# **CERTIFIED...** Now What?

Now that you have an industry certification, you might be wondering what's next. An industry certification is verifiable proof of knowledge and skills, making earners more qualified for a variety of positions.

You can get the most out of your industry certification by pursuing opportunities such as...



Connecting with other certification earners or others interested in your field can build your professional network. Listing your certification on your LinkedIn profile shows you are ready to engage with like minded individuals from a variety of backgrounds and career experiences. Other options for networking could include joining professional associations related to your industry certification or career field.



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Earning an industry certification is a great career development tool, and you can strengthen those professional skills by pursuing mentoring opportunities. Whether you choose to seek out a mentor yourself or feel comfortable being a mentor for others, interacting with those who have similar career backgrounds and aspirations can be mutually beneficial and fulfilling and challenge you to continue to grow professionally.

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Due to your specialized skill set, you are equipped to take on special projects, such as new initiatives or committees, when they come available in your workplace. Take initiative to seek out these opportunities or initiate them when appropriate and make the most of the unique knowledge and skills you possess.

## LEADERSHIP ROLES

Now that you have an industry certification, you are more prepared to assume leadership roles in your place of work or other groups related to your specialized field. Whether you seek these roles out yourself or are nominated for them due to your newfound expertise, take advantage of these opportunities and use these positions as an avenue to create meaningful change in your field or workplace and inspire others to do the same.



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