The Construction Health and Safety Technician® (CHST®) Certification

BCSP awards the Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST) to individuals who demonstrate competency and work part-time or full-time in health and safety activities devoted to the prevention of construction illnesses and injuries. Whether your career goals include seeking a new position, moving up in your current organization or moving to private practice, you can accelerate your opportunities by achieving the Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST) certification. You can improve your chances for success, being selected for leadership and senior positions, and increased salary through the CHST credential. BCSP offers you the opportunity to rise above the competition by adding the CHST certification to your portfolio.

Purpose of This Guide

The purpose of this guide is to walk you through the process of applying for and taking the examination leading to the CHST certification. This guide is the first step to help you achieve the credential.

How to Use This Guide

This guide provides you with in-depth information regarding the application process, examination process and the rules and procedures essential in retaining the CHST certification after you achieve it. Reading and following the suggestions and rules in this guide will help you navigate your path to the CHST certification.

Visit bcsp.org and click on "My Profile" to create an account and apply for your desired certification(s). If you need further assistance you may contact the Certification Services Department at +1 317-593-4800 or by email at bcsp@bcsp.org.

Important Information

For the most current version of this publication, please visit bcsp.org/CHST.

As a candidate or certificant you are solely responsible to keep BCSP informed of your current mail and email address. If either address changes, you must notify BCSP. You could lose your credential or eligibility status if you miss important notifications related to your credential.
ABOUT BCSP
Headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, BCSP is a not-for-profit corporation recognized as a leader in high-quality, accredited credentialing for safety, health, and environmental (SH&E) practitioners. BCSP establishes standards and certifies competency criteria in professional safety practice. Since 1969, over 68,000 of BCSP’s CSP, SMS, ASP, OHST, CHST, STS, STSC, or CET certifications have been achieved.

CAREER INFORMATION
For details on careers in SH&E, download from the BCSP website:
• Career Paths in Safety (brochure)
For a comprehensive list of accredited U.S. academic programs, search the BCSP Academic Database. If you have questions, please email us: bcsp@bcsp.org.

ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION
BCSP’s certifications are accredited by independent, third-party organizations (listed below) that evaluate certification requirements on a regular basis:
• American National Standards Institute (ANSI), ansi.org [ISO/IEC 17024, General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification Systems of Persons]
• National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), credentialingexcellence.org
• Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESSB), cesb.org
BCSP has been granted special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 2014.

CERTIFICATIONS
Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®)
• has been in operation for more than 40 years with over 40,000 CSPs certified
• is the premier certification in the safety profession
• covers a wide range of safety, health and environmental (SH&E) practice disciplines
Safety Management Specialist (SMS)
• demonstrates management skills required for an organization’s safe operation, including defining and utilizing safety management systems
Associate Safety Professional® (ASP®)
• demonstrates a broad scope of knowledge of SH&E practice
• covers as one of several approved credentials meeting requirements for the CSP
Occupational Hygiene and Safety Technician® (OHST®)
• provides practitioners with partial responsibility in SH&E with a high quality certification
Construction Health and Safety Technician® (CHST®)
• offers a certification for individuals who work in a construction craft or are construction safety specialists
Safety Trained Supervisor® (STS®)
• provides a quality certification for work group leaders in various industries who are responsible for the safety and health of their workers
• is a leading indicator of safety performance
• has led to reductions in injuries and workers’ compensation claims and has created productivity gains in participating companies
Safety Trained Supervisor Construction® (STSC®)
• holds the same requirements and benefits as the Safety Trained Supervisor certification but provides a quality certification for work group leaders working specifically in construction
Certified Environmental, Safety and Health Trainer® (CET®)
• certifies those who have experience and expertise in developing, designing, and delivering SH&E training

Chapter 2 | CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

3. Purchase Your Exam
Anytime during the one-year eligibility period, candidates may pay for their examination through “My Profile” at bcsp.org or by calling Certification Services at +1 317-593-4800. The examination authorization period begins the day a candidate purchases an exam (within their one-year eligibility period) and ends once he/she has passed the examination or on the day their eligibility ends, whichever comes first.
Active or retired military may qualify for a reimbursement of the examination fee through the VA. The VA Brochure is located on the BCSP website for more information.

4. Schedule Your Exam
Once BCSP has processed your examination fee, you will then be able to schedule your examination with Pearson VUE. Pearson VUE is the official computer-based testing provider for all BCSP examinations. More information about scheduling your examination can be found in Chapter 5, “Examination Overview.”

5. Sit For Your Exam
Candidates eligible for the CHST examination must pass the examination within their one year of eligibility.
BCSP allows candidates to extend their eligibility time limit once during their term and the extension is valid for one year. Extensions are available for purchase within the last 60 days of a candidate’s eligibility period. Extensions can be purchased through “My Profile” at bcsp.org, as long as the candidate is eligible.
BCSP’s examination provider, Pearson VUE (pearsonvue.com/BCSP), has test centers located around the world and operates every business day. All Pearson VUE testing sites are subject to change based on criteria provided by Pearson VUE. Please be sure to check regularly for available locations when scheduling an exam. Examinations are delivered via computer

Chapter Abstract
This chapter provides general information about the Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST) credential. You may download this chapter as well as other chapters of the Complete Guide to the CHST from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) website at bcsp.org.

An overview of the CHST certification is presented along with qualifications, requirements and time limits.
Visit bcsp.org for the most current version of this guide.

Overview of the CHST Certification
The CHST is a certification awarded by BCSP to individuals who meet all of the Board-established requirements.

The CHST Process
One of the most common questions by potential candidates is “What do I have to do to become a CHST?” The process has several stages, each one building on the other.

1. Are You Eligible?
Experience Requirement:
To qualify for the examination, CHST candidates must have three (3) years of experience with at least 35% of primary job duties involving safety, health and environmental practice related to the construction industry.

2. Submit Your Application
BCSP reviews all application materials to determine eligibility for the CHST examination. Candidates must meet all requirements in order to be made eligible to sit for the CHST examination. More information about the application process can be found in Chapter 3, “Application Instructions.”
at the test center. Candidates will be given their examination results at the center immediately after submitting their exam. Candidates that fail may purchase a new examination authorization as long as they remain eligible.

Note: If you need special examination facilities or accommodation arrangements for documented disabilities (consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the American Disabilities Amendment Act), you must request the accommodation with BCSP at the time you purchase your exam. Accommodation requests should be emailed to accommodations@bcsp.org. Failure to request at the time of exam purchase may impact your ability to have the accommodation provided at the testing center.

For a list of current fees, visit bscp.org/Certifications/Safety-Certifications-at-a-Glance.

6. Maintain Certification

Annual Renewal Fees:

After completing all of the requirements, BCSP awards candidates who pass the CHST exam the CHST credential. Certificants will need to pay annual renewal fees in order to maintain certification. A prorated renewal fee will be applied for the remainder of the year in which the candidate passes the exam.

Recertification:

CHSTs must remain up-to-date with changes in professional practice by earning 20 recertification points every five years. Additional information regarding recertification can be found in the Recertification Guide, located at bscp.org/Certifications/Recertification.

Chapter Abstract

This chapter provides detailed instructions and information about how to apply to become a CHST. You may download this chapter as well as other chapters of the Complete Guide to the CHST from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) website at bscp.org.

Visit bscp.org for the most current version of this guide.

Application Instructions

Individuals who wish to pursue the CHST must create a profile through “My Profile” at bscp.org. Once you have created your profile, you may select the certification application you are interested in and follow the online instructions. Candidates for certification apply only once, provided they follow all policies and stay within their eligibility time limit.

A complete application requires candidates to provide:

1. Contact Information
2. Experience Information
3. Application Agreement and Validation (acknowledging truthful information has been provided, informing BCSP of any criminal convictions or unethical behavior, agreeing to adhere to BCSP Code of Ethics, and not disclose any information.)
4. Payment of Application
5. We now have an online application process. If you are unable to submit online and require a paper application, there will be a processing fee. Please call our office for more details.

Do not send resumes, professional papers, continuing education course certificates, or any other items that are not specifically requested.

After you submit your application, BCSP Certification Services will contact you with any questions or once your application review has been completed.

The application fee is nonrefundable and nontransferable. For a list of current fees, visit bscp.org/Certifications/Safety-Certifications-at-a-Glance. You will be prompted to include payment along with your application. Your application will not be complete until payment for the application fee and any additional requested materials have been received. If all application requirements have not been met within one year of the application submission date, the application will expire.

Validation

BCSP requires applicants to disclose criminal convictions, disciplinary actions, and denial or revoked certifications, licenses and professional registrations taken against the applicant by the issuing certification board or agency. BCSP uses its policy relating to criminal convictions to determine whether the application can proceed or whether it will be terminated. In some cases, a BCSP attorney may contact the applicant to clarify information about the conviction. A copy of the BCSP criminal conviction policy appears at bscp.org/CHST under the Resources tab “Policies and Forms.”

Applicants are required to provide disclosure of:

- All felony convictions
- All misdemeanor convictions within the past five (5) years (Minor traffic violations and petty offenses DO NOT have to be reported)
- Any record of unethical behavior
- Information related to having a professional license or certification denied, suspended or revoked for reasons other than not meeting qualifications, failure of examination, or failure to pay renewal fees
Auditing

BCSP randomly selects 5% of applications for audit. If your application is selected, you will be required to provide experience documents. Acceptable forms of validation documentation for experience are:

1. A letter on company letterhead from employer validating employment dates, job title and percentage of job duties which are/were Safety/Health/Environmental;
2. BCSP Experience Validation Form completed by employer (ONLY IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SELECTED FOR AUDIT)
3. If your application required college education, you must also have the issuing university send your official conferred transcript to BCSP.
4. If your application required training, you must upload supporting documentation proving your completion of this training.

www.bcsp.org
Remember, solutions to computational items usually are rounded. You should select the answer closest to the computed value.

**Obtaining Information on the Body of Knowledge**

Draw on your experience and on professional and study references in your own library, a company library, or a public library. BCSP maintains a list of examination references for each certification at bcsp.org/Resources/Review-and-Study-Sources. Examination items are not necessarily taken directly from these sources. However, BCSP believes these references represent the breadth and depth of coverage of safety, health, and environmental practice.

**BCSP-Published Self-Assessment**

It is essential for you to compare your knowledge against what is contained in the examination blueprint. One way to do this is by using a self-evaluation method. A self-evaluation helps determine how well you know various subjects.

BCSP publishes a Self-Assessment for all certifications. The Self-Assessment can help diagnose how well you know the body of knowledge, as well as to help refresh your test-taking skills.

The Self-Assessment is based on the blueprint described in this guide and is half the length of a full examination. The Self-Assessment includes a scoring sheet and correct answers. It also includes solutions to computational items, along with references for each item.

Note: The Self-Assessment is designed to assist the candidate in evaluating their strengths and weaknesses, strategize test taking pace, and plan future studying accordingly. The Self-Assessment is not considered training or preparation in any manner.

To order a Self-Assessment, please log on to “My Profile” to make the purchase.

**Other Review and Study Sources**

A number of professional membership organizations, trade organizations, colleges, and universities, and private companies offer study courses, software, and materials to assist candidates when preparing for BCSP examinations. Because candidates for BCSP examinations often ask where to locate review courses and materials, BCSP maintains an online list strictly as a courtesy at bcsp.org/Resources/Review-and-Study-Sources.

Beyond the written materials BCSP publishes, BCSP has no involvement in the development, content, or distribution of any courses or materials associated with preparing for BCSP examinations or evaluating readiness. BCSP neither endorses the providers shown on the online list nor evaluates the providers or the providers’ materials for consistency with BCSP examination blueprints or with any aspect of any BCSP examination.

Candidates must contact the sources directly about materials, course schedules, fees, or matters related to satisfaction with their products or services.

**Examination Integrity**

A key to a successful and respected credentialing program is examination security. Without it, a peer-operated credentialing program has little value. BCSP relies on the ethical behavior of candidates and certificants to maintain the security of BCSP examinations.

When those who hold credentials or those who are pursuing credentials reveal information about the content of BCSP examinations, they violate the agreement all candidates accept when they apply for certification and when they take an examination. Applicants, examination candidates, or certificants who reveal confidential information about the content of BCSP examinations through any means also violate the BCSP Disciplinary Action Policy and the BCSP Code of Ethics located at bcsp.org/About.

BCSP pursues legal actions against organizations, individuals not seeking certification, and individuals who fraudulently claim or misrepresent their intent to seek certification, who reveal information about the content of BCSP examinations. Penalties include permanently barring individuals from pursuing the credential and revoking the certifications and interim designations of those who have status with BCSP, in addition to other legal remedies.
Examination Content Development and Revision
BCSP updates examinations continuously. Most items come from safety professionals in practice. Before items are accepted into item banks, they go through rigorous technical, psychometric, and grammatical editing. Also, 10–15% of the items on BCSP examinations are experimental, and do not contribute to a candidate’s pass/fail decision. BCSP analyzes the performance of these experimental items before including them as scored items.

How BCSP Establishes the Minimum Passing Score
BCSP uses a criterion-referenced procedure (the Modified Angoff Method) to establish minimum passing scores for examinations. This procedure ensures that the passing score is independent of scores for other candidates sitting for the examination and involves having a panel of experts rate each examination item with respect to the minimally qualified candidate. As examinations are modified on a regular basis, the minimum passing score is adjusted for the difficulty of items on the examination. Item performance is also evaluated regularly to ensure that BCSP examinations maintain the highest testing standards.
Domain 1
Program Management • 52%

Task 1:
Assess the scope of work with the construction project management team by reviewing contract documents to ensure the safety application is consistent with contract specifications and supports the development of the site-specific safety plan.

Knowledge of:
1. General contract and subcontract requirements
2. Construction means, methods, and materials
3. Applicable health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
4. Site-specific safety planning
5. Construction documents
6. General construction site conditions (e.g., geographic, geologic, utilities)

Skill to:
1. Access applicable documents
2. Review applicable documents
3. Interpret applicable documents
4. Read construction drawings
5. Use hierarchy of controls to protect workers
6. Improve safety through design

Task 2:
Participate in the development of a site-specific safety plan by detailing work activities, hazards, and corrective actions in order to ensure that foreseeable hazards are addressed and expectations for compliance are communicated.

Knowledge of:
1. Construction means, methods, equipment, and materials
2. Health and safety hazards associated with construction activities or processes
3. Hazard recognition, assessment, and mitigation strategies
4. Applicable health and safety standards, codes, company policies, and best practices
5. Hazardous or toxic substances and environments
6. Components of emergency action plans and medical and first aid procedures
7. Best practices for hazard mitigation
8. Security and loss control techniques
9. Roles, responsibilities, and lines of authority
10. Coordination strategies for simultaneous operations (e.g., hot work, lifting, excavation)
11. Incident reporting, investigation, and follow-up procedures

Skill to:
1. Research and determine applicable regulations
2. Evaluate construction means, methods, and constructability
3. Communicate in speech and writing
4. Plan for emergencies
5. Identify and document hazards for mitigation
6. Follow-up on corrective actions
7. Develop site-specific safety training requirements
8. Develop and maintain all applicable documentation (e.g., training documents, injury logs)
9. Evaluate general construction site conditions

Task 3:
Assist in the development and review of the processes (e.g., job safety analysis) that mitigate the risks and hazards identified in site-specific safety plan.
Knowledge of:
1. Hazard recognition, assessment, and mitigation strategies
2. Health and safety hazards associated with construction activities or processes
3. Construction means, methods, equipment, and materials
4. Methods for establishing hierarchy of controls
5. Principles of ergonomics as applied to construction practices and material handling

Skill to:
1. Recognize and address hazards
2. Develop job safety analyses
3. Obtain information from key personnel
4. Communicate in speech and writing

Task 4:
Provide technical guidance to jobsite personnel by maintaining comprehensive knowledge of current standards, codes, best practices, interpretation, and applicability for construction activities.

Knowledge of:
1. Changes to applicable health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
2. Health and safety program (e.g., substance abuse programs, limitations of personal protective equipment)
3. Communication strategies (e.g., vehicles to disseminate information)
4. Security requirements and best practices

Skill to:
1. Communicate in speech and writing
2. Use information technology systems
3. Access current information (e.g., standards, codes)

Task 5:
Identify and coordinate with management and jobsite personnel on unanticipated hazards as they develop in order to maintain a safe and healthful work environment.

Knowledge of:
1. Methods of addressing unanticipated changes or hazards (e.g., change orders, weather, schedule)
2. Applicable regulations, codes, and best practices
3. Health and safety hazards associated with construction activities or processes
4. Hazard recognition and resolution and control strategies

Skill to:
1. Read construction and contract documents
2. Assist in developing plans when unanticipated situations arise
3. Communicate in speech and writing
4. Respond to unrecognized hazards

Task 6:
Provide technical guidance when emergency response plan has been activated to protect jobsite personnel and to mitigate loss.

Knowledge of:
1. Regulations and best practices applicable to emergency planning
2. Emergency response system (e.g., incident command system, crisis management, emergency response equipment, media)
3. Types of emergencies (e.g., fire, medical, weather, power outage, workplace violence, workplace harassment, environmental, terrorist threats)
4. Requirements and limitations of personal protective equipment
5. Medical, first aid, and bloodborne pathogen procedures
6. Security procedures and best practices

Skill to:
1. Support emergency services and systems
2. Support jobsite personnel in an emergency
3. Communicate in speech and writing

Task 7:
Participate in incident investigations using established procedures in order to recommend appropriate corrective actions.

Knowledge of:
1. Investigation techniques (e.g., change analysis, root cause analysis)
2. Record keeping and reporting incidents
3. Statistical tools for incident and claim analysis
4. Interview and investigation techniques
5. Corrective action and follow up strategies
6. Documentation requirements

Skill to:
1. Communicate in speech and writing
2. Use information technology systems
3. Interact with others to promote cooperation with investigation

Domain 2
Worksite Auditing • 19%
Skill to:
1. Coach personnel about safe behaviors
2. Communicate in speech and writing
3. Apply health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
4. Use conflict resolution techniques
5. Rank, prioritize, and mitigate identified hazards in a timely manner
6. Coordinate corrective actions with jobsite personnel

Domain 3
Training • 21%

Task 1:
Determine training needs based on job safety analyses, regulatory requirements, trends, and/or observations made during worksite audits.

Knowledge of:
1. Site-specific safety plans
2. Construction means, methods, equipment, and materials
3. Health and safety hazards assessment and mitigation strategies associated with construction activities or processes
4. Applicable health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
5. Industry and trade-related trends (e.g., injury, illness, citations, etc.)
6. Characteristics of worksite personnel (e.g., education level, language proficiency)
7. Available delivery methods and instructional materials (e.g., classroom, OJT, online)

Skill to:
1. Research applicable health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
2. Evaluate job safety analysis information, observations, and trends for relevant information
3. Determine training requirements based on the characteristics and needs of worksite personnel
4. Determine effective training techniques (e.g., OJT, classroom, group lecture, demonstration)

Task 2:
Develop and deliver training that addresses legal and performance requirements, site specific hazards, trends, and observations.

Knowledge of:
1. Site-specific safety plans
2. Construction means, methods, equipment, and materials
3. Health and safety hazards assessment and mitigation strategies associated with construction activities or processes
4. Applicable health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
5. Industry and trade-related trends (e.g., injury, illness, citations, etc.)
6. Characteristics of worksite personnel (e.g., education level, skill level, language proficiency)
7. Available delivery methods and instructional materials (e.g., classroom, OJT, online)
8. Communication strategies
9. Appropriate human behavior motivation, methods, and techniques

Skill to:
1. Meet defined training objectives
2. Use a variety of training techniques (e.g. group, lecture, discussion, adapting structured training programs to local needs)
3. Evaluate competence and employee feedback to determine if training objectives were met
4. Resolve conflicts

Task 3:
Facilitate jobsite safety meetings with all trades by discussing and demonstrating safe practices to inform jobsite personnel of potential risks.

Knowledge of:
1. Site-specific safety plans
2. Construction means, methods, equipment, and materials
3. Health and safety hazards assessment and mitigation strategies associated with construction activities or processes
4. Applicable health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
5. Industry and trade-related trends (e.g., injury/illness, citations, etc.)
6. Characteristics of worksite personnel (e.g., education level, skill level, language proficiency)
7. Available delivery methods and instructional materials (e.g., classroom, OJT, online)
8. Documentation of training

Skill to:
1. Apply health and safety standards, codes, and best practices
2. Evaluate job safety analysis information, observations, and trends for relevant information
3. Interpret job safety analyses
4. Assess the characteristics of worksite personnel
5. Facilitate discussion of topics identified by meeting participants
6. Resolve conflicts

Domain 4
Professional Responsibility • 8%

Task 1:
Maintain accurate records in all aspects of the safety program in accordance with established protocol to document changes, losses, and audit findings.

Knowledge of:
1. Regulatory and other recordkeeping requirements (e.g., company protocol on incident investigation, audits, training, and inspections)
2. Computer and physical file management
3. Security and confidentiality requirements

Skill to:
1. Use information technology systems
2. Organize information and documentation
3. Research and applying standards

Task 2:
Maintain and expand competence in the safety profession in order to maintain certification.

Knowledge of:
1. BCSP Recertification Program
2. Safety standards, codes, and best practices
3. Professional organizations and trade associations

Skill to:
1. Participate in professional activities
2. Use information technology systems
CHAPTER 6 | EXAM SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Chapter Abstract
This chapter provides sample examination items and their answers for the CHST examination. You may download this chapter as well as other chapters of the Complete Guide to the CHST from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) website at bscp.org.

Visit bscp.org for the most current version of this guide.

Examination Question Samples
The following questions illustrate only the style and format typical of items on the CHST examination. Not all CHST examination task areas are represented by these sample items. Please note it is essential for you to read and understand the CHST examination blueprint found in Chapter 5 so you have a complete awareness of the depth and breadth of all of the subject matter appearing on the actual CHST examination.

Note: None of the following items are on the examination nor do they reflect specific content.

1. A construction employee receives the following exposure to noise on a construction site during an 8-hour period:
   - 3 hours @ 92 dBA
   - 2 hours @ 95 dBA
   - 3 hours @ 90 dBA

   The OSHA permissible exposures at these sound levels are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sound Level</th>
<th>Permissible Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 dBA</td>
<td>8 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92 dBA</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95 dBA</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   What percent of the PEL is this exposure?
   A. 95.5%
   B. 100.0%
   C. 108.2%
   D. 137.5%

2. You find a one gallon container of methanol in a storage cabinet on a construction site.

   Methanol has a flash point of 52°F and a boiling point of 148°F. What class of flammable and combustible liquid is methanol?
   A. IA
   B. IB
   C. IC
   D. II

3. The primary purpose of an accident investigation is to:
   A. Prevent accidents.
   B. Determine fault.
   C. Record accident costs.
   D. Meet regulatory requirements.

4. A job safety analysis is:
   A. Used for evaluating each step of a job to understand its hazards and to identify hazard controls.
   B. Required by regulatory agencies for all tasks with a potential to produce occupational injury or illness.
   C. Used only for tasks that are considered non-routine.
   D. No longer used as a method for evaluating components of a jobsite.

5. A job hazard analysis is being done for a construction job involving confined space entry. The confined space is likely to have an oxygen deficiency and have no toxic gases or vapors present. Which type of respiratory protection should be specified for workers who will enter the confined space?
   A. Self-contained breathing apparatus
   B. Air purifying, half-mask respirator
   C. Air purifying, full face piece respirator
   D. Hose mask without blower

6. The greatest single source of error in colorimetric sampling devices is:
   A. Interference by other contaminants.
   B. Gel coagulation.
   C. Temperature extremes.
   D. Pump air flow inaccuracy.

7. An air-purifying respirator is equipped with a canister that has a white color code. For what atmospheric contaminant(s) does this respirator give protection?
   A. Carbon monoxide
   B. Ammonia gas
   C. Organic vapors
   D. Acid gases

8. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 requires each employer covered by the Act to furnish employees places “...of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm.” This clause is commonly known as the:
   A. “Recognized Hazard Clause.”
   B. “General Duty Clause.”
   C. “Employment Hazard Clause.”
   D. “OSHA General Hazard Clause.”

9. When planning a construction health and safety training program, the most important consideration is:
   A. Training objectives.
   B. Training methods.
   C. Training staff.
   D. Training program contents.

10. A construction company experiences four federal OSHA recordable injuries and illnesses in one calendar year. The employees of this company worked a total of 250,000 hours during the year. What is the recordable injury and illness incidence rate (using the federal OSHA technique) for this company?
    A. 3.2
    B. 4.0
    C. 5.0
    D. 16.0

Answer Key
1. D
2. B
3. A
4. A
5. A
6. A
7. D
8. B
9. A
10. A
CHAPTER 7 | AFTER ACHIEVING CERTIFICATION

Chapter Abstract
This chapter provides detailed information needed after earning your credential. You may download this chapter as well as other chapters of the Complete Guide to the CHST from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) website at bcsp.org.

An overview of the rules and procedures essential in retaining the CHST credential is presented as well as proper use of the title. It also defines discipline procedures, contains guidelines for helping promote the value of the CHST credential, and provides information on ordering seals, stamps, jewelry, certificate frames, and other logo products.

Visit bcsp.org for the most current version of this guide.

Features and Benefits of Obtaining BCSP Credentials

Wallet Card. Each year when you pay the required annual renewal fee, a wallet card is made available which shows you are certified as well as your Recertification date for your certification. The card identifies you as a title holder for the calendar year (unless declared invalid). You will have access to print your wallet card instantly from your profile.

Wall Certificate. When you achieve the CHST credential, BCSP issues a wall certificate suitable for framing. Should you lose or damage your wall certificate, BCSP will replace it for a nominal fee. Visit “My Profile” on the BCSP website to order.

Access to BCSP’s Career Center. Many employers post open job positions seeking qualified safety professionals. With a BCSP credential, you may post your resume online and employers have access to view your resume and contact you if you wish.

BCSP eNewsletter Subscription. As a BCSP certificant, you will receive the quarterly BCSP eNewsletter. The BCSP eNewsletter contains information about important changes which may affect BCSP certifications and designations, information about certificate holders, and professional safety practice information. Current issues and back issues are located on the BCSP website.

BCSP Annual Report. The BCSP Annual Report is another important publication you will receive electronically. It contains summarized data about CHSTs and the annual audited financial report and can be found on the BCSP website at bcsp.org/About.

BCSP Directories. BCSP publishes directories of individuals who currently hold BCSP certifications and designations. An abbreviated format, containing names, cities, and states, appears on the BCSP website and allows viewers to confirm if a person currently holds a BCSP certification or designation.

eSafetySource Registration. BCSP offers the opportunity for BCSP certification and designation holders to register on the electronic safety source registry, indicating their areas of specialization.

Mail Lists. Organizations and companies providing valuable services to safety professionals may purchase a list of BCSP certificant names and addresses. Use of the list is restricted and all list sales are approved by BCSP. Restrictions limit the sale to uses which are of value in professional safety practice (i.e. notices of upcoming conferences or professional publications). Sales are not approved for promotion of general merchandise or services or for resale or distribution to third-party organizations. CHSTs may specify at any time that their names not be included on mail lists by managing “Communication Preferences” in “My Profile” at bcsp.org.

Membership Level. Individuals may use the CHST credential to qualify for the highest level of membership in professional safety societies. After achieving the CHST credential, check with the safety and health organizations in which you hold memberships to see if you qualify for a status change. For example, the CHST credential qualifies members of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) for “Professional Member” status.

Title Protection and Laws Involving the BCSP Credentials. Some states have enacted title protection laws which restrict anyone from claiming to hold a BCSP certification without having duly obtained them from BCSP. Additionally, several states have enacted laws or regulations which specify that CHSTs may provide loss control services for insurance companies. Check your state government website for more details.

Use of the CHST Title
It is important to know how to use your CHST title correctly. The “Construction Health and Safety Technician” and the letters “CHST®” are registered certification marks issued to BCSP by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. They can only be used when authorized for a period specifically designated by BCSP. There are guidelines for displaying your CHST credential properly.

Examples of correct use:
• Robert A. Smith, CHST
• Robert A. Smith, Construction Health and Safety Technician

The CHST credential is awarded to individuals, not companies, and should only be used with individuals’ names.

The CHST credential may be used only for the period for which use is authorized. Use expires if you have not paid the annual renewal fee or have not met recertification requirements for the CHST. Use of these titles beyond the authorized period (without complying with renewal or recertification requirements) constitutes unauthorized use of the credential.

You may use these credential on your business cards, resume, and correspondence or with your signature. You may use your CHST credential virtually anywhere you use your name.

Example of proper company use:
ABC Safety Company provides the latest safety services. Employees holding the Construction Health and Safety Technician® (CHST®) certification include Robert A. Smith, CHST and Mary A. Jones, CHST.

Example of improper company use:
ABC Safety Company, providing safety services by Construction Health and Safety Technicians.

Maintaining Your Certification
In order to retain your certification, you must:
• Inform BCSP when your mail or email address changes
• Pay your annual fee
• Complete recertification requirements

Changing Your Name. If you change your name through marriage or other court proceedings, you may request a name change by contacting bcsp@bcsp.org. Additionally, you must provide a copy of the court record or marriage certificate in order for BCSP to register the change.

Paying Your Annual Renewal Fee. The authority to use the CHST title is valid for one year. It must be renewed annually. You will receive a prorated fee for the remainder of the year in which you pass the examination. Each following year, BCSP will send you a notice when your annual renewal fee is due. BCSP gives you several options for paying the fee online via a credit card or by phone. After receiving your payment, BCSP will send you a wallet card and a receipt. For a list of current fees, visit bcsp.org/Certifications/Safety-Certifications—at-a-Glance.

Meeting Recertification Requirements. The recertification program helps CHSTs keep up with changes affecting professional safety practice. The program complies with requirements of BCSP’s national accrediting organizations.

Every five years (one cycle) you must achieve 20 points. There are ten categories of activities, each providing points toward meeting that goal. Keep in mind, there is no limit to the number
of points in some categories, while other categories have annual and/or total point limits. At the end of the five-year period, you must submit the points you earned during that cycle. Only points earned during a recertification cycle count toward that cycle. BCSP randomly selects 5% of those who submit their points for an audit. While documentation to prove points is not required with the initial submission, the audit procedure requires you have proof of the points claimed. It is important that you keep records to verify your recertification activities.

Additional details of the recertification program appear in the Recertification Guide. You may download the Recertification Guide on the BCSP website to help you through the process. You will want to refer to the website regularly for the most up-to-date information.

Reinstatement

If you fail to pay your annual renewal fee on time or fail to achieve the required recertification points every five years, BCSP will send you a notice that your credential has been invalidated and you no longer hold the CHST. You may seek reinstatement online through “My Profile” at bcsp.org. Reinstatement must be by 12/31 of the same year you are invalidated. Reinstatement includes paying a reinstatement fee and complying with the current recertification requirements. Otherwise, you will be required to apply as a new candidate and meet all of the requirements in place at the time of your application.

Career Interruptions

While holding the CHST credential, you may face situations which affect your ability to maintain your certification. You may experience an interruption in your safety career, such as moving to a job which is not in the safety profession, taking time out to be a parent, student or soldier, having an extended health problem, or being unemployed. BCSP has established some options to help deal with these types of situations.

Leave of Absence and Extension

You may seek a leave of absence or an extension if a career interruption will affect your ability to meet recertification requirements. Please refer to the Recertification Guide for detailed information.

Annual Renewal Fee Waiver While Unemployed

If you become unemployed and are unable to pay your annual renewal fee, you may request in writing a one-time waiver of the annual renewal fee.

Retired CHSTs

Certificants who are retiring can hold their certifications in retired status should they meet the following requirements:

- They have held certification a minimum of ten (10) years.
- They have completed two (2) recertification cycles.

To maintain a certification in retired status:

- Safety practice is not required.
- No more than 200 hours of safety practice annually is allowed.
- A Retired Annual Renewal Fee is required each year (beginning with 2018 renewal(s)).

A certificant holding a certification in retired status must indicate their status as in the following examples:

- Robert A. Smith, CHST Retired
- Robert A. Smith, CHST (Retired)
- Robert A. Smith, CHST Ret.
- Robert A. Smith, Construction Health and Safety Technician (Retired)

Protecting the CHST Credential and Logo

Because BCSP has registered its logos and titles, it has a solid position for challenging BCSP title and/or logo infringement. There are several legal theories and considerations involved. Registration itself does not provide absolute protection from others using similar acronyms or titles. BCSP does not have exclusive use of the acronym. BCSP continually challenges those uses which can be confusing to the public or for which there are legal grounds to make such challenges.

Individuals Using the CHST Credential Without Authority

BCSP has established procedures for challenging individuals known to use the Construction Health and Safety Technician credential without having obtained it or after they lost it for failure to pay annual renewal fees or meet recertification requirements.

In order to establish someone is using the credential without authority, BCSP must have the original document (or a copy) showing where the individual is using the title. Most often the unauthorized use occurs online, on a business card, resume, business letterhead, brochure or similar publication, or with a signature. To initiate action against the individual using the credential without authority, BCSP also needs the individual’s current mailing address.

BCSP relies on those finding potential unauthorized uses to report them and provide the documentation showing the use of these titles. BCSP will not disclose the name of the person or organization reporting potential unauthorized uses.

After receiving documentation of a potential unauthorized use case, BCSP takes steps to challenge that individual and seeks to correct any record-keeping error on the part of BCSP. Legal counsel for BCSP may participate in the procedures.

Those who have used BCSP titles without authority may be barred from pursuing the CHST certification for five years. Their names are also published on the BCSP website. Other penalties may be applied. BCSP reserves the right to use the courts in protecting the use of the CHST credential.

Criminal Convictions

BCSP’s criminal conviction policy appears on the BCSP website. It applies to BCSP certification holders. The policy also covers convictions by other certifications and licensing bodies for unauthorized use of designations. It requires CHSTs to report new convictions which can result in BCSP disciplinary proceedings.

Discipline Procedures

BCSP authorizes individuals to use the CHST credential when they meet requirements for achieving and retaining the credential. BCSP also has a responsibility to withdraw that authorization if individuals fail to pay annual renewal fees, fail to meet recertification requirements, or violate BCSP Disciplinary Action Policy or the BCSP Code of Ethics. The BCSP Disciplinary Action Policy contains rules on disciplinary procedures and grounds for action. The complete BCSP Disciplinary Action Policy is located at bcsp.org/About.

Appeals

You may appeal decisions related to earning and maintaining BCSP credentials. Requests for appeal must be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer in writing and in accordance to the current appeals policy located online at bcsp.org/About.

Promoting the CHST

BCSP uses several methods to promote the CHST credential and to encourage safety professionals to pursue it. You may volunteer to assist in these activities. Please contact BCSP or visit the BCSP website to determine available materials.

Request a Returnable Banner Display

Use of BCSP banner displays helps promote BCSP and the CHST certification. They are ideal for meetings, local and regional conferences or educational programs of local professional groups and companies. BCSP pays for shipping to and from events. Some instances may earn Recertification credit for promoting the CHST. To request a display, fill out the Display and Literature Request Form located at bcsp.org/Resources/Articles-Presentations, or contact BCSP.

Promotional Materials

There is a variety of complimentary literature about all of the BCSP credentials, qualifications and procedures, and examinations. Most BCSP publications are available on the BCSP website as downloadable PDFs. To request literature, please fill out the
Display and Literature Request Form located at bscp.org/Resources/Articles-Presentations, or contact BCSP.

To encourage individuals to pursue a career in safety, BCSP offers a PDF of the Career Guide to the Safety Profession, co-produced with the ASSE Foundation, and a Career Paths in Safety brochure in PDF and print. These PDFs are available on the BCSP website.

Presentation Materials. PowerPoint presentations about the safety profession and the BCSP credentials are located on the BCSP website at bscp.org/Resources/Articles-Presentations.

Mentor Program. Created specifically to recognize certificants’ roles in assisting the career development of others, the mentor program helps bring current credential holders and those looking to pursue certification together.

The mentor program rewards those who become mentors and ensures safety professionals who perform quality work are certified. By having your mentee fill out the Professional Advancement Mentor Form and submit it by fax or email at the time that they apply online, BCSP recognizes mentors and their work with their peers, colleagues, and other safety professionals. More information can be found at bscp.org/Resources/Mentoring.

Maintaining Your Mail and Email Address
As a CHST, you are solely responsible to keep BCSP informed of your current mail and email address. If either address changes, you must notify BCSP. You could lose the CHST certification if annual renewal notices and other important information do not reach you.

This code sets forth the code of ethics and professional standards to be observed by holders of documents of certification conferred by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. Certificants shall, in their professional activities, sustain and advance the integrity, honor, and prestige of the profession by adherence to these standards.

Standards:
1. HOLD paramount the safety and health of people, the protection of the environment and protection of property in the performance of professional duties and exercise their obligation to advise employers, clients, employees, the public, and appropriate authorities of danger and unacceptable risks to people, the environment, or property.
2. BE honest, fair, and impartial; act with responsibility and integrity. Adhere to high standards of ethical conduct with balanced care for the interests of the public, employers, clients, employees, colleagues and the profession. Avoid all conduct or practice that is likely to discredit the profession or deceive the public.
3. ISSUE public statements only in an objective and truthful manner and only when founded upon knowledge of the facts and competence in the subject matter.
4. UNDERTAKE assignments only when qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields involved. Accept responsibility for their continued professional development by acquiring and maintaining competence through continuing education, experience, professional training and keeping current on relevant legal issues.
5. AVOID deceptive acts that falsify or misrepresent their academic or professional qualifications. Not misrepresent or exaggerate their degree of responsibility in or for the subject matter of prior assignments. Presentations incident to the solicitation of employment shall not misrepresent pertinent facts concerning employers, employees, associates, or past accomplishments with the intent and purpose of enhancing their qualifications and their work.
6. CONDUCT their professional relations by the highest standards of integrity and avoid compromise of their professional judgment by conflicts of interest. When becoming aware of professional misconduct by a BCSP certificant, take steps to bring that misconduct to the attention of the Board of Certified Safety Professionals.
7. ACT in a manner free of bias with regard to religion, ethnicity, gender, age, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.
8. SEEK opportunities to be of constructive service in civic affairs and work for the advancement of the safety, health and well-being of their community and their profession by sharing their knowledge and skills.

Approved by the BCSP Board of Directors November 2, 2012
Effective January 1, 2013
BCSP | Board of Certified Safety Professionals  
Since 1969

MISSION
BCSP sets and certifies technical competency criteria for safety, health, and environmental practitioners worldwide; enhancing careers, advancing the profession, protecting the public.

VISION
Creating a safer world through safety, health, and environmental certification.