ACT is a universally recognized industry program that certifies the skills and expertise of installers in key areas. Developed through the combined efforts of leaders in the tile and stone industry, ACT certifications are incorporated into the TCNA Handbook under the Qualified Labor section, encouraging architects and designers to directly reference this level of expertise when developing specifications.

Candidates can earn certification in each of the following:

**Gauged Porcelain Tile.** Installers will demonstrate proficiency and the skills these Gauged Porcelain Tiles/Panels require per the specifications and installation standard set in place by the new A108.19 Gauged Porcelain Tile and Gauged Porcelain Tile/Panels/Slabs standard by the Thin-Bed method with modified dry set mortar.

**Grouts** Installers will demonstrate knowledge and hands-on skills to successfully mix, apply, tool and detail three specific types of grouting materials per ANSI standards and the TCNA Handbook.

**Membranes** Tile layers will show knowledge and competence of the specifications and installation of liquid applied and sheet applied crack isolation and waterproof membranes and methods.

**Large-Format Tile** Installers will demonstrate they understand the standards and methods of substrate preparation and stability, floor flatness, tile layouts, coverage and lippage.

**Showers** Tile layers will prove their knowledge and expertise in properly preparing a shower receptor free of leaks and moisture issues.

**Mud Work** Installers will show proficiency in the appropriate skills to properly float walls and floors so that substrates are ready to receive a tile installation, certification is in each of the two areas.

To qualify for ACT certification installers must:
- Be a BAC Journeyman
- Take a 25-question exam based on the ACT Study Guide, TCNA and ANSI standards, and pass with a score of 84 percent or better for each module
- Successfully complete a hands-on assessment of critical points that test an installer practical skills with a score of 85 percent or better

Individuals interested in the ACT program can request more information containing exam study materials, forms and instructions from Regional Training Director Lupe Ortiz, 510-206-0042 or email lortiz@imtef.org