

Opportunities for Professional Development If an Event Is Cancelled

Dear BGC Diplomate,

We hope you're taking all of the precautions needed to keep yourself and your family as safe and healthy as possible in view of the spread of COVID-19. Like you, BGC staff members are taking steps to reduce transmission of the virus to our family members and communities by closing our office and working remotely. Although it may take more time to correspond by physical mail, we're responding to your questions and concerns by phone and email as usual.

We've received several inquiries from QEPs concerned that they won't be able to acquire enough Recertification Points or Professional Development Hours, because of the cancellation of in-person events due to COVID-19. So, we hope to address those inquiries in this message.

First, you may already be eligible to claim credit for activities that you weren't aware of, such as committee service or mentoring. So, make sure to review the <u>recertification packet and page on our website</u> to see if anything that you've done or can easily do will get you the extra points that you might need

Second, while we can't endorse specific organizations or coursework, online

coursework is available 24/7, and offered by many EHS organizations such as the ones, below:

ACGIH e-learning

AIHA Online Courses

AHMP Cyber Chapter

AWMA Webinars

Hazardous Materials Society Education & Training

NAEM Webinars

OSHAcademy

SWANA Online

WEF Online Resources

This is not an exhaustive list, so if you know of reputable sources for on-line education, share the names with your colleagues. Please remember that all coursework, regardless of format, will require proper documentation, including proof of completion, date, duration, title, and sponsoring organization or other third-party verification. In addition, if you're participating in a webinar, you must have proof of completion, not just proof of registration.

Finally, if you have absolutely no other option, BGC staff may be able to give you more time to earn your recertification credits; however, our normal operations will slow significantly if we are inundated with unnecessary requests. Extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and can be obtained by sending a request to ipep@ipep.org.

If you aren't looking for recertification resources, but need resources on public health and workplace safety specifically addressing COVID-19, please refer to your local/national resources or the following links:

- AIHA Coronavirus Outbreak Resources
- CDC Communication Resources
- OSHA Guidance for Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19 OSHA Additional Resources
- United Nations

• World Health Organization (WHO)

We appreciate your patience as we all adjust to changes in our workplaces and homes. BGC staff will continue to monitor the situation and will communicate updates as needed. If you have other inquiries about recertification, please send them to ipep.org. Our staff and volunteers look forward to continuing to serve you on your journey as a BGC-credentialed professional.

Thank you,

Diana Kobus
IPEP Executive Director
(517) 853-5761
dkobus@abih.org

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