



AFA Certification

The AFA Certification program is dedicated to the welfare of the horse. The certification test is not a mandate or blueprint on how to shoe any individual horse. It is, rather, an objective assessment of the specific skills necessary to perform the job of farriery to a prescribed standard. Those who pass it possess the ability to provide a healthy standard of hoof care.

The AFA Certification Program centers upon standardized examinations covering all aspects of farriery, from knowledge and understanding of equine anatomy, physiology and biomechanics, to forging shoes and shoeing the horse. Our Examiners and Testers, all AFA Certified Journeyman Farriers, are men and women dedicated to excellence. They donate their time to work at Certifications, and also participate in our bi-annual updates and standardization program.

Setting the standard for excellence in hoof care



AMERICAN FARRIER'S ASSOCIATION

859-233-7411 | info@americanfarriers.org
www.americanfarriers.org

Certification

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Purina is proud to partner with the American Farrier's Association and share science-based insights to improve hoof quality and growth. Our goal is to educate members about the unique needs of horses and how nutrition can address those needs.

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AMERICAN FARRIER'S ASSOCIATION

Profit Through Knowledge
Profit Through Professionalism

AFA CERTIFICATIONS



While Certification is at the center of the program, Classification and Endorsement are integral and valuable components designed to make the program viable for the entire farrier community.

Classification

Classification provides opportunities for entry level farriers.

AFA Farrier Classification (AFA FC) — The entry level component of the Certification process, this Classification focuses on basic concerns associated with safe, sound farriery, therefore relieving the candidate from certain time constraints and higher level forge work associated with Certification.

Certification

Certification candidates at entry level are expected to display skills associated with correct hoof trimming, the application of horseshoes to exacting prescriptions, forging skills for modifying or making a variety of horseshoes, and a working knowledge of equine anatomy, physiology, and biomechanics.

AFA Certified Farrier (AFA CF) — The AFA CF exams constitute the first level of Certification. It is recommended that farriers have at least one year of horseshoeing experience prior to taking the exams. The CF level of Certification requires successful

completion of written and practical testing, requiring working knowledge of equine anatomy, physiology, and biomechanics. Farriers display their practical skills shoeing two feet on a horse with Keg Shoes, as well as the creation and explanation of a horseshoe display with the 14 modifications listed in our Study Guide.

AFA Certified Tradesman Farrier (AFA CTF) — The AFA CTF exams constitute a second (optional) level of Certification for farriers who have completed the CF level. It is recommended that farriers taking these exams have at least two years of experience. The CTF process requires successful completion of written and practical testing, including the forging and fitting of a handmade shoe within a prescribed time limit.

AFA Certified Journeyman Farrier (AFA CJF) — The AFA CJF exams constitute the highest level of AFA Certification and are open to farriers who have completed the CF level. It is recommended that farriers taking these exams have at least two years of horseshoeing experience.

Candidates sitting for the CJF examinations are tested on in-depth knowledge of equine anatomy, physiology, and biomechanics, and are asked to demonstrate their highly developed practical skills. The process requires successful completion of written and practical testing, as well as the forging and fitting of a bar shoe within a prescribed time limit.

Endorsement

Endorsement provides opportunities for farriers who have completed the highest level of Certification.

AFA Specialty Endorsement — AFA CJFs have the opportunity to profit through their success by focusing on receiving further accreditation in areas of specialization. We offer Therapeutic Endorsement, Educator Endorsement, and Forging Endorsement. Specialty Endorsements lead to even greater potential for higher income and professional standing in the farrier's community.

Testing Preparation

The AFA Certification Program and our Examiners strongly recommend that all candidates participate in Pre-Certification Education, by not only attending clinics and making connections with other farriers, but also owning a copy of "The AFA Certification Study Guide" and becoming familiar with the steps provided to reach your Certification goals. A hard copy of the guide is provided to all new members with their membership, and test fees are discounted to current AFA members. The guide may also be purchased for \$15.95 through our online store at www.americanfarriers.org/product-s or by calling the AFA office at 859-233-7411 ex.0. Our calendar of Certification locales and dates is updated frequently online at: www.americanfarriers.org/events/category/certification.

Better Skills — Better Clients — Better Working Conditions — Better Income