



LONMARK[®] Certified Installer, Professional, and Integrator Testing Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. *What is the LONMARK Certification Testing Program?*

A. This program has been created to establish a core competency and proficiency standard for industry professionals. It is being developed in response to the industry requests for more highly qualified individuals and a need for a method to establish valid credentials.

Q. *Why is LONMARK offering this program?*

A. LONMARK International (LMI) has been involved in product standards creation and certification since its inception in 1994. This program is a natural extension of requests coming from many industry supporters for a set of standards for personnel involved in the LON[®] industry. There are many companies claiming to be experts in LON systems, but until now there was no practical way of establishing proficiency. This certification program helps to create a competent, qualified team of professionals worldwide with the same standards of excellence.

Q. *Who should take the test and become certified?*

A. Any industry professional involved in the design, specification, integration, or installation of LON control networks.

Q. *Where can I take the test?*

A. Testing centers have been set up around the world where any individual can take the test in a supervised, professional environment. A listing of testing centers and schedules can be found at www.lonmark.org/testing.

Q. *What study materials are available?*

A. The LONWORKS[®] Installation Handbook is the primary study book recommended for the LONMARK Certified Professional Exam. It is currently in English and in German. It can be purchased through LONMARK Germany (www.lonmark.de) or from Engenuity Systems (www.engenuity.com). Additional study materials are available on the LONMARK International web site at www.lonmark.org/testing. See the Resources link for recommended material.

Q. *What is the cost for taking the test?*

A. The cost is \$300 per person for non- LONMARK members and \$250 for LONMARK International Members. Group discounts are available for organizations* wishing to certify a team of people, based on the following schedule:

- 5-9 people**:
 - 10-19 people***:
 - 20-49 people***:
 - 50+ people***:
- 5% discount
7% discount
10% discount
15% discount

* organization must be a current LonMark Associate, Partner or Sponsor member to qualify

** all must be tested at the same time, at the same test center

*** pre-paid vouchers will be issued, and must be used with 6-months of issuance.



Contact LMI for more details.

Q. *How do I register for the test?*

A. Test candidates can register online at www.lonmark.org/testing. Examinees must provide basic contact information, select the test center location, exam date and payment method. Registration is confirmed once payment is received. The online registration site will accept most major credit cards. It is also possible to pay via wire transfer by contacting LMI directly.

Q. *What is the test format?*

A. The test is given in a supervised environment and is an online, multiple-choice test consisting of 150 questions. Each question is given along with four possible correct answers. One of the answers is correct; the other three are incorrect. The examinee must select the correct answer. The exam should be able to be completed in less than 3 hours.

Q. *What are my options if I fail the test the first time?*

A. An examinee may take the exam a maximum of 3 times.

Q. *My organization is interested in becoming a testing center. What are the requirements and procedures?*

A. Testing centers are authorized by LONMARK International to offer and proctor the LMI exams. Testing centers must be members of LONMARK International at the Associate, Partner, or Sponsor level. A testing center must have ample space and an open internet connection for examinees. A trained and certified exam proctor will be provided by the testing center and administer the test. In order to become a certified exam proctor an online training class must be taken and verified by LMI. Exam proctors are responsible for ensuring valid tests are given and that each individual has taken their own exam without help from others or from study materials. For further details, please contact LMI.

Q. *My organization currently offers training on LON. Can I become a testing center and offer the test as part of my curriculum?*

A. Yes. Any organization that is teaching LON fundamentals can apply to become a testing center and are encouraged to do so.

Q. *Is there any incentive to become a testing center?*

A. Yes. LMI will compensate testing centers on a per student basis. Contact LMI for more details.

Q. *Will the tests be offered in multiple languages?*

A. Yes. The online site can support many languages and test centers can be set up to offer the exam in local languages. In locations where English is not the primary language, local LONMARK Affiliates are encouraged to offer the exam in native languages. Contact LMI for more details.

Q. *What are the differences between the different certifications being offered?*

A. The first level test is for a LONMARK Certified Professional. This is the designation that will apply to individuals taking the professional test. It will provide a person with the credentials associated with comprehensive LONWORKS knowledge. This will apply to network integrators such as HVAC, lighting, security, building automation and controls engineers, consulting engineers, specifiers, and facility managers.



The LONMARK Certified Professional exam is the first to be offered. It is a comprehensive exam covering 12 distinct subject areas or “domains”:

1. LONWORKS history and terminology basics
2. Transport media
3. Nodes
4. Communication
5. Physical network structuring
6. Logical network structuring
7. Installation
8. Network configuration:
9. Tools for network management
10. LONWORKS and IP
11. Troubleshooting
12. User interfaces

The LONMARK Certified Installer is the second exam planned. This designation will be used for an installer or technician level certification. It will provide a person with the credentials associated with basic installation of a LONWORKS network including basic terminology, wiring requirements, termination, router installation, network topology, and simple network diagnostics. It does not include the need for knowledge of system architecture, network design, system engineering, commissioning, advanced system diagnostics, or HMI integration. This would apply to technicians, electricians, and facility operations personnel.

LONMARK Certified Integrator – this designation is for companies (not individuals) that have on staff at least one LONMARK Certified Professional and have also completed additional laboratory based practical demonstration of LONWORKS abilities. This designation will be used by regional affiliates to further certify companies according to local/regional requirements.

Q. Will there be practice exams available online?

A. Yes. Practice exams will be available to those that have pre-registered for the test. For a listing of additional study material, please visit www.lonmark.org/testing.

Q. How will I be notified if I have passed/failed the exam?

A. You will receive an email verification of your exam status shortly after completing the exam.

Q. When I pass the exam, what credentials will be issued?

A. Each passing examinee will receive a certificate suitable for framing along with a wallet card via postal mail.

Q. Is there a registry of LONMARK Certified Professionals?

A. Yes. LONMARK will publish all certified professionals who are current LMI members as part of our member benefits.



Q. How long do my qualifications last?

A. LONMARK Certified Professional qualifications are for 3 years from the exam date. Every 3 years a candidate will have to re-qualify. As the technology and market changes, the exam will be updated to reflect these changes. It is important that integrators receive continuous education in the market trends and solutions for their customers.

Q. How is LONMARK publicizing this certification program?

A. LMI is presenting this program to the various trade publications, industry associations, and through advertising. The end user and consulting community are encouraged to write specifications calling for only trained and certified LON professionals to bid on their projects.

Q. How were the test questions created?

A. Volunteer experts from around the world were invited to participate in the exam creation. A core group of highly qualified industry experts have worked to ensure that all material is accurate and up to date. No one individual has seen or reviewed all of the questions. The questions were created based upon industry available material posted on the LONMARK web site and published in the LONWORKS Installation Handbook.

Q. I was not invited to participate in the initial expert panel, but would like to volunteer for the ongoing certification support. Who should I contact?

A. We are continually updating the exams with the latest industry advancements. Volunteers are needed on an ongoing basis. If you feel you are qualified and would like to support this effort, please contact LMI directly. We welcome your participation.

Q. I'm a consulting engineer responsible for writing open systems control specifications. How will this program help me to ensure the systems that are installed will meet my specifications?

A. This program along with the LONMARK product guidelines together from the standards of quality in the industry. Open LON control systems can be arbitrarily simple or complex depending upon the applications and system requirements. Specifying LONMARK Certified products and LONMARK Certified personnel to install them will ensure you get the best possible system and the most highly qualified people working on the project. Consulting engineers are also highly encouraged to get trained and certified in the program to ensure you are up to date on the latest "best practices" available. It is LMI's commitment to continuously improve the standards and provide up-to-date knowledge and education programs for the industry. If you would like to learn more about these programs, please contact us.