



*The National Board  
Pressure Equipment Inspector  
Program*

**The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors**  
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# THE NATIONAL BOARD PRESSURE EQUIPMENT INSPECTOR

## \* PEI-1 Introduction

### PEI-1.1 Scope

The National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector certification program is an elective program designed to enhance an individual's knowledge of the inspection processes associated with boilers and pressure vessels. It allows for individuals who perform inspection work to receive credentials and be recognized for their efforts. The certification assists individuals and organizations to improve quality and safety of pressure equipment by having a better understanding of proven, reliable and uniform inspection methods. Through this program, the individual can also maintain a prequalification for a National Board Commission.

The National Board provides certification for Pressure Equipment Inspectors in two principle categories: Inservice and ASME Construction. In addition, an optional Repair Qualification is provided to supplement either of the certification categories.

The National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector must meet the training, experience and examination requirements described in this document. The Pressure Equipment Inspector may be an independent contractor or be employed by an owner of pressure equipment, a manufacturer, a repair organization, or any other organization that recognizes the importance inspections have on the safety of their equipment or products. **The Pressure Equipment Inspector's certification does not authorize the individual to perform inspections required by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME BPVC) that are performed by Authorized Inspectors or inspections required by the National Board Inspection Code (NBIC) that are performed by National Board Commissioned Inspectors.**

Individuals whose primary duties are involved with Inservice inspections and other activities, such as installing, operating or maintaining boilers, pressure vessels or piping, should select the Pressure Equipment Inspector - Inservice category.

Individuals whose primary duties are involved with inspections and other activities related to boilers, pressure vessels or piping while being constructed or fabricated should select the Pressure Equipment Inspector - ASME Construction category. The training and examination for the Pressure Equipment Inspector - ASME Construction category is based upon the ASME BPVC Sections I, IV and VIII.

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Individuals whose primary duties are involved with inspections of repairs and alterations of boilers, pressure vessels or piping should select the Pressure Equipment Inspector - Repair Qualification option.

## \* **PEI-2 Pressure Equipment Inspector Certification Process**

### PEI-2.1 Eligibility Requirements

#### PEI-2.1.1 *Experience*

An applicant must have a minimum of three (3) years of work experience associated with boilers or pressure vessels in any of the following categories: design, construction, repair, quality control, nondestructive examination, operation or inspection.

#### PEI-2.1.2 *Inservice - Training and Examination*

An applicant who selects the Pressure Equipment Inspector - Inservice category must attend the National Board's Inservice training course (IC) and pass the National Board Inservice Examination. Criteria for the examination are described in NB-331-I, *The National Board Body of Knowledge for Inservice Inspectors*, available on the National Board's website, [www.nationalboard.org](http://www.nationalboard.org).

#### PEI-2.1.3 *ASME Construction - Training and Examination*

An applicant who selects the Pressure Equipment Inspector - ASME Construction category must attend the National Board Authorized Inspector (AI) course and pass the National Board Authorized Inspector examination. Criteria for the examination are described in NB-331-NC, *The National Board Body of Knowledge for Authorized Inspectors*, available on the National Board's website, [www.nationalboard.org](http://www.nationalboard.org).

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## PEI-2.1.4 *Repair Qualification Option - Training and Examination*

An applicant who selects the Pressure Equipment Inspector - Repair Qualification option must hold either an active Pressure Equipment Inspector - Inservice or an active Pressure Equipment Inspector - ASME Construction certification. An applicant must complete the National Board R Endorsement course and pass the R Endorsement examination. Criteria for the examination are described in NB-464, *The National Board Body of Knowledge for Repair Inspectors*, available on National Board's website, [www.nationalboard.org](http://www.nationalboard.org).

## PEI-2.1.5 *Reexamination*

An applicant not passing any of the examinations may be eligible to take another examination. An applicant, who fails the examination three (3) times in a twelve (12) month period, will not be permitted to take the examination for at least one (1) year following the last attempt.

## PEI-2.1.6 *Time Constraint*

- An applicant shall apply for a credential no later than two (2) years after passing the National Board examination.
- A person whose credential has not been issued within a two (2) year period is required to retake and pass the required examination.

## PEI-2.1.7 *National Board Commission*

- A person holding a National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector certification is not eligible to simultaneously hold a National Board commission.
- A person holding a valid National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector certification, upon application, may be granted a National Board Commission without re-taking the National Board Commission examination, provided the person has maintained his/her National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector certification and meets the qualification requirements for the National Board Commission.

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## PEI-2.1.8 *Inactive National Board Commissions/Endorsements*

A person holding an inactive National Board Commission or endorsement is eligible to hold a Pressure Equipment Inspector Certification as shown in the table below. The requirements of Paragraphs PEI-2.1.2, PEI-2.1.3 and PEI-2.1.4 do not apply.

If you hold one or more of the following <u>inactive</u> National Board Commissions or Endorsements...	You are eligible for the following PEI Credential:
Inservice Inspector Commission	Inservice Certification
Authorized Inspector Commission	ASME Construction Certification
Repair Endorsement	Repair Qualification

## PEI-2.1.9 *Multiple Credentials*

An individual may hold either or both categories of Pressure Equipment Inspector certification (Inservice, ASME Construction) including the Repair Qualification option, provided the requirements of this document are met.

## PEI-2.2 Application for Credentials

The application for a Pressure Equipment Inspector certification must be on forms obtained from the National Board's website: [www.nationalboard.org](http://www.nationalboard.org).

## PEI-2.3 Issuance of Credentials

When the applicant has met all eligibility requirements for Pressure Equipment Inspector certification, a National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector Card and certificate will be issued for the applicable scope of inspections(Inservice, ASME Construction).

- When the applicant has met all the eligibility requirements for the Pressure Equipment Inspector - Repair Qualification, the notation "RQ" will be included on the Pressure Equipment Inspector Card.

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## PEI-2.4 Continuation of Certification

### PEI-2.4.1 *Renewal*

- Each certification/qualification expires annually on June 30.
- Request for renewal must be made by the Pressure Equipment Inspector. The request must certify the Pressure Equipment Inspector has maintained inspection proficiency by performing or supervising inspection activities or related activities in either of the categories (Inservice, ASME Construction) or the Repair Qualification and the individual has met the continuing education requirements of PEI-2.4.2.
- A Certification card will be issued for a one (1) year period and may be renewed annually.

### PEI-2.4.2 *Continuing Education*

Each National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector, at least once each renewal year, is required to complete a National Board online training course appropriate for the scope of his/her certificate. The Pressure Equipment Inspector – Inservice is required to take a National Board (online) continuing education course for Inservice Inspectors. The Pressure Equipment Inspector – ASME Construction is required to take a National Board (online) continuing education course for Authorized Inspectors (ASME BPVC Sections I, IV or VIII). The Pressure Equipment Inspector - Repair Qualification is required to take a National Board (online) continuing education course for Repair Inspectors.

### PEI-2.4.3 *Reinstatement*

- A person whose certification has not been renewed for more than two (2) years may have their certification reinstated, provided:
  - The applicant completes the continuing education course(s) for each certification within 12 months prior to the date of application for reinstatement, and
  - The applicant has been actively involved in the boiler and pressure vessel industry. The applicant shall submit a work history showing verifiable qualifying work experience. Examples of qualifying work experience include design, construction, manufacturing, repair, quality control, instructing, auditing,

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nondestructive examination, operation or inspection of boilers, pressure vessels or piping.

- The application for reinstatement must be on forms obtained from the National Board website, [www.nationalboard.org](http://www.nationalboard.org) (Pressure Equipment Inspector (PEI) Application Reinstatement).

## PEI-2.5 Conflict of Interest

While performing their duties, National Board Pressure Equipment Inspectors should be cautious to not place themselves in any situation representing different parties that could be perceived as a Conflict of Interest. National Board Pressure Equipment Inspectors must remain objective at all times and perform their duties with the highest degree of ethics.

## PEI-2.6 Due Process

### PEI-2.6.1 *Falsification of an Application*

A National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector certification may be revoked by the Executive Director for falsification of any statement contained in any application. The individual may request reconsideration from the Executive Director.

### PEI-2.6.2 *Executive Director Action*

The individual has the right to appeal the Executive Director's decision in writing to the Board of Trustees. Such written appeal must be made through the Executive Director to the Board of Trustees within 30 days of the decision date. Actions taken by the Board of Trustees are final.

## PEI-2.7 Fee

A fee established by the Board of Trustees must be paid for each National Board Pressure Equipment Inspector certification issued, renewed, or reinstated.

## PEI-2.8 Applications for Credentials and Renewals

Applications for credentials, renewals and reinstatements may be obtained from the National Board's website: [www.nationalboard.org](http://www.nationalboard.org), Commissions & Certifications, Pressure Equipment Inspectors, Application.

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## PEI-2.9 Revisions to this Document

The National Board Committee on Qualifications for Inspection is responsible for maintaining this document. Revisions to this document require approval by the Board of Trustees.