

**Certification Name:** Certified Occupational Hearing Conservationist

**Designation:**

04-Dec-97

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**Society**

Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservat **Phone:** (414) 276-6045

611 East Wells Street,

**fax:** (414) 276-3349

Milwaukee, WI 53202-

**email:** [www.globaldialog.com/~caohc](http://www.globaldialog.com/~caohc)

**Major Requirements**

**Education:**

**Years of Experience:** 0

**Examination Required:** No

**Continuing Education Required:** No

**Maintenance Required:** No

**Directorates**

Clinical Preventive Medicine

Environmental Health Engineering

**Programs**

Environmental Noise

Hearing Conservation



## How to Become CAOHC Certified as an Occupational Hearing Conservationist

Certification is not granted solely by attending and completing the CAOHC-approved course. Successful completion of an OHC course - one approved by CAOHC and conducted by a CAOHC-certified Course Director - does not automatically grant OHC certification. Once an OHC completes the course, they are trained.

To become CAOHC certified, these 5 steps must be followed:

1. Complete a CAOHC approved course.
2. Submit an application to CAOHC (address listed below).
3. Complete the course survey (on the backside of the application).
4. Forward the \$50 fee for certification for 5 years (\$20 for recertification) to CAOHC.
5. Finally, **most importantly**, CAOHC *cannot* grant certification without verification that the class was attended and passed. OHCs can prove course attendance by forwarding to CAOHC a copy of the training certificate received at the end of the course.

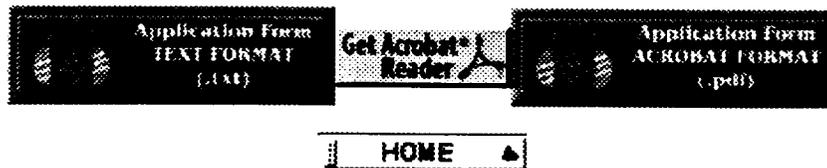
In addition to this step, **after** the course is completed, the Course Director is responsible for sending a list of successful students. No certification applications can be approved until CAOHC receives one or both of these forms of verification.

*Forward the certification information to:*

**Barbara Lechner  
Administrative Coordinator  
CAOHC**

**611 East Wells Street 414 276 6045  
Milwaukee, WI 53202 414 276 3349 FAX**

Applications usually take 7-10 days to process. Your Course Director has the option of forwarding all applications with his/her student lists, as well as the certification fees. This bundling procedure can expedite and save several processing days. Ask your Course Director for more information.





## How to Become CAOHC Certified as a Course Director

The Course Director (CD) is the individual responsible for planning and conducting training courses for OHCs. The Director is responsible for ensuring that specific CAOHC guidelines are followed and for determining the qualifications and competence of participating faculty members.

Course Director certification and recertification is granted for a five-year period, provided that the CD complies with CAOHC requirements and continuously possesses appropriate credentials/licensure as specified in CAOHC's Adverse Action policy.

*The final decision regarding eligibility for certification and recertification rests with the CAOHC Council.*

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### Course Director Certification

The Course Director certificate will be awarded upon fulfillment of the following requirements:

1. demonstration of adequate educational and professional background as specified below
2. demonstration of an appropriate credential/license, and continuous possession thereof throughout the certification period, as specified below
3. demonstration of significant appropriate experience in the field of occupational hearing conservation as specified below
4. submission of an application form and required fee, and approval by a Screening Committee
5. signed and dated statement of agreement, verifying that information supplied to CAOHC is accurate, and agreeing to adhere to CAOHC conditions
6. letter from supervisor or colleague outlining experience in occupational hearing conservation
7. completion (within 12 months of Screening Committee approval) of an eight-hour CAOHC Course Director certification workshop or an equivalent course approved in advance by CAOHC

#### Educational/Professional Requirement

To meet the educational/professional requirement, candidates must demonstrate that they have been certified by one of the following organizations:

- American Board of Industrial Hygiene (CIH)
- American Board of Occupational Health Nurses (COHN)
- American Board of Otolaryngology
- American Board of Preventive Medicine (In Occupational Medicine)
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (Audiology) (CCC-A)

### Board of Certified Safety Professionals (CSP)

Satisfactory documentation is required.

#### Credential/License Requirements

Course Directors must continuously possess one of the following qualifications:

1. current licensure by a state or territory of the United States for the practice of medicine or nursing, or
2. current licensure or registration by a state or territory of the United States for the practice of audiology, or
3. current certificate of clinical competence in audiology by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, or
4. current board certification by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene or Board of Certified Safety Professionals, or
5. current membership in the American Industrial Hygiene Association or the American Society of Safety Engineers

Applicants from outside the U.S. who do not meet one of the criteria mentioned above must meet the requirements of their local jurisdictions for professional practice, and are subject to approval by the Screening Committee.

#### Experience Requirement

The experience requirement may be satisfied in the following ways:

1. a minimum one-year experience in occupational hearing conservation and 1,000 hours devoted to hearing conservation within the past five years, or
2. participation as faculty in 4 separate CAOHC-approved courses and a minimum of 1,000 hours devoted to occupational hearing conservation within the past five years

**Note:** All occupational hearing conservation activities must be performed in accordance with applicable state/federal regulations and any professional licensures/certifications, in order to fulfill the experience requirement.

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## Course Director Recertification

The Course Director recertification is granted upon application and completion of the following requirement(s):

1. current Course Director certification
2. demonstration of an appropriate credential/license, and continuous possession thereof throughout the recertification period, as specified previously
3. completion of one of the following continuing education requirements:
  0. complete an eight-hour CAOHC Course Director certification workshop or an equivalent course approved in advance by CAOHC -OR-
  - a. conduct five CAOHC approved, twenty-hour OHC courses during the five year certification period (credit for no more than two courses in any one year) -OR-
  - b. obtain 75 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours during the five year certification period. At least 50 hours must be derived from topics related to Occupational Hearing Conservation. -OR-

- c. combine options b) and c) above. (Each course directed is equivalent to 15 CPE hours, credit for no more than two courses in any one year).
- 4. submission of an application form and required fee, and approval by a Screening Committee
- 5. signed and dated statement of agreement, verifying that information supplied to CAOHC is accurate, and agreeing to adhere to CAOHC conditions

*Course Director Certification Fees*

The fees payable to CAOHC for certification or recertification are as follows:

Course Director Certification Application Fee (Non-refundable) - \$100

Course Director Recertification Application Fee (Non-refundable) - \$25





## Component Professional Organizations

### *Resources in Hearing Conservation:*

- American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery  
*Robert A. Dobie, MD*  
*Peter C. Weber, MD*  
One Prince Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: (703) 836-4444  
FAX: (703) 683-5100
- American Association of Occupational Health Nurses  
*Barbara Panhorst, EdD, RN, COHN-S; CAOHC Immediate Past Chair*  
*Linda Dolby, RN, COHN-S*  
50 Lenox Pointe  
Atlanta, GA 30324-3176  
Phone: (404) 262-1162  
FAX: (404) 262-1165
- American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
*Alex F. Sanchez, Jr., MD*  
*Michael G. Holthouser, MD, MPH*  
55 West Seegers Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005-3916  
Phone: (847) 228-6850  
FAX: (847) 228-1856
- American Industrial Hygiene Association  
*Jeffrey C. Morrill, MS; CAOHC Chair*  
*Dennis Driscoll, MS, PE*  
2700 Prosperity Avenue, Suite 250  
Fairfax, VA 22031  
Phone: (703) 849-8888  
FAX: (703) 207-3561
- American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
*Susan Cooper Megerson, MA, CCC-A; CAOHC Vice Chair*  
10801 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852  
Phone: (301) 897-5700  
FAX: (301) 571-0481

- **Military Audiology Association**  
*Col. Richard Danielson, PhD, CCC-A; CAOHC Secretary/Treasurer*  
*William Monk, MA, CCC-A*  
c/o U.S. Army WOMACK Army Medical Center  
WAMC Army Medical Center  
Fort Bragg, NC 28311
- **National Safety Council**  
*Jill Niland, CIH, CSP*  
*Merrie L. Healy, RN, MPH*  
1121 Spring Lake Drive  
Itasca, IL 60143-3201  
Phone: (708) 285-1121  
FAX: (708) 285-1315

***Additional Resources***

- **The National Hearing Conservation Association**  
611 East Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
Phone: (414) 276-6045  
FAX: (414) 276-3349  
E-mail: [nhca@globaldialog.com](mailto:nhca@globaldialog.com)

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