report, recommendation or disclosure of any such information even where the information involved would otherwise be deemed privileged so long as any such conduct is performed or made in good faith and without malice or gross negligence. I authorize the above-designated parties to communicate any and all information relating to any NCQLP application and review thereof including but not limited to pendency or outcome of disciplinary proceedings to state and federal authorities, employers and

I understand that NCQLP may use any score in psychometric analyses to confirm observations and reports of suspected irregularities in the conduct of an Examination or review, and respond to any inquiry about my status in its Examination or review system in accordance with its then-current policy.

I certify that I am the candidate whose signature appears below. Because of the confidential nature of the NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination, I will not take any Examination materials from the test site, reproduce the Examination materials, or transmit the Examination questions or answers IN ANY FORM, written or verbal, to any other person. I understand that I may only seek admission to sit for the NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination for the purpose of seeking NCQLP Lighting Certification or Certification renewal, and for no other purpose. I understand that NCQLP reserves the right to refuse admission to any NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination to me if I do not have the proper identification, or if administration has begun. If I do anything which is not authorized or which is prohibited by NCQLP in connection with any NCQLP Examination, I understand that my examination performance may be voided, and such activity may be the subject of legal action. If I am refused admission for any of these reasons, fail to appear at the test site, or if my examination performance is voided, I will receive no refund of the application or examination fees and there will be no credit for future examinations.

I understand that review of the adequacy of examination materials will be limited to computing any scoring correction. I waive all further claims of examination review and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the above-designated parties for any action taken pursuant to the rules and standards of NCQLP with regard to this application, my Lighting Certification and/or Certification renewal.

By signing, I hereby certify that I have read and understand this information, and that I am in compliance and will remain in compliance with all rules and regulations of NCQLP, as now constituted and as they may be amended.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# 2026 NCQLP Examination Application – Part B

The following information is confidential. Data will be used to develop a profile of those within the NCQLP’s Certification Program. It will be aggregated for statistical purposes. The information will not be used or considered in connection with any decision regarding Certification.

Please provide the following information as it will allow NCQLP to better serve you, the lighting industry and the public.

1. Please list your email address for communication purposes: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Which ONE phrase BEST describes your primary job responsibility?

- A. Architect
- B. Contractor
- C. Distributor
- D. Educator
- E. Electrical Engineer
- F. Energy Services
- G. Estimator
- H. Facilities Manager
- I. Government Employee
- J. Interior Designer
- K. Landscape Architect
- L. Lighting Designer/Consultant
- M. Manufacturer
- N. Manufacturers’ Representative
- O. Marketing
- P. Product/Industrial Designer
- Q. Retrofitter
- R. Sales Representative
- S. Utility Company Employee
- T. Visual Merchandiser

3. Check the lighting-related organizations of which you are a member:

- A. AEE
- B. AIA
- C. ASID
- D. CIBSE
- E. IALD
- F. IEEE
- G. IES
- H. IFMA
- I. IIDA
- J. NALMCO
- K. NAILD

4. How many years have you been a lighting practitioner?

- 3-5
- 6-10
- 11-20
- 20+

Indicate your highest level of education:

- High School
- Associate’s Degree
- Bachelor’s Degree
- Advanced Degree

6. Indicate any professional credentials or licenses you have earned. Do not include college degrees.

Please check all that apply:

- Certificate of Technical Knowledge (TKE)
- Certified Facility Manager (CFM)
- CLEP
- EPA Greenlights, Surveyor Ally
- IALD Professional Member
- LEED
- Licensed/Registered Architect
- Licensed/Registered Interior Designer
- Lighting Certified (LC)
- Professional Engineer (PE)

1. Please Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Employer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions

## 2026 Lighting Certification Examination

### Recommendation Form

**TWO** completed recommendation forms are required for ALL individuals applying for the NCQLP Lighting Certification Examination. The completed forms must be submitted to NCQLP with your application.

Provide this form to your supervisor and/or professional colleagues and ask them to complete it. If you are an Intern LC candidate, please provide it to your employer or professor for completion. Additional copies of this form may be made. **Please type or print clearly.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

To properly identify the applicant's **lighting-related experience**, please identify the percentages of work time, to your knowledge, that they spend in each of the following areas. Percentages must total 100 percent.

- 1. SURVEY/AUDIT – EXISTING ..... \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. LIGHTING DESIGN ..... \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS ..... \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4. INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING ..... \_\_\_\_\_
  - 5. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ..... \_\_\_\_\_
  - 6. REGULATORY COMPLIANCE ..... \_\_\_\_\_
  - 7. OTHER (NONLIGHTING-RELATED) ..... \_\_\_\_\_
- TOTAL 100%

To the best of your knowledge, how many years/months has the applicant been working in **lighting-related** activities?  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is your professional relationship to the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Input (Provide additional comments on reverse side of form): \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor/Colleague Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Business FAX Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return TWO completed recommendation forms to NCQLP with your application.**

(continued on next page)



# Request for Special Accommodations Provider Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (printed name of candidate), hereby authorize and request the provider identified below to release the information requested by NCQLP relating to my disability and the accommo-dation appropriate to my disability to sit for the NCQLP Examination.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The candidate/patient identified above is requesting accommodation to sit for the National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions ("NCQLP") Examination. NCQLP accommodation policy requires candidates requesting accommodation to submit current documentation of the disability from an individual qualified to assess the disability. The candidate is requesting that you provide such documentation; you should submit your evaluation on your professional letterhead.

Your evaluation should include your assessment of the candidate's disability as well as an accommodation plan. The documenta-tion should explain the type and degree of the candidate's disability and how the proposed accommodation affects the disability.

The documentation should include the following information: (i) the month, day and year the candidate/patient first consulted you; (ii) the month, day and year the candidate/patient was last seen by you; (iii) the diagnosis of the candidate/patient's disability; (iv) the name of the examinations used; and (v) the duration of the condition.

You are also required to include recommended accommodations for testing in the documentation. Finally, please sign the state-ment below and include it in the transmittal of your evaluation.

## HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL DECLARATION

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ State License #: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not licensed, please note credentials that qualify you to diagnose the disability: \_\_\_\_\_



## NCQLP™

### Mission

The mission of NCQLP is to serve and protect the well being of the public through effective and efficient lighting practice.

### Strategic Goals and Objectives

1. To implement and administer a justifiable and defensible certification for lighting practitioners.
  - Perform regular Job Analysis Studies as a basis for the LC credential.
  - Develop and administer an annual LC examination.
  - Provide oversight to maintain a valid, reliable and legally defensible LC credential.
2. To maintain continuity of NCQLP certification by establishing a credible, financially stable organization.
  - Establish administrative policies and guidelines.
  - Comply with applicable laws and regulations.
  - Develop sources of income and an ongoing fundraising effort.
  - Promote a positive public image.
3. To increase the demand for certified practitioners with end users.
  - Encourage end users to use LC certified practitioners.
  - Explore strategies to support the efforts of lighting practitioners.
  - Encourage jurisdictions to require LC certified practitioners.
4. To encourage lighting practitioners to seek certification.
  - Publicize the mission of NCQLP.
  - Assist lighting practitioners in the identification of educational opportunities to prepare for the examination.
  - Market to practitioners, organizations and governmental agencies.

**National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions**

Email: [info@ncqlp.org](mailto:info@ncqlp.org)

Web: [www.ncqlp.org](http://www.ncqlp.org)

## NCQLP Member Organizations

Design Lights Consortium (DLC)

Web: [www.designlights.org](http://www.designlights.org)

Illuminating Engineering Society (IES)

Web: [www.ies.org](http://www.ies.org)

International Association of Lighting Designers  
Inc. (IALD)

Web: [www.iald.org](http://www.iald.org)

interNational Association of Lighting  
Management Companies (NALMCO)

Web: [www.nalmco.org](http://www.nalmco.org)

Lighting Research Center (LRC)

Web: [www.lrc.rpi.edu](http://www.lrc.rpi.edu)

National Association of Independent Lighting  
Distributors (NAILD)

Web: [www.naild.org](http://www.naild.org)

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)

Web: [www.nema.org](http://www.nema.org)

New York State Energy Research & Development  
Authority (NYSERDA)

Web: [www.nyserda.org](http://www.nyserda.org)

U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE)

Web: [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov)



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