ISA's SIS Certificate Programs vs. Other Safety Recognition Programs

ISA	CFSE	TÜV Rheinland
ISA84 Safety Intrumented Systems (SIS) Expert • 5 years industry experience • 2 years PHA/SIL selection experience • 2 years SIL verification (and/or other related) experience • Take all three ISA SIS courses (totaling 8 days) on SIS fundamentals, SIL selection, and SIL verification (An 8-week online version of the fundamentals course is also available.) • All three ISA exams required (each exam has 75 questions) • Total for all three courses and exams approximately US$4,300-US$4,800	**Certified Functional Safety Expert (CSFE)** • 10 years experience • 4 references • Resume and experience (technical degree, publications, etc.) • Preparatory *course not required* • Exam required (1-day) • Exam approximately US$800	**Functional Safety Expert (FSExp)** • 10 years experience • 2 case studies • 2 external references • Resume and experience (technical degree, publications, etc.) • *No exam required* • Costs for review and assessment of TÜV FS Expert documents and material approximately US $3,000 (€2,000)
ISA84 SIS Fundamentals Specialist (ISA84 SFS) • No experience required (2 years in process automaton and 2 years technical-related education recommended) • No references required • 4-day preparatory instructor-led course required (8-week online, instructor-assisted course option available) • Exam required (2-hours, 75 questions) • Course and exam approximately US$1,700-US $2,000	**Certified Functional Safety Professional (CFSP)** • 2 years experience • 4 references • Resume and experience (technical degree, publications, etc.) • Preparatory *course not required* • Exam required (1/2-day) • Exam approximately US$700	**Functional Safety Engineer (FSEng)** • 3 years experience • 4 references • Resume (technical degree, etc.) • 3- to 4-day preparatory course required • Exam required (1/2-day) • Course and exam approximately US$3,000
Taking the ISA courses is required before taking the exams. Students have up to 3 months after a course (to study) before taking the online exam.	A preparatory course is not required to take either exam.	Taking an FSEng course is required before taking the exam (the next day). If someone fails the exam, they may only retake it after retaking the course.
ISA developed the *ANSI/ISA-84.00.01-2004* standards on SIS, and a team of ISA experts created the ANSI/ISA84 training courses and the exams. ISA courses are standardized. There is one set of prices for the ISA courses and exams.	Available courses differ by course provider, but are reviewed by the CFSE Boards. The CFSE Boards create the exams (which others may proctor). There is *only one exam for each discipline*. There is one cost for each exam and certification.	Experts create and teach the courses and create their own exams. Courses and exams will differ by provider, but are reviewed by TÜV. TÜV sets *minimum pricing levels* for courses and for exams.
Candidates must submit their credentials *before* taking a course and exam.	Candidates must submit their credentials *before* taking the exam.	Candidates submit their credentials *after* taking the course and exam, which means they may not meet the requirements even if they pass the exam.