



# OSHA Rule: Personnel Certification / Qualification Requirements

*National Commission for the Certification of Crane  
Operators (NCCCO)*

# OSHA's Personnel Certification/ Qualification Requirements



OSHA 1926.1427

- **OPTION 1:**
  - Accredited testing organization
- **OPTION 2:**
  - Audited employer qualification program
- **OPTION 3:**
  - U.S. military
- **OPTION 4:**
  - Licensing by a government entity

**\*Deadline to meet requirements: November 10, 2014**

# Option 1



Nationally recognized accrediting agency  
(e.g. NCCA or ANSI)

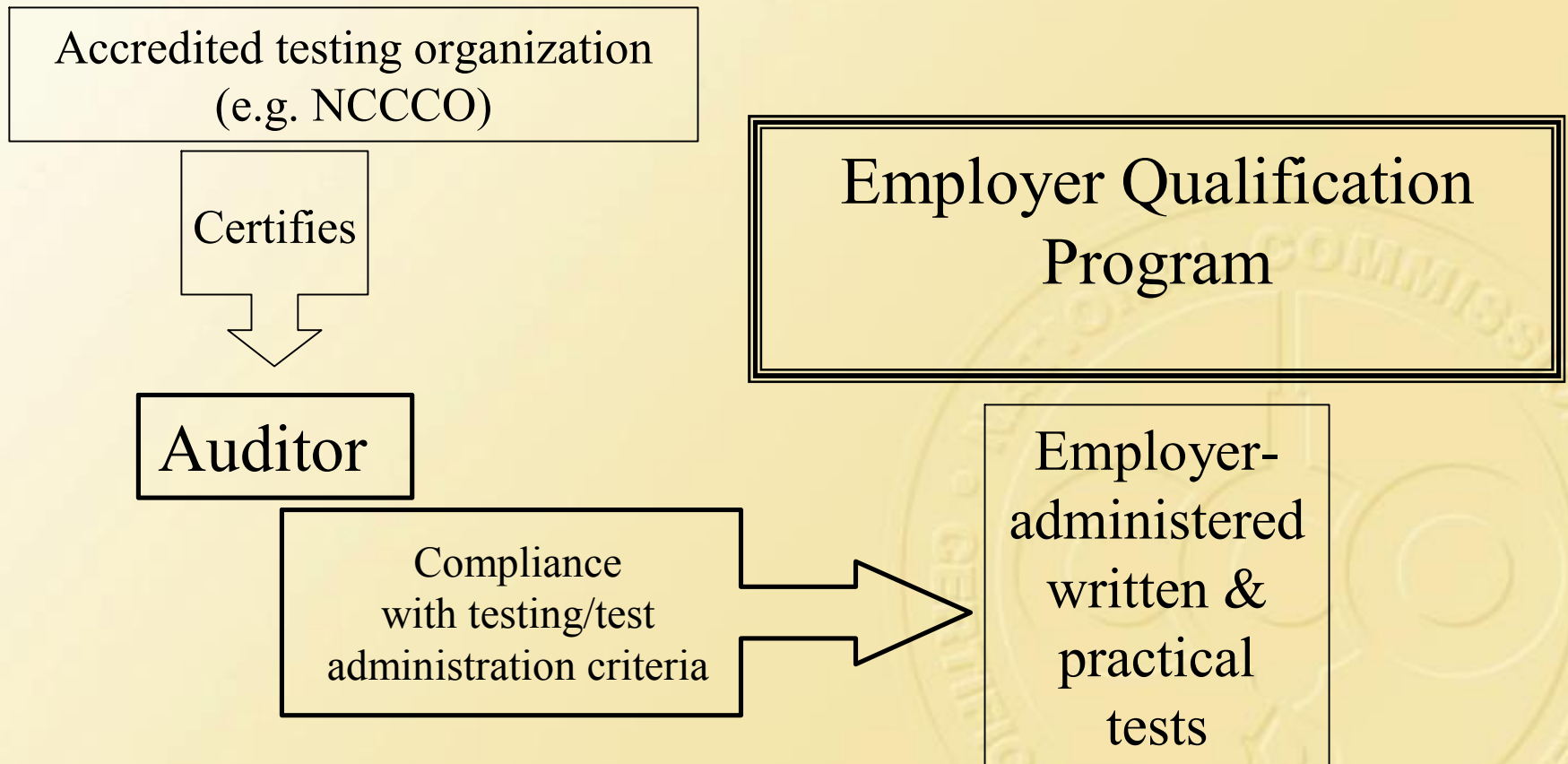
Determines  
compliance  
with  
testing/test  
administration  
criteria

Accredited testing organization  
(e.g. NCCCO)

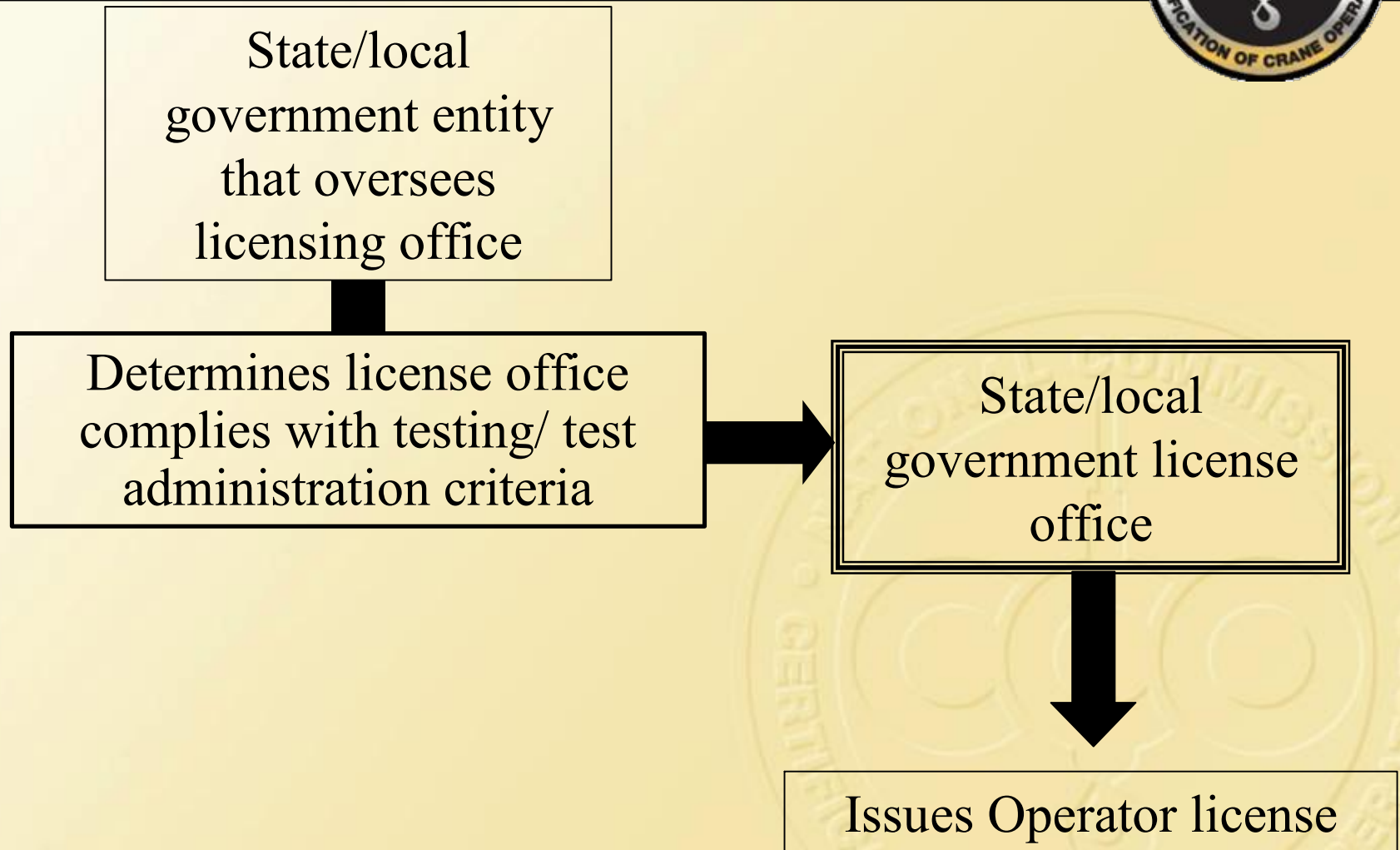
Develops and administers  
the tests (written &  
practical) to certify  
operators

Different tests for  
different capacity/  
type of equipment

# Option 2



# Option 4



**\*States must comply by February 9, 2011**

# OSHA's Options Matrix



1926.1427 (b)-(e)

Portable

Valid

<b>Accredited testing organization</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>5 years</b>
<b>Audited employer qualification program</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>5 years</b>
<b>US Military license</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Set by issuing entity</b>
<b>Government entity license</b>	<b>NO</b> <b>Valid only in entity's jurisdiction</b>	<b>Set by issuing entity, not &gt; 5 years</b>

# Certification Criteria



1926.1427(j)

- **OPTION 1:** → Accredited testing organization
- **OPTION 2:** → Audited employer qualification program
- **OPTION 3:** U.S. military
- **OPTION 4:** → Government entity license

- **Knowledge (written test)**
  - Controls/performance characteristics
  - Calculate load chart capacity
  - Preventing power line contact
  - Ground support
  - Read and locate info in operating manual
  - Appendix C subjects
- **Skills (practical test)**
  - Shift Inspection criteria
  - Operational skills
  - Application of load chart information
  - Safe shut-down and securing procedures



# Language and Literacy

1926.1427 (h)

- Verbal (oral) tests may be administered to the operator, however the candidate...
  - Must pass a written demonstration of literacy relevant to work
  - Demonstrate the ability to use written manufacturer procedures (operator manuals)
- Tests may be administered in any language the operator understands, however...
  - Certification card must note the language
  - Operator must be furnished with operators manuals and load charts in the same language



# Pre-qualification / Training



1926.1427(f)

- Operator-in-Training
  - Tasks with their ability
  - Continuous direct supervision
    - Trainer performs no other tasks while supervising
    - Direct line of sight or direction communication
  - Trainer is certified/qualified operator or has passed at least the written exam
  - Trainer is employee or agent of employer
  - Specific applications are forbidden
    - Near power lines, multi-crane lifts, hoisting personnel, etc.

# Signal Person Requirements



- All workers who will participate in signaling or flagging a crane, giving direction as to where and what will be lifted, must be qualified
  - Point of operation not in full view of operator
  - View of direction of travel is obstructed
  - Site-specific safety conditions

# Signalperson Qualifications



1926.1428(a)

- **OPTION 1:**

- Third Party qualified evaluator

- Portable
- Documentation required

- Certification meets this requirement

- **OPTION 2:**

- Employer's qualified evaluator

- Non-Portable
- Documentation required

# Qualified Evaluator



1926.1401

- Qualified Evaluator (third party)
  - An entity that, due to its independence and expertise, has demonstrated that it is competent in accurately assessing whether individuals meet the Qualification Requirements in this subpart for a signal person.
- Qualified Evaluator (not a third party)
  - A person employed by the signal person's employer who has demonstrated that he/she is competent in accurately assessing whether individuals meet the Qualification Requirements in this subpart for a signal person.

# Qualification Requirements



1926.1428(c)

- Know and understand types of signals
- Be competent in application of types of signals
- Basic understanding of equipment operations and limitations, swinging and stopping loads, boom deflection
- Understand general requirements in OSHA
- **Oral or written test**
- **Practical test**

# Signaling Requirements



- Method of signals must be agreed upon
  - Hand, voice, radio, audible, special signals
- Anyone can give a stop or emergency signal
- For voice signals, must be through a dedicated channel
- Operator, signal person and lift director (if there is one) must be able to communicate in the language used.



# Rigger Qualifications

- 1926.1401: Definitions: A *qualified rigger* is defined as a qualified person
  - Qualified Person: a *person who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training and experience, successfully demonstrated the ability to solve/resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.*
- A qualified rigger is required for certain conditions
  - During assembly/disassembly
  - Employees within the “fall zone” (1926.1401)

# Training Requirements



- 1926.1430(d)
  - The employer must train each competent and qualified person applicable to their role
- 1926.1430(g)(1)
  - The employer must EVALUATE each employee required to be trained under this subpart to confirm that the employee understands the information provided in the training.



# Certification/Training Costs



- 1926.1427(a)(4)
  - Whenever operator qualification or certification is required, the employer must provide the qualification or certification at no cost to operators who are employed by the employer.
- 1926.1430(g)(3)
  - Whenever training is required, the employer must provide the training at no cost to the employee.

**\*Documentation is CRITICAL**



# More Information

- [www.osha.gov/cranes-derricks/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/cranes-derricks/index.html)
  - Compliance Assistance
  - Fact Sheets
  - OSHA Presentation
  - Final Rule documents
- [www.nccco.org](http://www.nccco.org)
  - NCCCO Guide to OSHA rule
  - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



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