

CHEST™ FAQ

1. What is CHEST™?
CHEST stands for Certified Healthcare Environmental Services Technician. It is the new certification for Environmental Services) frontline workers.
2. Who is the certifying body?
Association for Healthcare (AHE) of the American Hospital Association
3. How can I attain CHEST certification?
CHEST is built on the Train-the-Trainer (TTT) model. AHE will train individuals whose department/facility/organization/company purchases the program (Facilitator Guide, Participants Manual, and Slide Deck). Those individuals will be approved to administer the program and certification assessment tools in their institutions.
4. Will there be a test?
Yes, there will be a behavior-based assessment (observational) and a written component.
5. What kinds of things will be covered or included in the certification course/test?
The course curriculum and assessment tools will be based on a comprehensive, nationwide job analysis of a healthcare environmental services technician's responsibilities. It will cover all aspects of a frontline worker's typical tasks and accountabilities as determined through the job analysis.
6. What if I don't pass the assessments the first time I take them?
Those parameters have yet to be established. Check back with us this August!
7. Where/When can I/my employees take the test/get certified?
The CHEST program will be available to hospitals, healthcare organizations, and companies at various locations (initially TX, GA, PA, and CA) throughout the nation starting in the Fall of 2015 (training dates and sites yet to be announced).
8. How much will it cost?
 - \$950 for the Train-the-Trainer program (travel and incidentals NOT included). Price includes 3 days of training and one copy of the facilitator guide and accompanying slide deck.
 - \$200 per Trainee (training provided onsite at participant's facility). Price includes participant manual, access to online assessment, and proof of certification (if assessments are passed).
7. After my organization purchases the TTT program are we licensed to keep giving the program?
After an organization makes the \$950 investment in training its trainer, the institution may hold successive training programs by sampling purchasing participant manuals for each employee seeking certification. The participant manuals cannot be re-used and are specific to the employee for whom they were originally purchased as the \$200 fee includes the actual certification.
8. If my organization's trainer leaves the company, do we have to pay to train an additional person, or may another internal employee simply use the facilitator's guide and slide deck to train new groups?

If the trainer leaves, a new trainer must complete the TTT session through AHE. Training includes instructions on how to run the program and how to administer the certification assessments. The mantle of "Trainer" cannot be transferred to another within an organization.

9. If I leave my facility after having successfully passed the CHEST do I take that credential with me?
Yes. The certification stays with the individual who took the course and passed the certification test.

10. How long is the CHEST certification valid?
3 years