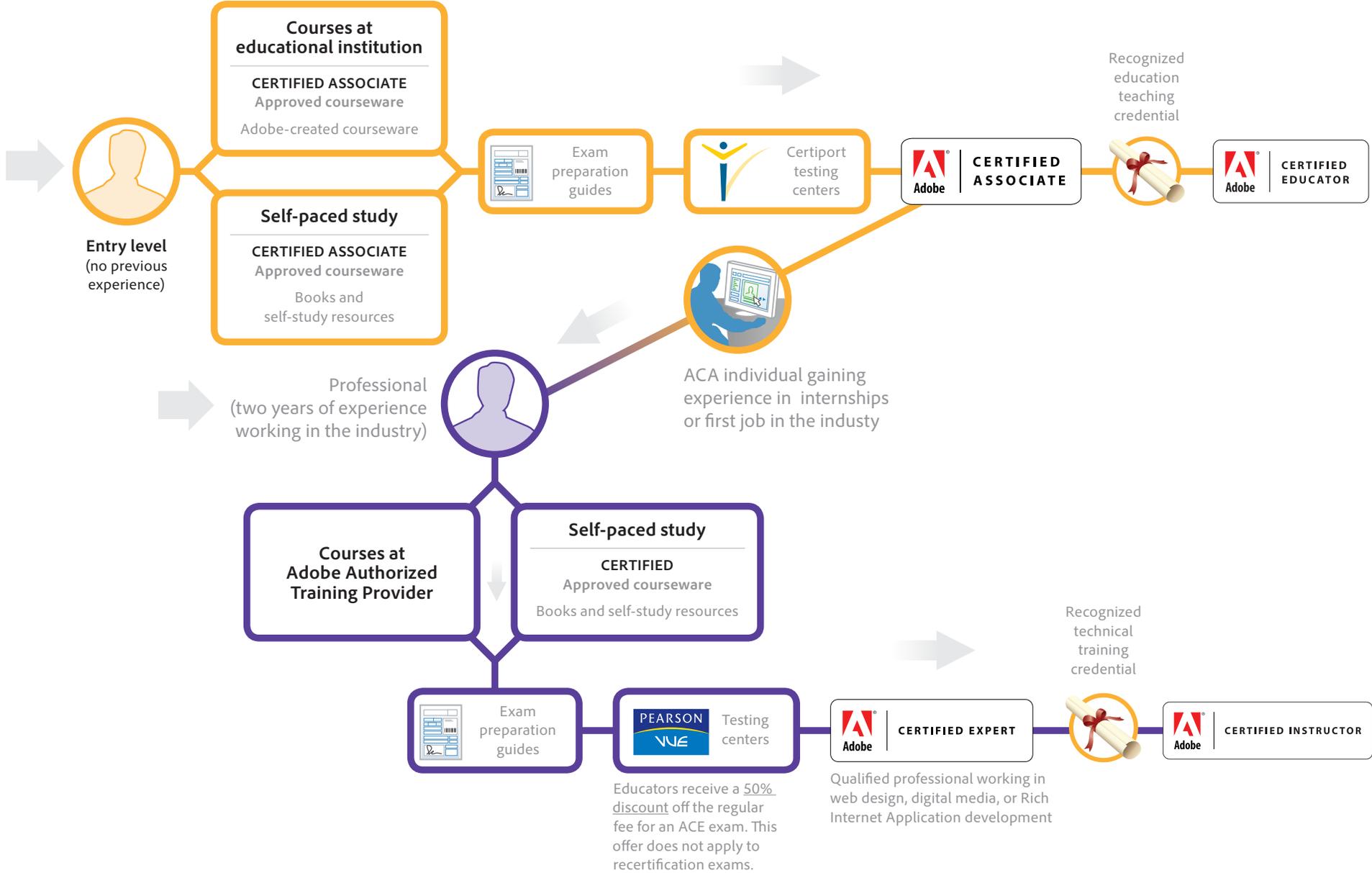# WHAT CAREER PATH ARE YOU TAKING?

Certification by Adobe is recognized as an industry asset—an immediate way for you to stand out and be noticed.

Entry level
(no previous experience)

Courses at educational institution

CERTIFIED ASSOCIATE
Approved courseware

Adobe-created courseware

Self-paced study

CERTIFIED ASSOCIATE
Approved courseware

Books and self-study resources

Exam preparation guides

Certiport testing centers

Adobe **CERTIFIED ASSOCIATE**

Recognized education teaching credential

Adobe **CERTIFIED EDUCATOR**

ACA individual gaining experience in internships or first job in the industy

Professional
(two years of experience working in the industry)

Courses at Adobe Authorized Training Provider

Self-paced study

CERTIFIED
Approved courseware

Books and self-study resources

Exam preparation guides

PEARSON VUE Testing centers

Educators receive a 50% discount off the regular fee for an ACE exam. This offer does not apply to recertification exams.

Adobe **CERTIFIED EXPERT**

Qualified professional working in web design, digital media, or Rich Internet Application development

Recognized technical training credential

Adobe **CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR**

Adobe Certification Programs

Adobe has two levels of certification: Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) and Adobe Certified Expert (ACE). Learn more about these certifications and identify when each one is right for you along your career path.

	Adobe Certified Associate (ACA)	Adobe Certified Expert (ACE)
What is it?	Adobe Certified Associate is an entry-level certification aimed at validating communication skills using a particular digital medium.	Adobe Certified Expert is a professional-level certification aimed at industry professionals who have attained a deep level of mastery in using Adobe technology.
For what kind of job role is it suited?	An individual with the ACA is armed with the credentials to get summer internships, a first job out of school, or credit for college-level programs in design, web, or rich media.	An individual with the ACE is a qualified professional in fields such as web design, digital media, or rich Internet application development.
What products are covered?	Currently, ACA is offered in three areas: Visual Communication using Adobe® Photoshop®, Rich Media Communication using Flash®, and Web Communication using Dreamweaver.®	ACE is offered for almost all Adobe products. See the current ACE list on the Adobe website.
How do I prepare for an exam?	There are a few ways to prepare to take the exams: • Publishers are in the process of creating self-study materials for the exams. • Adobe offers materials that instructors can use to build courses that prepare students for the certification exams.	There are several learning options that help prepare you to take the ACE exams: • Training from Adobe Authorized Training Centers • Books from Adobe Press and other publishers • Self-paced training from lynda.com, Total Training, Element K, and other online training providers
Do I need work experience in order to succeed on an exam?	Use products casually or take a course series.	Use the products as part of the daily job role, and typically have a minimum of two years' experience.
Where can I get training?	Adobe is currently working on locating and cataloguing training centers that provide exam-preparation courses. We will have this information shortly to help you find a training organization near you.	Visit the Adobe training site to get more information on training and to find an Adobe Authorized Training Center or an Adobe Certified Instructor near you.
Where can I take exams?	You can take the exams at any Certiport testing center. If you are an instructor, you can set your own institution up as a testing center to allow staff and students to take exams onsite, or you can locate a testing center near you on Certiport's website.	You can take the ACE exams at any Pearson VUE testing center. You can locate a testing center and register to take an exam by visiting VUE.
How do I prepare for ACE if I already have the ACA?		Now that you've been an ACA, put your skills into practice. Here are some ways to determine whether you are ready to put your skills to the test: 1. Gain experience with daily use of the product. 2. Self-assess your skills against the ACE objectives within the Prep Guide. 3. If needed, find an intermediate-level course from an Adobe Authorized Training Center or Adobe Certified Instructor to improve the areas you've identified. 4. Take the ACE exam once you are prepared.