

Certificate in Asbestos Awareness

January 2007

3 Guided Learning Hours

Description:

The Control of Asbestos Regulations requires employers to ensure that their employees receive adequate information, instruction and training relating to the risks due to asbestos if they are liable to be exposed to this material. This qualification will help employers meet this requirement by explaining the effects of asbestos on the health of individuals, the types of material likely to contain asbestos, the location of these materials within buildings, and procedures for minimising the risk of asbestos fibre release.

Summary of Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a candidate must:

1. **Outline the properties, uses and risks to health of asbestos, *by being able to:***
 - Describe the properties of asbestos.
 - State the risks to health caused by exposure to asbestos.

2. **Review the use of asbestos in the construction industry, *by being able to:***
 - Outline the use of sprayed asbestos
 - Outline the use of asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board
 - Outline the use of asbestos cement.
 - Outline the use of other asbestos containing materials

3. **Describe the risks of exposure to asbestos and methods for controlling that risk, *by being able to:***
 - Describe risks and controls for sprayed asbestos
 - Describe risks and controls for asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board
 - Describe risks and controls for asbestos cement.
 - Describe the risks and controls for other asbestos containing materials
 - Determine if work to be carried out requires a license

4. **Review legislation relating to asbestos, *by being able to:***
 - Describe asbestos management plans
 - State the suitability of different levels of asbestos survey for undertaking works
 - Outline types of protective equipment and emergency procedures
 - State the liabilities and responsibilities of individuals, employers and duty holders concerning asbestos.

Content:

1. Properties, Uses and Risk to Health

Properties of asbestos: blue, white and brown asbestos; properties of these materials which made them valuable to the construction industry.

Risk to health: asbestos related diseases: mesothelioma; asbestosis; lung cancer; risk of developing disease; incubation periods; amount of exposure required to cause disease; effect of other risk factors such as smoking.

2. **Use of asbestos in the construction industry**

Use of sprayed asbestos: uses of sprayed asbestos in buildings; locations in a building where sprayed asbestos is likely to be found; age of buildings in which sprayed asbestos is likely to be found

Use of asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board: uses of asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board in buildings; locations in a building where asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board is likely to be found; age of buildings in which asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board is likely to be found.

Use of asbestos cement: uses of asbestos cement in buildings; locations in a building where asbestos cement is likely to be found; age of buildings in which asbestos cement is likely to be found.

Use of other asbestos containing materials: use of other asbestos containing materials in buildings; locations in a building where these materials are likely to be found; age of buildings in which these materials are likely to be found

3. **Risk to exposure and methods for controlling that risk**

Risks and controls for sprayed asbestos: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from sprayed asbestos coatings; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre release from sprayed asbestos coatings; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Risks and controls for asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre release from asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Risks and controls for asbestos cement: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from asbestos cement; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre release from asbestos cement; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Risks and controls for other asbestos containing materials: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from other asbestos containing materials; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre release from these materials; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Work that requires a licence: work on asbestos containing materials that requires a licence; work that can be carried out without a licence; work that can be carried out if advance notice is given to the enforcing authority; qualifications, training and experience required to obtain a licence.

4. **Legislation**

Asbestos management plans: purpose of asbestos management plans; role of duty holder; importance of asbestos management plan to individuals carrying out maintenance and construction work; access to the asbestos management plan.

Suitability of asbestos surveys: type 1, 2 and 3 surveys; outline of each type of survey; purpose and use of surveys; suitability of surveys for work to be undertaken.

Protective equipment and emergency procedures: legal requirements relating to the use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment; need for emergency procedures.

Liabilities and responsibilities of individuals, employers and duty holders: responsibilities of employers and duty holders to employees under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 or any superseding legislation, regulations and amendments; liabilities of duty holder, employer and employee if exposure to asbestos is not controlled; requirement of, and responsibility for, training.

Assessment:

Attainment of the Learning Outcomes for the qualification will be assessed by a multiple-choice examination consisting of 15 questions to be answered in 20 minutes. A candidate who is able to satisfy the learning outcomes will be awarded a score of at least 10/15 in the examination.

Guidance:

The following web-sites also have useful information:

Asbestos Removal Contractors Association www.arca.org.uk

Health and Safety Executive www.hse.gov.uk

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors www.rics.org.uk

Recommended prior learning:

There are no recommended prior learning requirements for this qualification.

Special Needs:

Centres that have candidates with special needs should consult the RSPH's *Regulations and Guidance for Candidates with Special Assessment Needs*, this is available from the RSPH and the RSPH's website www.rsph.org.uk

Recommended Qualifications and Experience of Tutors:

The RSPH would expect that tutors have teaching experience and a qualification in a relevant subject area, but recognises that experienced teachers can often compensate for a lack of initial subject knowledge, or experienced practitioners for a lack of teaching experience.

Centres should be registered with the RSPH.

Any enquiries about this qualification should be made to:

The Qualifications Department,
Royal Society for Public Health
3rd Floor
Market Towers
1 Nine Elms Lane
SW8 5NQ