

RIGGER AND SIGNALER Program Hoists Important Credential



One of the newer programs at the Carpenters International Training Center is also the latest to capture the attention of national experts. The National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) has accredited the UBC's Certified Rigger and Signaler (CRS) program for a 5-year period, through October 31, 2019.



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Bill Irwin, executive director of the Carpenters International Training Fund (CITF), said that the CRS certifi-

cation exceeds all requirements for riggers and signalers in the United States and Canada by ensuring that UBC members who have earned the CRS certification possess the knowledge and skills of a competent professional.

"NCCA accreditation provides the UBC with a competitive advantage in the construction industry by raising awareness that jobs completed by CRS-certified UBC members will be done safely, efficiently, and with the highest level of quality," Irwin added.

The NCCA accreditation of the CRS program is the result of the CITF championing independent development of certification programs in compliance with NCCA requirements. The achievement is a huge milestone for the UBC and CITF because it is the

first certification program to be accredited by NCCA, an internationally recognized accreditation organization and the accrediting body of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (formerly the National Organization for Competency Assurance).

The NCCA accredits certifying programs based on the highest quality standards in professional certification to ensure the programs adhere to modern standards of practice in the certification industry. The CITF joins an elite group of more than 120 organizations that have received and maintained NCCA accreditation and certify individuals.

"This achievement is due in large part to the support of UBC-affiliated local training programs," said Irwin. "This accreditation also could not have been realized without the dedication of UBC members participating in the CRS program."

Irwin also acknowledged subject matter experts, who developed and updated written and hands-on examinations to reflect the tasks, knowledge, and skills necessary for the rigging and signaling trade, and the CRS proctors, who fairly and impartially administered the exams.

With the assistance of CPS HR Consulting, the Carpenters International Certification Committee (CICC) successfully conducted a thorough job analysis and designed exams

and procedures to meet the highest standards in the credentialing industry. The CICC also developed, implemented, and managed the certification program to meet the needs of the construction industry, paving the way for UBC members to work in jurisdictions that require accreditation.



Certified UBC members receive personal recognition for their skills and expertise as rigger and signaler professionals, which may help increase their income and job opportunities. Certified members may state that they are certified riggers and signalers and may use the CRS designation to promote their credentials. The rigorous process required to achieve the CRS certification also helps UBC signatory contractors identify the right people for the job.

"Ultimately, this accreditation encourages contractors to recognize and require CRS-certified UBC members for all rigging and signaling projects throughout the United States and Canada, which means more work opportunities for our members," said UBC General President Douglas J. McCarron.