

Free Guide

CLA: Certified Logistics Associate



Skills management software
for frontline workers

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What is a CLA certification?

A CLA certification is a prerequisite for the Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) certification, demonstrating proficiency in fundamental aspects of logistics operations. It is offered by the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC), and covers topics such as product receiving, inventory control, material handling, packaging, transportation, and workplace safety.

Who needs a CLA certification?

CLA certification is beneficial for individuals seeking to enter or advance their careers in the logistics and supply chain management field. It is particularly relevant for professionals involved in various aspects of logistics operations, including inventory management, warehousing, transportation, and distribution. While it is not mandatory, obtaining a CLA certification can enhance job prospects and provide a competitive advantage in the industry.

What are the benefits of earning a CLA certification?

Below are a few of the benefits of earning a CLA certification:



Enhanced career opportunities

The CLA certification can open up new career opportunities in the logistics and supply chain management field. It demonstrates a candidate's competence and dedication, making them more attractive to potential employers and increasing their chances of securing desirable positions.



Industry recognition and credibility

The CLA certification is recognized within the logistics industry and carries credibility. It validates the individual's knowledge and skills, providing reassurance to employers, clients, and colleagues about their expertise in essential logistics operations.



Professional development and skill advancement

The CLA certification involves comprehensive training and study in key logistics areas. It enables individuals to enhance their understanding of logistics operations, develop new skills, and stay updated with industry best practices. This continuous professional development can lead to improved job performance and potential for career growth.

How to get a CLA certification

To earn a CLA certification, individuals typically need to complete a CLA certification program offered by authorized training providers. The program includes training modules covering logistics operations, followed by passing a certification exam to demonstrate proficiency in logistics and supply chain management knowledge and skills.

What are the challenges in earning a CLA certification?

Below are a few of the challenges involved in earning a CLA certification:



Developing a comprehensive knowledge

The certification requires a solid understanding of various logistics concepts and operations. Individuals may face challenges in grasping complex topics such as inventory control, transportation management, and supply chain optimization.



Time and commitment

Completing the required training and preparing for the certification exam demands dedication and time commitment. Balancing study with other personal and professional responsibilities can be challenging, especially for individuals working full-time or with limited study hours.



Exam preparation

The certification exam tests candidates' knowledge and skills in logistics. Some individuals may find it challenging to effectively prepare for the exam, particularly if they are unfamiliar with the exam format or have limited access to study resources. Developing effective study strategies and managing exam anxiety can be additional challenges.

What are tips and strategies for preparing for a CLA certification?

Here are a few tips for preparing for an CLA certification:

- Familiarize yourself with the exam syllabus and focus on the key topics and areas of emphasis
- Make use of study guides, practice exams, and online resources to reinforce your understanding and identify areas that require further attention
- Seek opportunities to gain practical experience in logistics operations to supplement your theoretical knowledge
- Develop a structured study plan, allocating specific time for each topic and consistently reviewing the material
- Simulate exam conditions by practicing timed mock exams to improve your speed and ensure you can complete the exam within the allocated time

What are the renewal requirements for a CLA certification?

Renewal requirements for a CLA certification vary depending on the certifying organization. Typically, certifications need to be renewed after a certain period, often every three to five years, through completion of continuing education, professional development activities, or reexamination to ensure knowledge and skills remain current.

What are resources for CLA certification?

A CLA certification is issued as the initial part of the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council's (MSCC) logistics certification program. In the second part of the program, candidates will work toward earning their Certified Logistics Technician certification. You can find information about the MSCC's logistics certification program on [its website](#).

Skills management

Skills management for CLA certifications

AG5 stores all certifications in the cloud, providing all authorized personnel with access to the right version of approved certifications. This helps you easily keep track of all data and documentation related to CLA certifications across your organization.

Using AG5's skills management software, you can monitor the status of any type of certification that is relevant to your workforce, leveraging intuitive dashboards that provide you with a clear understanding of exactly what is needed to keep your employees skilled and safe.

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FAQs about CLA certification

What is the scope of a CLA certification?

The scope of a CLA certification encompasses fundamental knowledge and skills related to logistics and supply chain management, including areas such as inventory control, material handling, transportation, and workplace safety.

Is a CLA certification mandatory?

A CLA certification is not mandatory or legally required. It is a voluntary certification that individuals can pursue to enhance their career prospects in the logistics and supply chain management field.

How long does it take to obtain a CLA certification?

The time required to obtain a CLA certification can vary based on factors such as the training program's duration and the individual's study pace. Generally, it can take several weeks to a few months to complete the necessary training and pass the certification exam.

What are the cost considerations for CLA certification?

Cost considerations for CLA certification include training fees, study materials, and exam fees. The specific costs can vary depending on the certifying organization, training provider, and any additional resources or support chosen by the individual.

What is the validity period of a CLA certification?

The validity period of a CLA certification typically ranges from three to five years. After this period, individuals may be required to renew their certification through continuing education or other renewal requirements specified by the certifying organization.

Can a CLA certification be integrated with management systems?

Yes, a CLA certification can be integrated with management systems, especially within logistics and supply chain management roles. It serves as a recognized credential to demonstrate an individual's competency in relevant areas of logistics operations.

How can you learn more about CLA certification?

To learn more or sign up for a CLA certification course, visit the certification program page on the [MSSC's website](#).

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