



PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION

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Dear Educator,

At our recent convention NASC 2007 held in Nashville in February, PSA officers and instructors spoke directly with appliance manufacturers who were present about the urgent need to provide support to vocational schools in the form of technical assistance and in providing state of the art product for students to work on in the classroom.

One of the reasons that we are having difficulty attracting quality students to the appliance repair field as a career choice is the direct result of not having the latest technology in the classrooms to show potential students the challenges of troubleshooting and the repair of high technology appliances can be a rewarding career option.

In the past, products available to vocational schools was limited to older low technology products or in some cases products provided by only one manufacturer.

The manufacturers were receptive to the idea and we have provided them with a list of schools that are currently offering an appliance repair curriculum. They will be contacting you directly as they move forward and sources of classroom product becomes available. They are also receptive to providing direct product training in your classroom to keep you up to date on new technology as it develops.

In the past, instructors have no means of communicating with other instructors around the country to discuss problems, curriculum or exchange new ideas on what is needed to improve the way we deal with training new technicians.

PSA has put together a new email reflector (PSA-Edu) that will allow instant communications between educators to solve that problem. You will also be able to provide input directly to the national appliance review committee that provides the annual review of appliance skills standards. You can become a part of Email network by sending an email to psaworld@aol.com giving us your email address and indicating that you want to be listed on the PSA-Edu network.

I am also attaching a copy of our Certified Appliance Professional Graduate Technician certification program designed for students graduating from appliance technology vocational schools. The exam is a computer-based exam that is self-scoring and is generic in design based on the latest skill standards and competencies approved annually by the National Coalition of Electronics Education (NCEE). These standards can be found on the NCEE website www.ncee-edu.org. Schools using this program will be able to become industry accredited by proving that their instruction curriculum is in compliance with industry-approved standards.

NASC 2008 will be held in Orlando in March, 2008. We are planning another meeting between PSA officers, appliance instructors and appliance manufacturers to monitor the progress in supporting vocational schools. Mark your calendars now and try to attend that convention. I am sure it will be worth your effort to participate.

PSA is continuing to work toward improving your ability to attract students and to offer the kind of education that benefits both the graduate student and the industry they are being trained to enter.

Sincerely yours,

Ron Sawyer
PSA Executive Director

PSA'S GRADUATE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Certification:

PSA's Certified Appliance Professional program is designed to give appliance technicians credentials that are recognized nation-wide by accurately measuring his/her abilities and experience in the field of appliance service.

Graduate Program:

The Graduate Program is designed to give the graduating students credentials that are recognized nation-wide in the field of appliance repair by accurately measuring his/her abilities and experience in the field of appliance service.

Explanation:

While the Master Certified Appliance Professional applicant must to have at least two years experience in the field of appliance service before the title of Master can be added to his/her certification, graduating students may have the technical ability to qualify for the Masters title but not the experience. Therefore newly graduating technicians cannot achieve Master status until they acquire a minimum of two years experience. However the student may apply for the Master Certified Appliance Professional status after two years of documented service in the field.

Price:

The Graduate Program exam is free of charge and students are required to pass all eight modules with a score of 75% or better to qualify. The certification is good for two years. The Graduate Technician after two years of experience in the field may apply for a Master CAP certification for \$50.00 additional an additional two years.

Expiration:

With the exception of the Graduate Program, all levels of certification will be good for a period of four years from the date of initial certification. At the end of the four years the technician will be notified by PSA of the expiration of his/her certification and given the opportunity to re-certify by either taking the CAP exam again or providing written proof of at least 30 hours of formal continuing education in the field provided by manufacturer training or vocational school programs.

Information Sheet for PSA-Edu Participation.

Name of School: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Length of appliance course: _____

Instructors 1 Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Instructors 2 Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Instructors 3 Name: _____

Email Address: _____