



IAI Footwear Certification Program

NIJ Impression and Pattern Evidence Symposium

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The Footwear Certification program has been in existence since 1998.

122 Applications

113 Participated in Test

96% Pass Rate

80 Currently Certified (National and International)

16 Currently in Testing Phase

Applications have doubled since NAS report

Strong European Interest

**Accredited by the Forensic
Specialties Accreditation Board
(FSAB) since March 2010**



Requirements for Examination

Educational and Experience Requirements

An applicant must possess a Bachelor's Degree plus three years of experience as a Footwear Examiner OR;

Possess an Associate Degree plus five years of experience as a Footwear Examiner OR;

Possess a High School diploma plus eight years of experience as a Footwear Examiner.

Footwear Examiner is defined as one whose duties must include the analysis, comparison and documentation of written opinions regarding footwear impression evidence in a laboratory type setting. The collection, preservation and documentation of footwear related evidence at a crime scene does not constitute experience as a footwear examiner as required by the IAI for Footwear Certification.



Requirements for Examination

Training Requirements

Applicants must have satisfactorily completed a training program in the examination of footwear evidence to include, but not limited to, terminology, manufacturing process for footwear, photography of footwear evidence, enhancement, recovery and preservation of footwear evidence, comparative examinations, case note preparation and report writing, legal considerations and courtroom testimony.

Endorsements

All applicants for certification must submit two letters of endorsement.

One letter shall be from a superior within the applicant's department or agency and one shall be from a member of the Criminal Justice System who has used that person's services.



Certification Process

Written Examination

Consists of 100 multiple choice questions

- ranging from all aspects of footwear examination to include terminology, manufacturing processes, photography, recovery, etc.

80% must be achieved within the two hour time limit for successful completion.

Candidates can prepare for the written test by reading:

Bodziak, W. J., "Footwear Impression Evidence (Second Edition)"

IAI Recommended Course of Study for Footwear and Tire Track Examiners

SWGTHREAD Recommended Guidelines

Practical Examination

The practical problems consist of the evaluation and comparison of a minimum of three (3) separate cases with no erroneous inclusions or exclusions. Notes, observations, and all supporting data used to reach an opinion must be returned with the test materials.



Questions?

