AVCLEARED CERTIFICATION

AVCleared Programming Specialist: candidate handbook

Updated November 2026. The current version is always on the certificate's page.

1. About this certificate

The AVCleared Programming Specialist is a Level 2 Specialist certificate in control programming from AVCleared's personal certification program. It shows that the holder has the knowledge and judgment the exam outline describes, tested with scenario-based questions about real jobs.

AVCleared certificates are held by a person, not a company. Each one has a number and a public check page, so employers and clients can confirm it is current.

AVCleared certification is an independent program. It isn't affiliated with, endorsed by or equivalent to AVIXA, its CTS certifications or any manufacturer's certification.

2. Eligibility

You need a current AVCleared Associate.

- An AVCleared account in your legal name (it must match your photo ID for testing-center exams).
- Agreement to the exam rules and the candidate agreement in this handbook.

3. Applying and paying

Start the exam from the certificate page. The fee is $199, with 1 free retake; it's free for people whose company is on a paid AVCleared plan.

Refunds: in full within 30 days of payment if you haven't started the exam.

4. The exam

120 questions in 180 minutes, online; pass at 80%.

Questions are multiple choice with one best answer. Many describe a site condition, a drawing or a fault and ask what you would do. Answer choices are shuffled for each candidate, and every candidate gets a different set of questions drawn from a much larger bank, spread across the outline.

5. Exam content outline

The exam covers these topics, weighted as shown. The full outline is a separate download.

- Control system architecture: 13%
- Device control protocols: 15%
- Program logic and state: 15%
- User interface design: 15%
- Code quality, security and documentation: 15%
- Testing and commissioning control systems: 14%
- Securing control systems: 13%

6. Taking the exam online

Use a computer with a reliable connection. Your answers save as you go; if you lose connection, sign back in and continue. The timer keeps running while you're away.

When time runs out, the answers you've saved are scored.

7. Exam rules

The exam is closed book. You may not use notes, reference material, other people, phones, or AI tools, and you may not copy, record or share any exam question, in any form, before or after the exam.

- Breaking the rules ends the exam and can void your result, revoke certificates you already hold, and bar you from future exams.
- Sharing or selling exam content is a breach of the candidate agreement.

8. Accommodations

If you have a disability or condition that affects how you take exams, request an accommodation (extra time, breaks, a separate room, a reader, large print or your own assistive technology) before you start or book the exam. Requests are confidential and reviewed by staff, usually within five business days. You may be asked for documentation from a qualified professional.

9. Scoring and results

You need 80% to pass. You see your score and a breakdown by topic as soon as you finish. A pass issues your certificate straight away.

10. Retesting

If you don't pass, you can try again after 24 hours. Your fee covers the retakes it lists; after that, each attempt is a new fee.

11. Your certificate

Your certificate is valid for 3 years.

It has a number, a PDF, a badge and a public check page. You can order a printed copy or a replacement at any time.

12. Renewal

Renew with 30 continuing credits earned during the cycle, at least 15 in this track, or with the 50-question renewal exam. Renewal opens 90 days before expiry. After expiry you have 180 days to renew; after that, reinstate by passing the full exam again.

If something stops you finishing your credits, you can ask for a one-time extension of 120 days.

13. Revocation and appeals

Certificates can be revoked for breaking the exam rules, sharing exam content, or false experience or renewal evidence. You can appeal any decision about your exam, accommodation or certificate within 30 days by emailing us with the reasons and any evidence. A different staff member reviews the appeal.

14. Privacy

We keep your exam records to run the program and check certificates. Your email is never shown publicly. The certification directory lists you only if you turn it on.

15. Contact

Certification questions: support@avcleared.com.