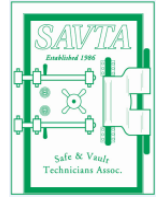


**ALOA Security Professionals Association, Inc. – Safe & Vault Technicians Association**

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## **WHY BE CERTIFIED?**

The simple answer is that to remain as competitive as possible today, you must be certified. With the recent changes in security caused by 9/11, the awareness bar has been raised in the security profession. Employers, contractors, governments, and clients are now taking additional steps to ensure they are hiring or working with the most skilled and knowledgeable individuals in the security business. Many States are including in their licensing regulations the same requirements as those for ALOA's certifications. Professional certifications from ALOA offer another screening tool – one that has the backing and credibility of the preeminent professional association in the world for those responsible for locks, safes and physical security.

*Every profession requires specialized skills. Not every employer knows that you have those skills. In short, certification is an investment in your career, your livelihood, your future.*

### **If you want...**

- To demonstrate your advanced knowledge as a locksmith/safe technician
- To gain instant professional credibility
- To advance your career
- To stand head and shoulders above the competition
- To increase your earnings potential
- To be a step ahead when licensing comes to your state

### **...then you should become certified today.**

As an international trade association, ALOA recognizes professionalism and proficiency among locksmiths by granting the designations ALOA Fundamental Locksmith (AFL), Certified Automotive Locksmith (CAL), Certified Registered Locksmith (CRL), Certified Professional Locksmith (CPL), and Certified Master Locksmith (CML). Available to all locksmiths, the Proficiency Registration Program (PRP) evaluates, through participation tracking and testing, the educational and technical competence of dedicated individuals in a wide range of subjects such as hardware installation, key duplication, automotive, high security cylinders, safe and vault locks, master keying, alarms, and access control devices.

#### **Certified Automotive Locksmith (CAL)**

The designation for Certified Automotive Locksmith is - CAL. John Doe, CAL, has passed the Certified Automotive Locksmith exam and has a good working knowledge of all aspects of vehicular locksmithing.

#### **Certified Registered Locksmith (CRL)**

The designation for Certified Registered Locksmith is - CRL. John Doe, CRL, has passed the ten mandatory categories, as well as at least two specialized electives of his choice. This locksmith has a good working knowledge of general locksmithing.

#### **Certified Professional Locksmith (CPL)**

The designation for Certified Professional Locksmith is - CPL. John Doe, CPL, has earned the CPL designation and has successfully demonstrated proficiency in an additional twelve elective categories. This locksmith has an advanced knowledge of general locksmithing and of many specialized areas.

#### **Certified Master Locksmith (CML)**

The designation for Certified Master Locksmith is - CML. John Doe, CML, has reached the highest level of ALOA's Proficiency Registration Program. Certified Master Locksmith designates an individual who has

successfully completed ninety percent of the available categories of the Proficiency Registration Program. This locksmith has advanced knowledge of most areas of locksmithing and electronic security.

### **GENERAL LOCKSMITHING CERTIFICATION CATEGORIES**

The Proficiency Registration Evaluation currently consists of thirty-six categories, ten of which are mandatory. The mandatory categories are: Codes and Code Equipment; Cylinder Servicing; Key Blank Identification; Key Duplication; Key Impressioning; Professional Lock Opening Techniques; Lockset Functions; Lockset Servicing; Basic Master Keying; and Cabinet, Furniture, and Mailbox Locks.

The remaining twenty-six categories are electives which may be selected according to each locksmith's field of specialization or expanding knowledge. This number will vary as technology changes. Each elective contains between twenty-five and forty questions, depending on the subject covered.

### **CERTIFICATION LEVELS**

To achieve the Certified Automotive Locksmithing designation, a passing grade (70%) is required on the exam.

To achieve the first level of general locksmithing certification, Certified Registered Locksmith, a passing grade (70%+) is required on the mandatory section and any two electives.

To achieve the intermediate level of certification, Certified Professional Locksmith, a passing grade (70%+) is required on each of any twelve additional electives.

To achieve the highest level of certification, Certified Master Locksmith, a passing grade (70%+) is required on each of any nine of the remaining electives.

ALOA has certified 3,900 of our members nationwide, with an additional 2,500 who are presently in the early stages of certification. ALOA provides the licensing exam for the State of Illinois Department of Professional Regulation and has worked with other city and state agencies in setting up their qualifications for locksmith hiring and requirements for licensing.