

International Society of Arboriculture



Certification & Qualification Programs



**MINNESOTA SOCIETY OF
ARBORICULTURE**

Minnesota's Role in ISA Certification

- ▶ Four (4) in person exams in Minnesota
- ▶ Issuing and administering CEUs
- ▶ Pearson VUE testing facilities available for your own test date & location



Need CEUs?

Shop now for CEU opportunities

Becoming Certified

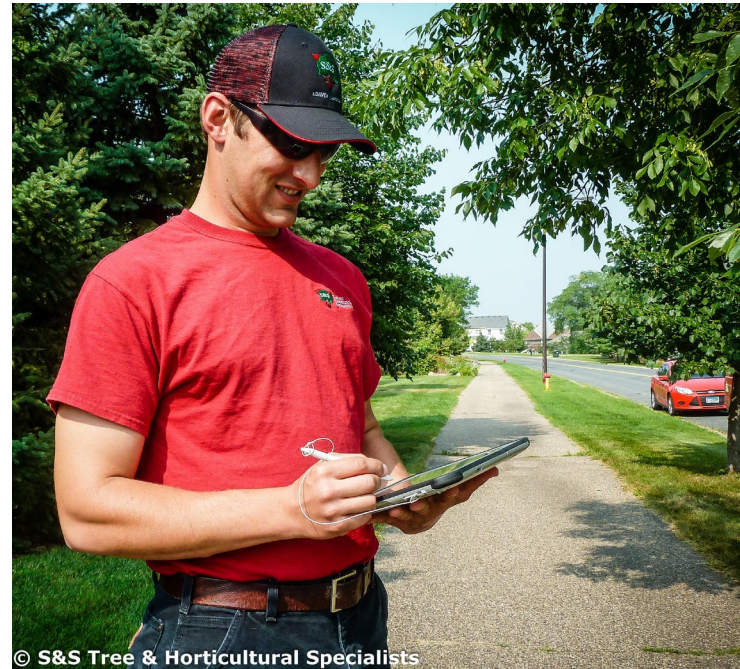
Certification demonstrates that you have the knowledge and skills in arboriculture as well as dedication to your profession.

Becoming Qualified

Qualification is designed as a learning event with a test at the end to confirm that that participant as met the learning outcomes.

ISA Certification

- ▶ Educational program that improves technical competency of personnel in the tree care industry.
- ▶ Training and incentive tool.
- ▶ Certification provides opportunities for consumers to make informed decisions based on knowledge that is represented by the credential.
- ▶ Creates legitimacy of your program.



Certification Categories

- ▶ Certified Arborist
- ▶ Board Certified Master Arborist
- ▶ Certified Tree Worker/Climber
- ▶ Municipal Specialist
- ▶ Utility Specialist

Qualification Categories

- ▶ Tree Risk Assessment Qualification

Certified Arborist

- ▶ Largest group of credential holders.
- ▶ Experience several aspects of tree care and have passed an exam developed by an international panel of experts.
- ▶ Exam extensively covers every aspect of tree care and the individuals must have an acceptable level of knowledge in all areas of arboriculture.
- ▶ Currently 796 Certified Arborist's in MN



Certified Arborist

▶ Exam Eligibility

- ▶ Minimum of 3 years of full-time experience in arboriculture.

OR

- ▶ Alternative One-Two-year degree and 2 years of practical experience.
- ▶ Alternative Two-Four-year degree and 1 year of practical experience.

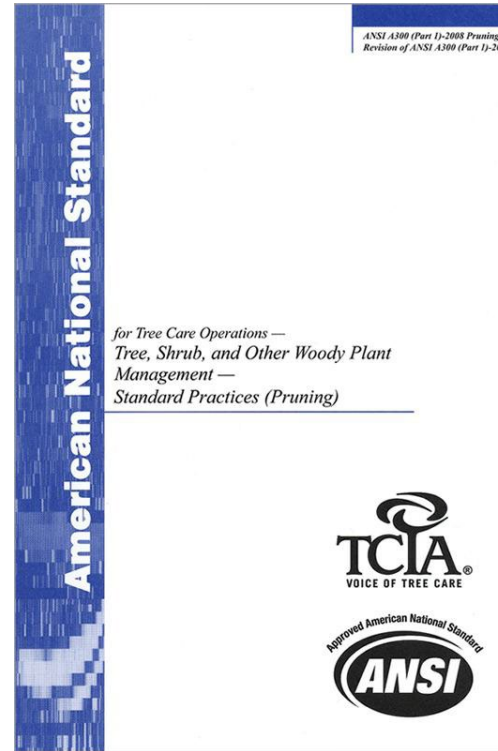
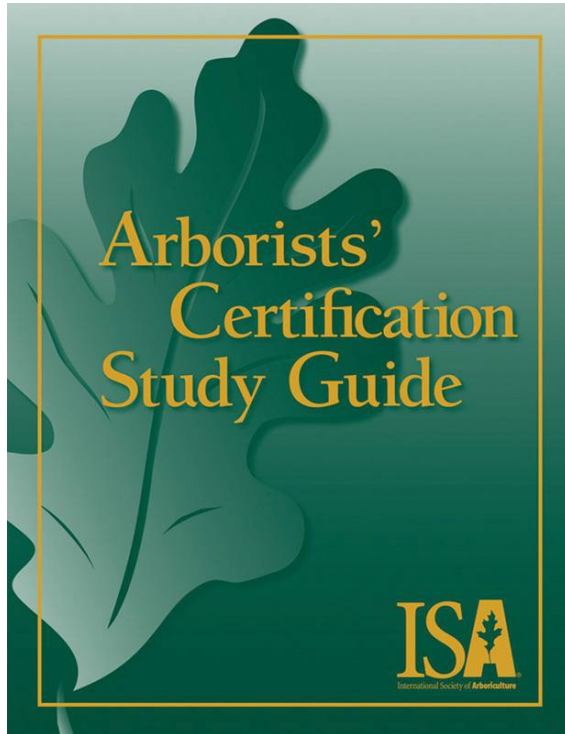
Exam Overview

200 Multiple Choice Questions

The certification examination is weighted in the following manner:

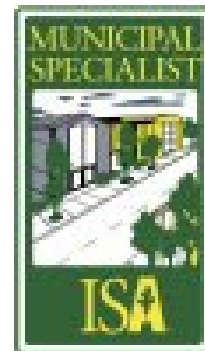
- ▶ Soil Management9%
- ▶ Identification & Selection9%
- ▶ Installation and Establishment.....9%
- ▶ Safe Work Practices12%
- ▶ Tree Biology12%
- ▶ Pruning.....13%
- ▶ Diagnosis & Treatment9%
- ▶ Urban Forestry.....8%
- ▶ Tree Protection.....9%
- ▶ Tree Risk Assessment10%

Certified Arborist



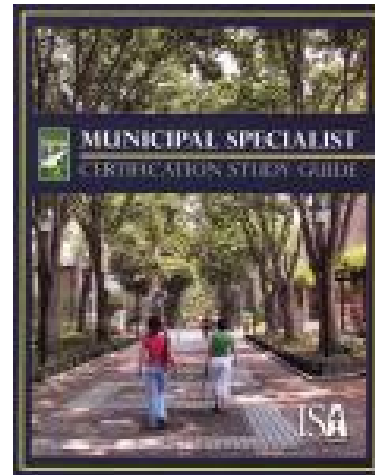
Municipal Specialist

- ▶ Certification for professional arborists who are ISA Certified Arborists in good standing and have additional experience in the specialty area of urban trees.
- ▶ Municipal specialists work for cities and states, parks, contractors or consultants.
- ▶ They have thorough knowledge of establishing and maintaining trees in a community.
- ▶ Currently 29 Municipal Specialist's in MN



Specialist Exams

► Municipal Specialist



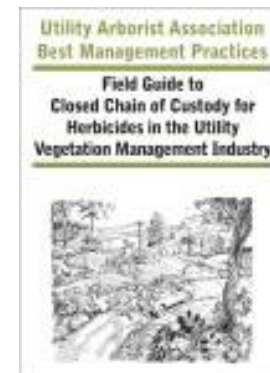
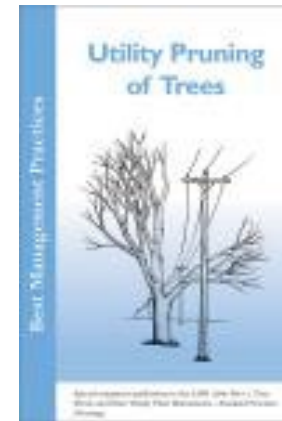
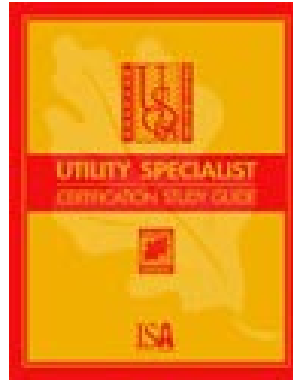
Utility Specialist

- ▶ Professional arborists who are ISA Certified Arborists in good standing and have additional experience in the specialty area of tree care around power lines.
- ▶ Utility specialists work for utility companies, their contractors or consultants.
- ▶ They have thorough knowledge of line clearance vegetation management.
- ▶ Currently 53 Utility Specialist's in MN



Specialist Exams

► Utility Specialist



Board Certified Master Arborist

- ▶ Designed for arborists who have reached the pinnacle of their profession.
- ▶ Individuals must be a Certified Arborist in good standing and have obtained other pre-requisites defined by ISA.
- ▶ Computer-based exam covers science, practice and management.
- ▶ Currently 42 Board Certified Master Arborist's in MN



Board Certified Master Arborist



Certified Tree Worker

- ▶ These credential holders have a minimum of 18 months experience professionally climbing trees in a safe and efficient manner to perform tree care.
- ▶ They have knowledge in the major aspects involved in tree care including, pruning, removal, cabling and safety.
- ▶ They must pass a knowledge exam and a skills exam conducted by trained evaluators.



Certified Tree Worker Climber Specialist

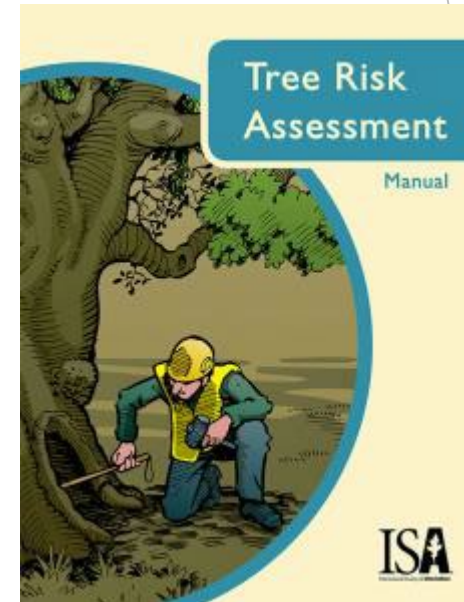


Certified Tree Worker Aerial Lift Specialist

Becoming Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ)

Qualification is designed as a learning event with a test at the end to confirm that that participant as met the learning outcomes.

The program offers tree care professionals the opportunity to learn a standardized, systematic process for assessing tree risk and providing information to tree owners and risk managers when making decisions that will promote the safety of people and property and enhance tree benefits, health, and longevity.



Testing Tips & Information

- ▶ Must have 72% to pass
- ▶ You have 1 time to retake the entire exam within 1 year without reapplying and pay the test fee.
- ▶ Most receive exam results within 4-6 weeks of taking the exam.
- ▶ Questions in the exam are not by chapter topic they are mixed throughout the exam.



Testing Tips & Information

- ▶ **Arrive early for tests.**
(Make a list of what you need before you go to the test.)
- ▶ **Be comfortable**
- ▶ **Be confident and relaxed**
(Maintain a good attitude and RELAX.)
- ▶ **Take your time read the directions carefully**
- ▶ **As time permits scan through the test and look for key words**
- ▶ **Answer questions in a strategic order:**
(Easy questions first, go back and spend time on the challenging questions.)
- ▶ **If time allows, review!**
- ▶ **Create a study strategy, allow enough time to prepare.**

Questions???

Paul Buck

Minnesota Society of Arboriculture
Certification Chair

pbuck@plymouthmn.gov

763-509-5944