

# Why Be Certified?



To achieve professional certification. Achieving certified status demonstrates that you meet the national standards for technicians or technologists in your particular field of technology, so it benefits you by giving you professional credibility and creating greater opportunity for advancement.

Many employers prefer or demand the credential and holding a credential often gives you an advantage when looking for a job or trying to move up the company ladder. Certification also provides a baseline of academic and skills from which members and employers can determine future studies to improve qualifications.

Individuals who show interest in their careers and in achieving certification usually are viewed by employers as the type of ambitious people that they value. This is particularly true if the member is active in the organization and works to make the best of their membership by attending functions, participating in events and using what they have learned.

Members of AETTNL are attractive to employers because they know they meet a stringent national set of standards for training and experience and that they have agreed to abide by a professional code of ethics. This code of ethics is vitally important to the public, other professionals, and employers, particularly in the current labour environment, where traditional levels of oversight are being reduced.

Fringe benefits to membership, such as discounts plans, group insurance programs, job referral service, industry and compensation information, etc. These programs are nice to have and can offset the cost of membership if your employer doesn't pay your dues (most do), but these are not the primary reasons for membership - professional recognition is still and always will be the key reason for being an AETTNL member.

AETTNL offers members opportunities to enhance their own abilities through various types of involvement. Involvement on the Public Relations committee, the Certification/Registration Board, or representing AETTNL at a trade, career, or educational event gives you valuable experience in non-technical settings.

We all know that communications skills, the ability to lead a group and yet work as a team are all attributes being sought by employers. AETTNL can give you opportunities to do that if you want them. It's important to understand that the organization doesn't exist simply to simply provide benefit plans -- often the benefits to you are less tangible, but can be found simply by working with a respected technical organization.

AETTNL is the only organization that represents technicians and technologists in Newfoundland and Labrador. That means this organization is fighting for your rights, for better recognition for you and your profession in general. So belonging to AETTNL also means that you support your profession and want to keep up this fight. No other organization is doing that in our Province.