

INSTITUTE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

IHMM Announces Successful Implementation of the New CHMM Blueprint and Policies Changes

Rockville, Maryland (July 18, 2013) – The Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM) is announcing successful implementation of the new CHMM Blueprint into two test-form versions of the CHMM examination. The publication of two test forms allows IHMM to remove the mandatory six month waiting period for candidates who fail the exam. Additionally, candidates are now able to retake the exam almost immediately and the applicant eligibility window (the time window in which a candidate must sit for the exam) has been changed from 18 months to 12 months.

Therefore, all applications approved as of 1 July 2013 or later are subject to a 12 month exam eligibility window. Applications submitted prior to this date are subject to the 18 month eligibility window.

“Providing two test-form versions of the CHMM examination is a significant milestone,” says Allison A. King, CHMM and Chair of IHMM’s Board of Directors. “Applicants who do fail the first time, now can take the second test-form version without delay and while their knowledge base is fresh. I also want to recognize the CHMM Examinations Committee who provided months of volunteer work reviewing and developing questions. Their efforts assure that the CHMM examinations provide a basis of continuing competency of professionals in the field of hazardous materials management.”

In addition, all candidates who fail an IHMM examination, as long as they are within their eligibility window, can retake as soon as the appropriate examination retake form is submitted online and approved. The mandatory six month waiting period has been eliminated for all current and future applicants.

And finally, in order to make the application process less cumbersome for candidates, the supporting documentation required to be submitted before an application can be approved has been changed to the following:

- CHMM: two reference forms and a copy of an official BA/BS transcript or diploma
- CHMP: two reference forms and a copy of an official AAS transcript or diploma, when applicable
- HMMT: a copy of an official BA/BS transcript or diploma

For more information, please see page 2 and visit the Applicants section of the IHMM website.

About the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management

For over 25 years the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1984, has been protecting the environment and the public’s health, safety, and security through the administration of credentials recognizing professionals who have demonstrated a high level of knowledge, expertise, and excellence in the management of hazardous materials.

Over 16,000 homeland security, environmental protection, engineering, health sciences, transportation, and public safety professionals have earned IHMM’s accredited Certified Hazardous Materials Manager credential. IHMM also administers the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner credential and the Hazardous Materials Manager-in-Training program.



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Talking points for the new CHMM Blueprint

A Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) is a professional who manages hazardous materials and waste for the purpose of protecting public health and safety and the environment, and provides proper controls for material handling, transportation, and security through applicable scientific and engineering technologies, best management practices, resource management, and regulatory compliance.

The CHMM examination is a testing instrument designed to evaluate candidates seeking professional certification in the field of hazardous materials management. This Specification Blueprint is intended to offer guidance to candidates by outlining reasonably expected duties and tasks based on surveys of what hazardous materials managers do in practice. The Blueprint describes the subject matter covered by the examination. All test items will be drawn from among the duty areas of the Specification Blueprint.

All CHMM examinations starting on 1 July 2013 are to be based on the new blueprint. Regardless of when an applicant applied for the CHMM certification or registered to take the CHMM examination, after 1 July 2013 applicants will be taking the exam based on the new blueprint. This includes those individuals who may be retaking the examination or recertifying by examination.

The new CHMM Blueprint is the outcome of the “*Job Analysis Report for the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager*” which documents the review of the competency requirements for the CHMM and then reports on a survey to the certificant population to verify these competencies. The Job Analysis Report documents and analyzes over 3000 certificant responses. The Job Analysis Report is available from IHMM upon request. The CHMM Examination Committee worked to develop new CHMM test forms, beginning with the reclassification of exam items in the CHMM item bank to match this new CHMM exam blueprint.

Other talking points:

- The overall content coverage of the new exam is similar to the current CHMM exam.
- The new Specification Blueprint provides more detail on duty areas and tasks.
- The Specification Blueprint lists each duty area with tasks given under each duty.
- The percentage label that accompanies each duty area in the Specification Blueprint represents the proportion of the actual CHMM examination devoted to that duty area.
- Tasks provided in the Specification Blueprint are reference for activities conducted under each duty area.
- IHMM only provides the approximate number of questions for each duty area of the Specification Blueprint.
- IHMM cannot provide the number of questions for a task in the Specification Blueprint.
- This public announcement is also directed to education and professional development providers.
- IHMM does not provide education or professional training.
- IHMM cannot dictate the content of education or professional development.
- The new exam has questions from the old exam; these questions have been reclassified to the new blueprint duty areas.

Regarding eligibility requirement

- CHMM eligibility requirement is changing from 3 years to 4 years
- The requirement still means relevant experience in the field of hazardous materials management or related field
- Eligibility was changed to conform with the Job Task Analysis (JTA)
- JTA showed that that over 90 percent of respondents indicated over 4 years work experience at the time of application.



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