

CONNECT News

Community Support, **N**etworking, and Assistance for **E**nvironmental **C**areer **T**raining

January 2018

The Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute (HMTRI) provides technical assistance to communities interested in developing and delivering environmental job training programs. HMTRI also provides technical support to [Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training](#) (EWDJT) grantees funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These efforts are made possible with a cooperative agreement with the U.S. EPA.

HMTRI is part of Eastern Iowa Community Colleges and has provided environmental workforce development technical assistance since the inception of EPA's Brownfields Initiative.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINERS

HMTRI spends considerable time and effort assisting organizations to develop and deliver the best possible EWDJT programs for their community. Throughout the year, publications, workshops, webinars, Professional Learning Community (PLC) calls, and [the Brownfields Toolbox](#) explore critical elements necessary to establish quality environmental training programs.

Among the elements of successful EWDJT is the delivery of a core curriculum addressing environmental assessment and cleanup, with particular emphasis on worker health and safety. Instructors delivering this training must continually refresh their knowledge of current technology and regulation.

In this issue, CONNECT will explore a free resource available to EWDJT environmental trainers. The [Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training](#) (CCCHST) focuses on health and safety trainers. Its mission includes training, certifying, and ensuring that environmental trainers deliver current and proper instruction to their students. Commonly referred to as "train-the-trainer," professional

development is also an appropriate term, since CCCHST participants in train-the-trainer sessions are already experienced and knowledgeable in the fields of environmental remediation, disaster response, health, and safety.

CCCHST has provided the following description of their program, how it operates, and how to become a CCCHST member. For those interested in obtaining professional development for their trainers without joining CCCHST, a special opportunity is available for EWDJT instructors to participate in the Great Environmental Safety Training (GreatEST) Institute. Application instructions appear at the end of this newsletter.

THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONSORTIUM FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING

CCCHST is one of twenty model worker training programs recognized and funded by the [National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences](#) (NIEHS). The reauthorization of the Superfund program in 1986 directed OSHA to develop worker protection regulations for handling hazardous waste. This resulted in what

is commonly referred to as the Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HazWOPER) regulation. The reauthorization also directed NIEHS to develop model worker training programs. CCCHST is the only community college consortium sponsored by NIEHS. Congress intended these programs to prepare a highly trained workforce capable of safely handling the cleanup of hazardous waste sites and other incidents in which hazardous materials are involved.

MEMBERS

There are currently 157 training organizations with 214 trainers in 35 states and two U.S. territories. CCCHST institutions train over 60,000 workers who complete more than 400,000 contact hours of training annually.



PETE SPONSORSHIP

CCCHST is sponsored by the [Partnership for Environmental Technology Education](#) (PETE), headquartered in South Portland, Maine. PETE is one of 22 affiliated councils of the 1,150-member American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and the only council whose core mission is environmental, health, safety, and security training. PETE has more than 400 community, technical, and tribal college members for whom PETE provides faculty development programs, workshops, and institutes. This program is supported with grant funding from NIEHS.

COURSES

CCCHST members are prepared through a two-week train-the-trainer program, the GreatEST

Institute, to deliver required certifications for public and private responders and workers including:

- 40-Hour Waste Site Worker Health and Safety
- 24-Hour Industrial Emergency Response
- DOT HazMat Awareness
- Confined Space Awareness
- Hazard Awareness and Communications

Members are required to return every other year for two to two and a half-day Instructor Refresher training offered at colleges across the nation. Members use HMTRI curriculum to train workers and responders in their local area. Twenty-four hours of the HazWOPER course is also available online to members at no cost. Members report to PETE the number of courses they provide to their communities. PETE reports these numbers to NIEHS. CCCHST members may charge for the courses offered in their local area. Members must report numbers to CCCHST to remain in the organization.

BENEFITS TO CCCHST MEMBER TRAINING ORGANIZATIONS AND TRAINERS

- Instructors are continuously prepared to offer training that industry is required by law to offer its employees who respond to spills of hazardous materials and/or who clean up hazardous waste.
- After initial training, workers are required to participate in refresher training every other year. Training charges are established by the local training organization.
- Instructors are authorized to use and print HMTRI curriculum provided at the GreatEST Institute and at Instructor Refresher training.
- Instructors may call a technical assistance line that is answered within 24 hours.
- Instructors are part of a national network of trainers who support one another.

- Instructors may offer online training that CCCHST provides them at no cost.

TO BECOME A CCCHST MEMBER

- Complete an application documenting experience, education, and position.
- Describe the training facilities and equipment that you offer students and industry.
- Commit to the program with signatures from administrators and the instructor.
- Complete the GreatEST Institute and Instructor Refresher training every other year.
- Provide CCCHST with the numbers of students who are trained using HMTRI curriculum.

RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS

- Conduct training in a safe, memorable, and organized manner.
- Maintain a training facility with sufficient resources and equipment to perform didactic and hands-on training.
- Maintain records listing the dates of courses, names of attendees successfully completing training, and their evaluations of the training they receive.
- Submit to PETE the number of persons training in eligible programs.
- Attend a CCCHST Instructor Refresher course every other year.

Instructors become CCCHST members after successfully completing the GreatEST Institute. Organizations employing instructors receive a Certificate of Affiliation that is valid as long as the organization employs the CCCHST instructor(s). Instructors reporting numbers to PETE may return at least every two years for Instructor Refresher training offered at colleges across the nation.



THE GreatEST INSTITUTE
June 4–15, 2018
Davenport, Iowa

EWDJT instructors must apply for instructor training by February 28th.

DESCRIPTION

The CCCHST Instructors (**including EWDJT instructors**) are prepared through a ten-day Train-the-Trainer program called the GreatEST Institute to deliver required certifications for public and private responders and workers including:

- -40-Hour Waste Site Worker Health and Safety
- -24-Hour Industrial Emergency Response
- -DOT HazMat Awareness
- -Confined Space Non-entry Rescue
- -Hazard Awareness and Communication
- -Disaster Site Worker Awareness

Prior to attending the GreatEST Institute, participants complete 24 hours of online modules. The two-week Institute focuses on the hands-on application of these competencies:

THE GREATEST INSTITUTE PROGRAM OF STUDY

- Regulations
- Site Characterization
- Health and Physical Hazards
- Hazard Recognition
- Radiological Hazards
- Respiratory Protection
- PPE Clothing Ensembles
- PPE Foot, Face, and Hand
- Site Control
- Decontamination
- Medical Surveillance
- Air Monitoring
- Personal Sampling
- Material Sampling
- Safe Work Practices
- Health and Safety
- Emergency Procedures

APPLICATION

Twenty scholarships covering travel, tuition, lodging, and some meals are available from PETE.

Electronic applications are available on the PETE website at

<http://nationalpete.org/2017/11/28/3568/>

A complete online application package is due by February 28, 2018.

For more information contact: Patti Thompson
pattijthompson@gmail.com / 319-721-1509.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on HMTRI technical assistance services or to be added to our Grantee and Community Outreach Listserv, please contact Heather Ballou at hkballou@eicc.edu.

HMTRI

Eastern Iowa Community Colleges
201 N. Harrison Street, Suite 101
Davenport, IA 52801

