



Epi-Ready Team Training

A Workshop on Foodborne Illness Response Strategies

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), in cooperation with USDA, Food Safety and Inspection Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Food Safety Office is pleased to offer a free training opportunity for environmental and public health professionals working in city, county, and state health departments, environmental protection agencies, and individuals from agencies or private companies that have collaborated with environmental health professionals in conducting foodborne disease outbreak investigations. Selected teams/individuals will be responsible for their own travel, lodging, and per diem expenses.

Epi-Ready Team Training is a nationwide initiative intended to provide up-to-date foodborne disease outbreak investigation and surveillance training. The primary workshop objective is to present educational materials and implementation strategies designed to enhance the competence and confidence level of environmental health professionals. Training will include interactive group exercises, question and answer sessions, and didactic lectures on passive surveillance, outbreak determination, environmental assessment, epidemiological investigation, laboratory guidance, and final report writing.

Epi-Ready Team Training amalgamates the many health disciplines (e.g., environmental health, epidemiology, laboratory, public health nursing, etc.) involved in conducting a successful outbreak investigation in order to emphasize the importance of teamwork. Up to 50 local health professionals will be chosen to participate in the workshop. Additionally, six Epi-Ready attendees who successfully complete the training will be awarded a NEHA AEC & Exhibition registration scholarship. Scholarship eligibility information is listed below and specific details on the NEHA AEC & Exhibition can be found at www.neha.org.

Epi-Ready Team Training will be held in Albuquerque, NM on June 4-5, 2010. More details on logistics will be emailed to you once accepted and registered for the workshop. Certificates and 14 continuing education credits will be awarded at the completion of the course.

The *Epi-Ready* workshop will be conducted using the following schedule:

Epi-Ready Team Training

Friday, June 4 (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

Saturday, June 5 (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please Note! This training will emphasize the importance of the teamwork involved in foodborne disease outbreak investigation. As a result we *strongly* encourage team applications. Teams should consist of two to three individuals from at least 2 separate health disciplines (e.g. environmental health professional, epidemiologist, and laboratory). When choosing a team, think of the individuals that would receive the first phone calls in your department given an outbreak situation. Please include complete contact information for each team member in the application.

Please provide the following information for each team member. Please note, in order to fill in the box below you *may* have to “save as” the form, then complete it and email it to me as an attachment. Scholarship applicants should submit an LOI as a separate attachment.

- Name-
- Title-
- Company/Organization-
- Phone-
- Address-
- Email-
- Brief job description-
- Length of time in your field-
- Team members (if applicable)-
- *Are you applying for the AEC registration scholarship (see details below)-

*Six Epi-Ready attendees who complete the course will be awarded an AEC & Exhibition registration scholarship. Interested Epi-Ready attendees should submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) in order to be eligible to receive the award. Interested applicants must demonstrate the below eligibility requirements for an AEC & Exhibition registration scholarship:

1. Must be a/an: food safety professional; environmental health professional working in food safety; other professional working in food safety; or undergraduate/graduate student working or taking classes in food safety.
2. Provide a detailed job description that includes current food safety experience. U.S. government employees are not eligible.
3. Would *not* be able to attend the AEC & Exhibition *without* this scholarship (i.e., not already registered for the AEC, budget constraints, etc.).
4. Scholarships DO NOT include travel, lodging, and other travel-related expenses. Already have travel, lodging, and other travel-related expenses planned, covered, and approved by you, your employer, and/or other sources before applying for this scholarship.

Applications should be submitted electronically to Elizabeth Ostertag at costertag@neha.org.

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 PM EST April 30, 2010. Notification of successful applicants will be made no later than 5:00 PM EST May 7, 2010. All notifications will be made via e-mail.

Any questions concerning this workshop or the application process should be directed to:

Elizabeth Ostertag, Project Specialist

NEHA

512 Corbin Ave

New Britain, CT 06052

costertag@neha.org

860-357-2097 (p)

888-814-9866 (f)