

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE CERTIFICATION

Significance of Certification

Certification and certification maintenance advance the profession. They also identify industrial hygiene professionals and distinguish them from others involved in industrial hygiene activities. Many employers see the CIH designation as important selection and promotion criteria. By participating in and supporting the ABIH program, qualified persons are helping to identify and maintain the professional stature of industrial hygiene. Reasons cited for pursuing certification include:

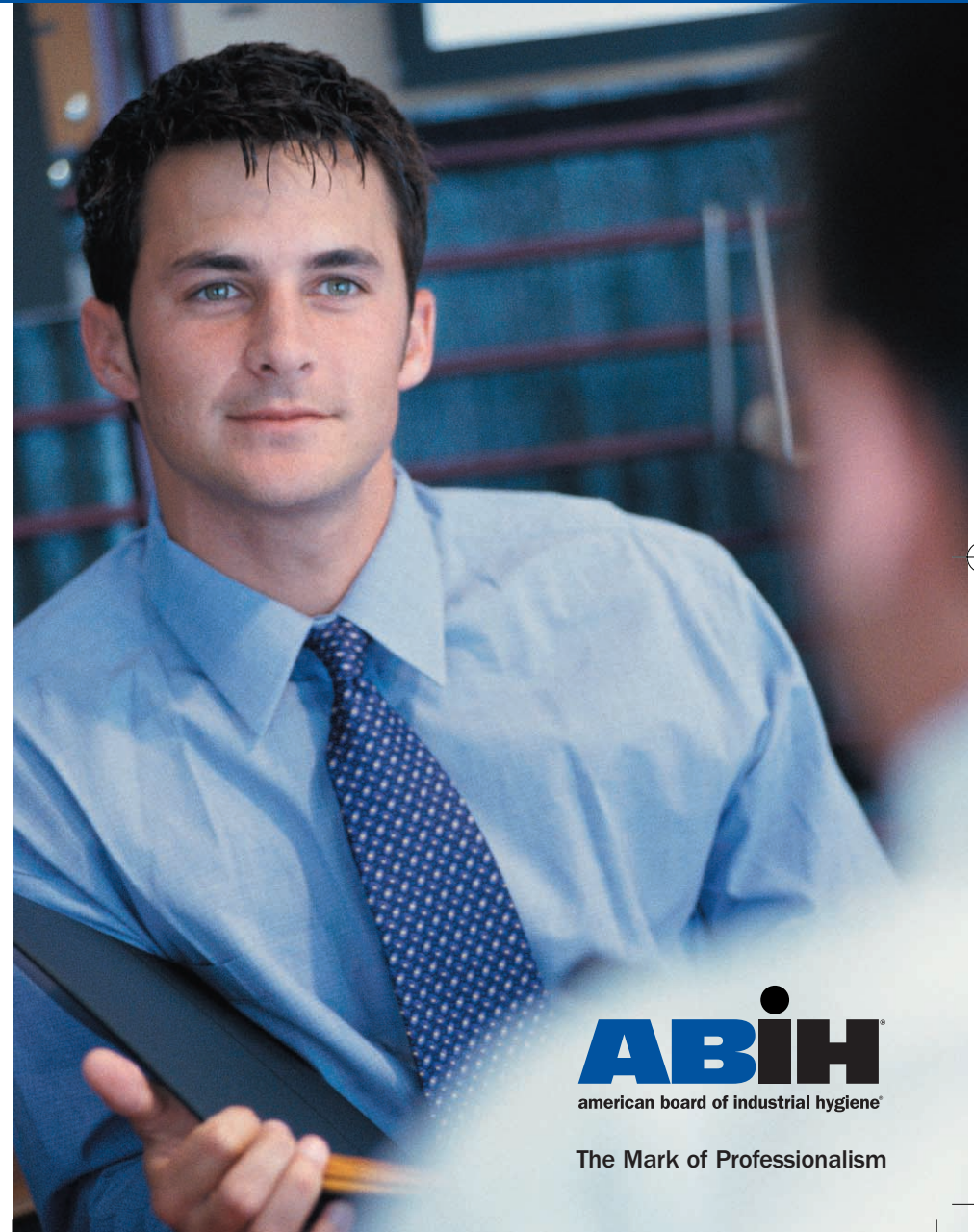
- ▶ Broadening the practitioners' knowledge base
- ▶ Increasing both confidence and credibility
- ▶ Peer recognition
- ▶ Securing employment
- ▶ Career advancement/higher pay
- ▶ Contracts requiring a specific certification
- ▶ Public/governmental recognition

For Additional Information

For information on how you can become part of a network of specialists in the industrial hygiene profession, visit us online at www.abih.org or contact us directly at the address below.



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The Mark of Professionalism

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The need for qualified industrial hygienists has never been greater. As concern about workplace and community health and safety has grown, so has the demand for professionals to evaluate working conditions and community exposure. The work of industrial hygienists increases in importance as the legal ramifications surrounding employee and public health continue to expand.

Certification is a mark of professionalism for industrial hygienists. It enhances the credibility and opportunities for individuals. Certification also promotes high standards of professional conduct for those serving public health interests.

Accredited by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards, the American Board of Industrial Hygiene has provided the measure of excellence in certification for the industrial hygiene profession since 1960. Applicants for the **Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH)** credential are required to meet educational and experience requirements as well as demonstrate their knowledge and skills through examination.

Qualifications



- ▶ BA/BS with 60 semester hours in undergraduate or graduate level courses in science, math, engineering and science based technology, with at least 15 of those hours at the upper (junior, senior or graduate) level.
- ▶ Four years broad based professional Industrial Hygiene experience.
- ▶ College or Continuing Education courses in IH fundamentals, measurements, controls and toxicology.

Examinations

The exam is offered via computer delivery at Prometric™ testing centers. Topics covered on the exams include:

- ▶ Air sampling and instrumentation
- ▶ Analytical chemistry
- ▶ Basic science
- ▶ Biohazards
- ▶ Biostatistics
- ▶ Epidemiology
- ▶ Community exposure
- ▶ Engineering controls and ventilation
- ▶ Ergonomics
- ▶ Ethics
- ▶ Health risk analysis and hazard communication
- ▶ Program management
- ▶ Noise and vibration
- ▶ Non-engineering controls
- ▶ Ionizing and nonionizing radiation
- ▶ Thermal stressors
- ▶ Toxicology
- ▶ Work environments and industrial processes

Maintenance of Certification

ABIH regards certification to be an important milestone in a person's industrial hygiene career, not an end point. As technology advances, scientific questions arise and legal requirements become more stringent and complex. It is critical that industrial hygiene professionals continue to enhance their knowledge and skills throughout their careers. Certified Industrial Hygienists are required to demonstrate their continued professional development on a five-year cycle.

ABIH accepts various activities as evidence of continued professional qualification for certification maintenance. These include:

- ▶ Continuing professional industrial hygiene practice
- ▶ Teaching
- ▶ Publication in peer-reviewed journals
- ▶ Participation on technical committees
- ▶ Attendance at approved meetings, seminars and short courses
- ▶ Approved extracurricular professional activities
- ▶ Re-examination

Applications due February 1 and August 1.