

Vignettes

Depending upon time left in the interview, respondents will answer these vignettes. Give them the piece of paper with the vignette, have the participant read it aloud and then answer the questions on the next 2 pages. They only need to answer A39-A44 and D17-D21. Have them complete all 3 vignettes then review their answers if they deviate from how the sponsor would have wanted them to respond.

There is one last task I would like your help with. We would like to gather more information on how the certificates and licenses and certification questions work for different situations. Please read the following situation. Based on that situation, please answer the questions that follow to the best of your ability.

#1

Maria got a bachelor's degree in history, but was having trouble finding a job. One of her friends told her about a certificate program in real estate that he finished in less than a year at the local community college. He felt that it really paid off for him, so Maria enrolled, got her realtor's license after completing the program, and now has her own real estate business.

Pretend you are Maria. How would you answer the questions on these next two pages?

Certifications and Licenses

A39. As of February 1, 2014, did you have a currently active professional certification or a state or industry license?

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Do not include licenses needed by a business to operate.

- 1 Yes
 2 No → Go to page 7, question B1

A40. (If Yes) How many currently active certifications or licenses do you have?

If you earned a certification in order to get a license, count each certification and license separately.

NUMBER

A41. Thinking of all the currently active certifications and licenses you have, did you get any of them for work-related reasons?

- 1 Yes
 2 No → Go to page 7, question B1

A42. (If Yes) What is the name of the certification or license that you most recently earned or renewed?

If you got a certification as part of getting a license, please provide the name of the license. Please do not use abbreviations.

A43. In what year were you first issued the certification or license that you reported in question A42?

If you have renewed this certification or license, please enter the year you first earned it.

YEAR

A44. What is the primary subject or field of study for this certification or license?

Examples include teaching, vocational nursing, civil engineering, project management, or computer network administration.

A45. Who issued this certification or license?

Mark one answer.

- 1 Federal, state, or local government
 2 Professional or trade association (e.g., Pediatric Nursing Certification Board, National Exercise and Sports Trainers Association, CompTIA)
 3 Business or company (e.g., Microsoft™, 3M Company™, Xerox®)
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A46. Why do you currently hold this certification or license?

Mark Yes or No for each item.

- | | Yes
↓ | No
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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 To improve skills or knowledge in your current occupational field | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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A47. Do you have to earn continuing education units (CEUs) or other professional development credits to maintain this certification or license?

- 1 Yes
 2 No

A48. Were any of your costs for this certification or license paid for by an employer?

- 1 Yes
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A49. Is this certification or license for the principal job you held during the week of February 1, 2014?

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#2

John received a certificate in Computer Information Systems after attending a one-year program at a technical college. At the end of the program, John took the CompTIA A+ certification exams at a local testing site. After passing the two exams required for certification, John was certified to provide service to Dell, Intel, and Lenovo equipment.

Pretend you are John. How would you answer the questions on these next two pages?

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- 1 Yes
 2 No

A49. Is this certification or license for the principal job you held during the week of February 1, 2014?

If not currently employed, please answer "No."

- 1 Yes
 2 No

Educational Certificates

D17. Prior to February 1, 2014, did you earn a vocational or trade school certificate or diploma – that is, a certificate or diploma designed to provide the skills needed for direct entry to employment?

Examples include certificates or diplomas in cosmetology, administrative support, computer programming, and medical records.

- 1 Yes
 2 No

D18. Prior to February 1, 2014, did you earn a post-baccalaureate or post-master's certificate – that is, a certificate designed to provide degree holders with new or additional training in an area of specialization?

Post-baccalaureate certificates typically require fewer semester course hours than do graduate degrees, and do not require a thesis or dissertation.

Post-master's certificates typically require semester course hours beyond the master's degree but do not meet the requirements of a doctorate.

Examples include certificates in accounting, computer science, and human resource management.

- 1 Yes
 2 No

D19. Did you answer "Yes" to D17 or D18?

- 1 Yes
 2 No → Go to page 14, question D26

D20. (If Yes) Which type of certificate did you earn most recently?

- 1 Vocational or trade school certificate or diploma
 2 Post-baccalaureate or post-master's certificate

D21. In what year did you earn your most recent certificate?

YEAR			

D22. What was the primary subject or field of study for your most recent certificate?

PRIMARY SUBJECT OR FIELD OF STUDY

D23. Why did you earn your most recent certificate?

Mark Yes or No for each item.

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D24. What type of school awarded your most recent certificate?

Mark one answer.

- 1 Two-year college, community college, or technical institute
 2 Four-year college or university
 3 Other type of school – Specify ↴

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D25. Were any of your costs for earning your most recent certificate paid for by an employer?

- 1 Yes
 2 No

#3

After completing a certified nursing assistant (CNA) program at the CNA Nursing School of Maryland, Ann worked as a CNA for years, moved to a different state, then decided to go back to school and get a degree to improve her career opportunities. She enrolled in a Bachelor's of Science program at a local nursing school, which accepted many of the credits she had earned in her CNA certificate program. Once she earned her degree and passed her licensure exam, she obtained a Registered Nurse (RN) position.

Pretend you are Ann. How would you answer the questions on these next two pages?

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