



Frequently Asked Questions

Certified Fluid Sealing Professional

Q: Why Seek CFSP Certification?

A: The CFSP exams are designed to demonstrate the employee's commitment to his/her career and that they understand the information contained in each of the eight fluid sealing manuals. Receiving the CFSP certification improves job performance and improves your career opportunities and advancement.

Q: Who is eligible to take the CFSP exams?

A: They are designed to recognize and promote any individual who is engaged in the fluid sealing industry in any of the application, sales, service, installations, or manufacturing processes.

Q: How do I earn the CFSP designation?

A: In order to earn the CFSP designation, the employee will take two separate online exams that are based on eight FSA fluid sealing manuals. The first exam includes information contained in the: Compression Packings; Ducting Systems; Non-Metallic Expansion Joints; and Mechanical Seals FSA manuals. Once the employee has completed the first exam, they will complete the second exam which includes information from: Guidelines for Safe Seal Usage; Flanges and Gaskets; Sealing Terms – Flanges and Gaskets; Metallic Gasketing Technical Handbook; and Sealing Components /Molded Packing Handbooks.

Q: Can I use the Fluid Sealing manuals during the exam as a reference?

A: Yes, the exams are open book.

Q: Is there a time limit?

A: Yes – each exam is limited to 120 minutes to complete and will shut off at that time. The employee has three months to complete exam #2. The 3 month time starts the day after they complete exam #1.

Q: What is the format of the exams? What kinds of questions do they include?

A: Each of the eight sections of the exams is composed of anywhere from 16 to 38 multiple choice questions with only one correct answer. They are all based on material found in the FSA manuals which are presented as study preparation materials.

Q: Is there a fee for taking the CFSP exams?

A: Yes. Exams are purchased through the ISD office for \$375 for each two-part exam, plus \$129 for the 8 Fluid Sealing Manuals. Quantity discounts apply for larger orders: two exams registering at the same time from the same company may be purchased for \$350 (plus \$129 for the manuals); three exams registering at the same time from the same company may be purchased for \$325 plus \$129 for the manuals).

Q: Must I buy the 8 Fluid Sealing Manuals?

A: No. The eight Fluid Sealing manuals can be ordered in a three ring binder from the ISD office, however if your company already has them you do not need to purchase them as part of the exam process.

Q: Is the exam given on line?

A: Yes, the exam is only given on line.

Q: I am ready to take the exam. What is the process?

A: Register for the exam on the ISD website www.isd.org under the CFSP section. Once registered, ISD will send you a user identification number and a password to use when you log onto the exam website, as well as instructions for setting up your computer to access the online exams.

Q: What happens if I do not answer all the questions?

A: Those questions will be marked as incorrect. The on line exam will allow you to mark a question and come back to it later if you are unsure; it will also remind you at the end if you have skipped any questions.

Q: What happens if I fail the one exam and not the other?

A: The CFSP exams are based on a pass/fail system. It is possible for an employee to fail several sections of the exams but receive a high enough overall score to receive a passing grade. If you receive a failing score you must reapply to take the exams again.

Q: Is there a charge to retake the exam?

A: Yes, it is the reduced fee of \$100 for each two-part exam.

Q: How soon will I know if I passed the exam?

A: The results will be sent to you within a week after completing the second exam.

Q: What do I receive to acknowledge passing the exams?

A: You will receive a framed CFSP Certificate, the honor of adding 'CFSP' to your name, denoting your achievement, and the Policy for using the CFSP logo.

Q: Do I need to be recertified? What is the time frame?

A: The CFSP Certification is valid for five years from the date earned and may be maintained by recertification every five years.

Q: What is the CFSP Recertification process?

A: Payment of the CFSP recertification fee of \$195 and retaking the two-part exam.

For more information and an application visit ww.isd.org