



# OHST-RETIRED AND CHST-RETIRED ELECTION FORM

**Council on Certification of Health, Environmental and Safety Technologists**

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## BACKGROUND

Certification is a voluntary program. It is not a membership. The fundamental concept is that as long as someone is practicing in the area for which a certification is awarded and wishes to hold the certification, the person must meet the requirements to retain the certification. For the OHST and CHST, this means paying an annual fee and meeting the Certification Maintenance standard of 20 points every five years.

For those individuals holding the OHST and CHST who are no longer engaged in safety and health practice, either full-time or part-time, CCHEST offers the OHST-Retired and CHST-Retired status. This status denotes that one previously held one of these designations, but no longer meets the requirements to retain the OHST or CHST. It also provides some rights to regain the OHST or CHST should someone want to return to safety and health practice and regain the certification. This status allows those who leave safety and health practice altogether, because they change jobs, become engaged in other employment, or retire from service with an employer, a means for reacquiring the OHST or CHST without having to apply as a new candidate. This status is not an honorary status denoting longevity in safety and health practice or as an OHST or CHST.

Should a former certificant holding the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status return to or continue in safety and health practice, either on a part-time or full-time basis, he/she must choose to either a) reacquire the OHST or CHST designation and meet the Certification Maintenance requirements or b) drop the use of the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status.

- *During the first five years after electing OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status*, a former certificant may regain the designation without sitting for and passing the applicable examination. To regain the OHST or CHST designation during that five year period, a former certificant may request in writing regaining the OHST or CHST and pay the difference in annual renewal fees between the certified status and the retired status for the period during which the retired status was held. A former certificant must also demonstrate compliance with the Certification Maintenance program based on the normal five-year cycle schedule that was in place at the time the retired status was first elected.
- *After five years*, a former certificant holding the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status can regain the OHST or CHST only by sitting for and passing the applicable examination.

**A former certificant in OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status may not claim to hold the OHST or CHST designation**, but may list on his/her resume or other documents the time during which the OHST or CHST was actually held. An example is: OHST held from 1992 through 1998.

Those holding the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status must pay the applicable annual renewal fee and shall receive the CCHEST Newsletter.

## ELECTING THE OHST-RETIRED OR CHST-RETIRED STATUS

Certificants may choose the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status at any time by completing and submitting to CCHEST the completed form on the reverse side.

**ELECTION DECLARATION  
OHST-RETIRED OR CHST-RETIRED**

**STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY**

1. I am no longer engaged in part-time or full-time safety and health practice.
2. I understand that I cannot use the OHST or CHST designation while holding the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status and agree not to use the OHST or CHST designations unless I re-establish my right to use either of them as prescribed by CCHEST. I understand that I can list the fact that I once held the OHST or CHST designation on my resume or similar document by clearly showing the time period for which I was in good standing [example: Arnold Smith, OHST-Retired (OHST held from 1992-1998)].
3. I understand that for a period of five years after filing this election declaration form for OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status, I can regain the OHST or CHST designation that I held without retaking and passing the applicable examination, but I must a) pay any difference between the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired and the OHST or CHST annual renewal fees for the period during which I held the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status and b) demonstrate compliance with the Certification Maintenance program.
4. I understand that after five years from the date I elect the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status, in order to regain the OHST or CHST designation, I must sit for and pass the current corresponding examination and pay any difference between the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired and the OHST or CHST annual renewal fees for the period during which I held the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status.
5. I agree that should I return to safety and health practice, either part-time or full-time, I will contact CCHEST to either regain the OHST or CHST certification or will relinquish my right to these certifications and any OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status.
6. I understand that should CCHEST determine that I have used the OHST or CHST designation or in any other way violated any aspect of this Election Declaration while holding the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status, CCHEST has the right to terminate the use of the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status and any options for regaining the OHST or CHST designation except as a new candidate after imposing a waiting period of five years and publishing my name, city, state and country as having used improperly or without authority the OHST, CHST, OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired designations.

**ELECTION DECLARATION**

I declare that I have read and understand the Statement of Eligibility and am choosing the OHST-Retired or CHST-Retired status. I agree to abide by the provisions in the Statement of Eligibility.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

OHST Number \_\_\_\_\_ CHST Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_