


Comparison of NCCA-Accredited Group Exercise/Fitness Certifications

As of October 2024, three organizations offered an NCCA-accredited Group Exercise/Fitness Instructor certification. These include the National Exercise Trainers Association (NETA), the American Council on Exercise (ACE), and the National Aerobics & Fitness Trainers Association (NAFTA). The table below provides a comparison of these certification programs.

	Best Value Study Package Regular Fee	Test-Only Regular Fee	Number of Exam Questions	Exam Time	Pass Rate	Retake Fee	Recertification Period	CECs/CEUs* Needed for Recertification	On-time Recertification Fee [◇]
	\$399	\$249	120	120 minutes	81% (2023)	\$129	2 years	20	\$75
ACE	\$465	\$249	150	180 minutes	74% (2023)	\$199	2 years	2.0 [†]	\$129 [‡]
NAFTA	\$299	\$199	100	120 minutes	85% (2020)	\$179	2 years	15 [†]	\$39 online \$49 mail

* CECs = Continuing Education Credits, CEUs = Continuing Education Units.

† 0.1 ACE CEC is equivalent to 1.0 NETA CEC. 1.0 NAFTA is equivalent to 1.0 NETA CEC. NAFTA CEUs must be petitioned for NETA CEC approval.

‡ \$129 for those holding one ACE certification, \$69 each for those holding two ACE certifications, \$59 each for those holding three ACE certifications, \$49 each for those holding four ACE certifications.

◇ NETA, ACE, and NAFTA provide a 180-day reinstatement grace period.

The table above reflects publicly available information as of October 2024.