

Riggers get out in front of it, versus chasing it!

Attention: All members who currently possess and/or want to possess the UBC Certified Rigger and Signaler Certification

As of July 1st there are mandated changes by the Carpenters International Training Center (CITC) to the UBC Certified Rigger and Signaler (CRS) testing procedures for the 40 hr. CRS rigging course and 16 hr. CRS refresher course. These changes will directly affect the availability of last minute CRS course openings or CRS refreshers offered through the St. Louis Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program (CJAP).

Historically, when a member needed to obtain an initial CRS course or refresher course, the member could sit in a scheduled CRS class with the apprentices as long as there was seating in the class, this is no longer an option.

The UBC has changed the CRS 40 hr. and CRS refresher testing protocol, St. Louis CJAP must notify the UBC 35 to 90 days in advance of test date. Only a pre-ordered amount of tests will be provided based on the class size listed on the website for the pre-arranged test date and no more. So, you can see there will be an issue for a member who waits until the last minute to refresh or take the initial CRS.

This change will require all members who possess a valid CRS card to plan much further ahead for their CRS refresher. Do not wait until you need the CRS for a job requirement, it will be too late by then, and as mentioned above St Louis CJAP must provide between 35 and 90 day notice to the UBC. The final course results from your completed exam can take an additional 4 to 6 weeks to receive.

**The CRS is valid for 4 yrs. with a grace period of 1 yr. During the 1yr. grace period the CRS is not valid for any rigging. If your CRS grace period expires you will be required to successfully complete the 40 hr. CRS to obtain a new cert.

St. Louis CJAP strives to meet all members training needs. This change will not alter our mission. To accommodate members requiring the initial CRS or CRS refresher, you the member will need to plan much further ahead and the locals will need to inform members of this change continually.

Regards,

Ronald J. Tierney.