**ADSC/NCCCO Foundation Drill Rig Operator Certification Program**

**FAQ’s**

**How to:** apply for testing?

The ADSC/NCCCO Foundation Drill Rig Operator Certification Program is open to all individuals who:

* Are at least 18 years of age
* Meet medical requirements
* Comply with NCCCO’s [Substance Abuse Policy](http://www.nccco.org/policy-statements/substance-abuse-policy)
* Pass a Written Examination
* Pass a Practical Examination
* Comply with the NCCCO [Code of Ethics](http://www.nccco.org/policy-statements/code-of-ethics)

**How to:** take the written exam?

Written exams may be taken at any approved exam testing facility. To be an approved test site, facilities must meet all CCO criteria for hosting a Written Exam. Only an authorized third-party Chief Examiner may administer a written exam. The Chief Examiner is scheduled only by NCCCO – not ADSC. This is to ensure certification criteria and confidentiality is always maintained.

The ADSC/NCCCO Foundation Drill Rig Operator Certification Program consists of two types of examinations – written and practical. A candidate will take a 90-question written exam comprised of a “Core Knowledge” of both large and small diameter foundation drill rigs. The candidate must then choose to take one or both 45-question “Specialty Exams. There is a specialty exam for large foundation drill rigs and one for anchor/micropile drill rigs. The candidate may take one of both specialty exams.

There are also two practical exams – one for large foundation drill rigs and one for anchor/micropile drill rigs. Again, it is up to the candidate if they wish to take one of both practical exams. There will be fees assessed for both the written and practical exams – to be determined by NCCCO.

**How to:** prepare for the written exams?

There are numerous resources available to use as study guides. These include:

NAIT (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology) Foundation Drill Rig Operator Courses (<https://www.adsc-iafd.com/safety/operator-training-program/>)

ADSC Reference Manuals (<https://www.adsc-iafd.com/certification-program/>)

Additional resource links are available on the ADSC or NCCCO websites.

<https://www.adsc-iafd.com/>

<http://www.nccco.org/>

**How to:** take the practical exams?

Practical exams may be taken at an approved testing facility. Facilities wishing to volunteer as Practical Exam Sites must meet all CCO criteria for hosting a Practical Exam. If the facility meets the stated criteria, CCO will provide all necessary information to allow tests to be scheduled.

Each practical test site facility must arrange to have on site:

* A designated Test Site Coordinator
* An NCCCO-accredited Practical Examiner
* Designated Proctor(s) to assist the Practical Examiner during testing
* Foundation Drill Rigs that meet NCCCO requirements for the Practical Exam; all cranes used for CCO testing shall comply with minimum OSHA / ANSI requirements.
* An outside area suitable for testing on the Foundation Drill Rigs selected and ancillary equipment necessary for conducting the exam (see “Test Site Setup”). Pole corridors must be set up on firm and compacted sand, dirt, or gravel (free of vegetation) with a sufficiently uniform surface to permit the poles to stand vertical and slide freely; grass surfaces are not acceptable.
* Any ancillary equipment necessary for conducting the exam(s)
* An indoor facility with a waiting area suitable for the Pre-Test Briefing of exam candidate
* The Certification Program covers two types of machines which create bore holes and/or shafts in the ground. The first type of machine would include equipment set up to install Drilled Shafts (i.e. kelly bar), Displacement Piles, CFA piles, Jet Grouting, etc. and are ***not*** used in conjunction with a mobile crane as an attachment. The second type of machine covered are used to install tieback anchors, soil nails, and micropiles.

Go to (<http://www.nccco.org/nccco/hosting-cco-examinations/practical-exam>) for more detailed information regarding practical exams from NCCCO.

**How to:** become a Certified Practical Examiner?

NCCCO-accredited Practical Examiners are CCO-certified personnel who have been trained and authorized by NCCCO to administer the practical examinations for CCO certification programs.

To be an NCCCO-accredited Practical Examiner, you must:

* Be able to document some Foundation Drill Rig operating experience
* Be certified by NCCCO in the program you are seeking accreditation for prior to attending a Practical Examiner Accreditation Workshop
* Attend an NCCCO Practical Examiner Accreditation Workshop, during which your performance as an Examiner will be observed and evaluated
* Pass the Practical Exam(s) in the presence of an NCCCO Auditor for the crane type(s) you are seeking accreditation (even if currently certified)
* Pass a Practical Examiner Accreditation Written Examination
* Pass a Practical Examination audit
* Have a direct email address to receive email notifications from NCCCO (this may not be a shared address)

**How to:** “host” a Practical Examiner Workshop?

NCCCO Practical Examiner Accreditation Program (PEAP) workshops can be hosted by companies and organizations around the country. PEAP workshops train candidates to administer CCO practical tests for Foundation Drill Rigs. To host a PEAP workshop, you will need to be able to provide both indoor and/or outdoor facilities. Go to (<http://www.nccco.org/nccco/practical-examiner-program/hosting-a-practical-examiner-workshop>) for more information.