



BOARD OF CERTIFIED SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

208 Burwash Avenue • Savoy, Illinois 61874

Phone: 217-359-9263 • Fax: 217-359-0055 • Email: bcsp@bcsp.org • Web: www.bcsp.org

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Advancing the Safety, Health and Environmental Professional Since 1969

News Release

Contact **Heather Murphy**
Phone **217-359-9263 x118**
Email **heather@bcsp.org**

For Immediate Release
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BCSP Examinations to Change in 2009

Savoy, Illinois—February 22, 2008—On January 1, 2009, the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) will begin to phase out the current editions of the two examinations leading to the Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®) credential: Safety Fundamentals and Comprehensive Practice. These examinations will be updated to better reflect what safety professionals need to know and the skills required for the tasks and functions of today's practice.

A validation study is a requirement of the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) for certification accreditation. Content validity is also a requirement for the ISO 17024 standard. An extensive validation process analyzes examination content. BCSP's last validation study took place in 1999. Periodic studies of safety practice, or job analysis surveys, result in new examination blueprints. The blueprints identify what should be covered on the examinations and how the content should be distributed.

The Safety Fundamentals examination blueprint changes reflect the foundation knowledge and subject matter needed for entry-level professional safety, health, and environmental practice. The blueprint is divided among four main domains, each of which is further separated into several other subject matter topic areas.

The Comprehensive Practice examination blueprint changes address the continuing evolution of full-performance professional safety, health, environmental, and security practice. The functional blueprint has three major domains in which candidates for the CSP credential must demonstrate their knowledge of global principles and practices.

The examinations will continue to be multiple-choice. Details about the blueprints, their respective domains, topics, tasks, knowledge areas, skill areas, frequently asked questions, and examination cross tables can be found at **www.bcsp.org/changes**.

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Accreditations

- ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024
- National Commission for Certifying Agencies

BCSP Membership Organizations

- American Industrial Hygiene Association
- American Society of Safety Engineers
- Institute of Industrial Engineers
- National Fire Protection Association
- National Safety Council
- Society of Fire Protection Engineers
- System Safety Society

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“BCSP is committed to maintaining accreditation by ensuring the highest quality BCSP examinations,” said BCSP Examination Director Steven Schoolcraft, CSP, P.E. “While candidates will have to prepare for some changes in examination subjects, there shouldn’t be any significant changes in how they prepare for the new examinations.”

Those interested in pursuing the CSP certification, or those already in process, who register and purchase a BCSP examination before January 1, 2009, will take an examination based on the current blueprint. Those who register and purchase an examination on or after January 1, 2009, will take an examination based on the updated blueprint.

Whichever examination is purchased will be available as long as the candidate has not exceeded the examination time limit of 120 days. Candidates who pass the Safety Fundamentals examination prior to January 1 and then register for the Comprehensive Practice examination after January 1 will take the new edition of the Comprehensive Practice examination.

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The Board of Certified Safety Professionals (www.bbsp.org) is recognized as the leader in high-quality credentialing for safety, health, and environmental practitioners in order to enhance the safety of people, property, and the environment. The Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®) certification is the premier credential for safety professionals. BCSP, governed by 13 directors with seven membership organizations, establishes standards for and verifies minimum competency in professional safety practice. It also evaluates CSPs for compliance with re-certification requirements. Since 1969, over 20,000 individuals have achieved, and more than 11,000 hold, the CSP credential. BCSP is an accredited, non-profit corporation chartered in Illinois, with headquarters in Savoy.