
**Board for Global EHS Credentialing (BGC)
Trademark and Certification Mark Use Policy**
Adopted May 20, 2018 / Revised September 22, 2018
Rebranded April 1, 2019



I. POLICY PURPOSE.

This Policy establishes the rules and requirements for use of all Board for Global EHS Credentialing (BGC) trademarks, including trademarks, service marks, and certification marks.

II. BGC CORPORATE TRADEMARKS.

A. Mark Ownership.

The following organizational trademarks (BGC Trademarks) are owned and controlled by the Board for Global EHS Credentialing (BGC).

- 
- american board of industrial hygiene[®]
 - American Board of Industrial Hygiene[®]
 - ABIH[®]

- 
- Institute of Professional Environmental PracticeSM
 - IPEP[®]

BGC retains the sole and exclusive rights to use the BGC Trademarks. BGC may create and use additional marks, as it deems appropriate.

B. Prohibited Use of BGC Trademarks.

Individuals, businesses, and other organizations, including BGC certificants, are not permitted to use the BGC Marks. In certain circumstances, BGC may permit another organization to use a specific BGC Mark, subject to a BGC-approved license agreement. Permission by the BGC Board of Directors to use BGC Certification Marks, identified below, does not include authorization to use the BGC Trademarks.

C. Policy Violations and Related Matters.

BGC reserves, and may use, any and all remedies available under applicable laws and corporate policies to protect the BGC Trademarks. Infringement or other misuse of any BGC Trademarks will be challenged.

Following the receipt of information that an unauthorized use of a BGC Trademark may have occurred, BGC will determine if responsive action(s) will be taken in accordance with this Policy and applicable federal and state laws.

III. BGC CERTIFICATION MARKS.

A. Mark Ownership.

The following certification marks and credentials (BGC Certification Marks) are owned and controlled by the Board for Global EHS Credentialing (BGC):

- Certified Industrial Hygienist®
- CIH®
- Qualified Environmental Professional
- QEP®
- Environmental Professional in-Training
- EPI

BGC retains all trademark and other ownership rights concerning the BGC Certification Marks. BGC may create and use additional certification marks, as it deems appropriate.

B. Authorized Use of BGC Certification Marks.

The BGC Board of Directors grants limited permission to use specific BGC Certification Marks to qualified industrial hygienists, who satisfy all applicable BGC credentialing requirements. Consistent with applicable law and corporate policies, BGC will ensure that the Certification Marks are displayed and otherwise used properly, as such use represents BGC certification to the public.

C. Persons Authorized to Use the Certification Marks/Certificant Responsibilities.

Use of the Certification Marks is limited strictly to those individuals who are BGC certificant in good standing. Each BGC certificant is authorized to use only the Certification Mark which represents the appropriate certification and credential.

Each BGC certificant accepts and assumes sole responsibility for understanding and satisfying all applicable organizational and legal requirements related to the use and display of the Certification Marks. Among other requirements, each certificant is responsible for ensuring that the use of any Certification Mark in professional and business related materials (e.g., business cards, letterhead, e-mail signatures, brochures, signs, stationery, telephone directory listings, or advertisements) is consistent with this Policy, and is not in conflict with applicable laws. BGC assumes no responsibility concerning the interpretation or application of such legal requirements.

BGC will not be liable or otherwise responsible for any claims, complaints, suits or damages whatsoever, relating to the use of the Certification Marks, or in connection with the use of such marks.

D. Non-Assignability and Non-Transferability of the Certification Mark.

Permission to use the BGC Certification Marks is limited and personal to the BGC certificant, and may not be transferred to, assigned to, or otherwise used by, any other individual, organization, business, or entity.

E. Appearance and Proper Use of the Certification Mark.

Each BGC certificant may use the appropriate BGC Certification Mark in professional and business materials, including, but not limited to, business cards, letterhead, e-mail signatures, brochures, signs, stationery, telephone directory listings, or advertisements, consistent with the following rules:

1. Proper Use. Each individual BGC certificant must use the appropriate Certification Mark only in conjunction with his/her name. Additionally, a Certification Mark should always be used in its entirety, and must always appear with the appropriate subscript/superscript “®” or “™” trademark symbol.

With respect to other affiliation marks and/or logos, the BGC Certification Mark may be located near these other marks or logos, but must remain separate and distinct so as to avoid confusion concerning the source of the certification, and to avoid the appearance that other marks, certifications, credentials, designations, or organizations are associated with, or endorsed by, BGC.

2. Examples of Proper Uses and Appearances of the Certification Marks. Proper uses and appearances of the BGC Certification Marks include, but are not limited to, the following examples.

- Proper Use Example No. 1.

John A. Smith, Certified Industrial Hygienist®

- Proper Use Example No. 2.

Susan B. Jones, CIH®

- Proper Use Example No. 3.

Anne L. Clarkson, Qualified Environmental Professional

- Proper Use Example No. 4.

Paul N. Donovan, QEP®

- Proper Use Example No. 5.

Michael A. Evans, Environmental Professional In-Training

- Proper Use Example No. 6.

Nancy R. Landers, EPI

- Proper Use Example No. 7.

Rose L. Jackson, CIH®, QEP®

F. Non-Interference with Use of the Marks by Other Certificants.

A BGC certificant may not prohibit, restrict, or otherwise limit the authorized and appropriate use of the BGC Certification Mark(s) by another certificant.

G. Violation Reporting Responsibilities.

A BGC certificant has the responsibility to report the unauthorized use, misuse, or other violation of this Policy to BGC in a timely manner, including any circumstances where the use of a BGC Certification Mark is related to an individual or organization that is not a BGC certificant or credential holder, or where a Certification Mark is used improperly by a BGC certificant.

H. Policy Violations and Related Matters.

BGC reserves, and may use, any and all remedies available under applicable laws and corporate policies to protect the BGC Certification Marks. Infringement or other misuse of any BGC Certification Mark will be challenged. BGC credential holders are required to cooperate fully in the review and resolution of such matters.

Following receipt of information that an inappropriate or unauthorized use of a Certification Mark may have occurred, BGC will determine if responsive action(s) will be taken in accordance with this Policy and applicable laws.

I. Disciplinary Actions Related to Mark Misuse By a Certificant or Applicant.

Following notice and a fair opportunity to respond, a BGC certificant or applicant who acts contrary to the terms of this Policy or applicable law, may be sanctioned under applicable BGC policies.

In addition, the BGC Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee may refer cases of certification mark misuse, infringement, or other similar matters to appropriate agencies and other organizations, or may initiate appropriate legal action.

J. Policy Violation Actions Concerning Third Parties.

Following receipt of information that an inappropriate or unauthorized use of the BGC Certification Mark(s) by a third party individual, organization, or company may have occurred, BGC will determine if responsive action(s) will be taken consistent with BGC policies and applicable laws.