



# Epi-Ready Team Training

## *A Workshop on Foodborne Illness Response Strategies*

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention–Food Safety Office and the Louisiana Office of Public Health 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.

*Epi-Ready Team Training* will be held in New Orleans, LA on May 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***

Tuesday, May 4 (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)  
Wednesday, May 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 space below you *may* have to “save as” the form, then complete it and email it to me as an attachment.

- Name-
- Title-
- Company/Organization-
- Phone-
- Address-
- Email-
- Brief job description-
- Length of time in your field-

Applications should be submitted electronically to Elizabeth Ostertag at [costertag@neha.org](mailto:costertag@neha.org).

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 PM EST April 6, 2010. Notification of successful applicants will be made no later than 5:00 PM EST April 12, 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](mailto:costertag@neha.org)  
860-357-2097 (p)  
888-814-9866 (f)

