



(Updated Exams Release Date: April 27, 2026)  
Highway Construction Inspection Certification

Level IV Content Outline

**Engineering Technician**

The candidate for NICET certification at Level IV in Highway Construction Inspection should have the knowledge, experience and skills needed to: Review project plans and specifications, including required properties of asphalt, concrete, and other materials to identify potential problems; develop inspection strategies, schedules, and assignments; supervise/manage multiple inspection teams on major projects with considerable complexity; troubleshoot complex issues; evaluate the status of project schedule, budget, and contract requirements. They have at least 10 years of experience in the inspection of highway construction projects and related work.

**4.1 Complex or Critical Construction**

(Questions related to these tasks make up 35-45% of the exam.)

4.1.1 Oversee inspections of critical construction activities. 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 10

4.1.2 Develop and manage operation-specific hold-points for critical or complex inspections. 1, 3, 8

4.1.3 Identify the likely causes of problems in construction materials or procedures, diagnose causes, and recommend remedies. 1, 2, 11, 12

**4.2 Maintain Schedules and Budgets**

(Questions related to these tasks make up 25-35% of the exam.)

4.2.1 Review and evaluate baseline and progress schedules. 1, 2

4.2.2 Review work completed to verify eligibility for payment. 1

4.2.3 Review project inspection and testing costs to date, estimate remaining costs, and compare to construction engineering and inspection budgets.

**4.3 Project Administration**

(Questions related to these tasks make up 25-35% of the exam.)

4.3.1 Evaluate project contracts plans and specifications for constructability. 2, 6

4.3.2 Evaluate the need for contract modifications and manage the change order process. 1, 4

4.3.3 Manage the price adjustment provisions of performance-based contracts. 2

4.3.4 Review wage rate inspection reports for compliance with current legislation and regulations including Davis-Bacon Act. 1, 2, 13

4.3.5 Manage project's final inspection, acceptance, and closeout. 1, 2, 5, 6

4.3.6 Describe the different types of project delivery methods. (design build, design bid build, progressive design build)

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footnote number is linked to a reference on the Selected General References listing