

NEHA REHS/RS® EXAM UPDATE FAQ

- Why is the exam changing?** The exam is updated as part of periodic maintenance that goes along with offering a credential over a length of time. The last updates were made in 2013, and it is time to update again to ensure the exam properly captures and tests for what is being done in professional practice.
- When will the new exam be available?** The new exam will be offered beginning on September 1, 2021. It will replace the current exam.
- How is the exam changing?** Overall exam content is not changing drastically. A high-level comparison of current vs. new exam is below:

Current Exam (in place through 8/31/2021)	Percentage of exam		New Exam (release date 9/1/2021)	Percentage of exam
Conducting Facility Inspections	35%	↔	Conducting Inspections	48%
Conducting System Inspections	20%	↔		
Conducting Investigations	12%	↔	Conducting Investigations	18%
Ensuring Compliance	10%	↔	Conducting Compliance Review	12%
Promoting Environmental Public Health Awareness	13%	↔ ↔	Performing Environmental Health Surveillance	12%
Responding to Emergencies	10%		↔	Promoting Environmental Health Information

- What is the passing score for the new REHS/RS® exam?** The passing score is being determined by Subject Matter Experts and our testing company, Professional Testing, Inc. in mid-April. Updated information regarding the passing score will be released following that determination.
- Is the exam format, including number of test questions and time allowed to complete the exam, changing?** The exam format is not changing; it will consist of multiple-choice questions proctored on computer at Pearson Vue testing centers. The new exam will have a total of 225 questions; the current exam has a total of 250 questions. This does not mean that the new exam is easier; it remains as rigorous to pass as the current exam. Any changes to the maximum time allowed to complete the exam will be communicated at a later date.
- Which exam should I take?** NEHA will not advise you on specific action, however, we encourage you to review the information and make the choice that is best for you. If your exam window expires before September 1, 2021, you MUST take the current exam.
- If I need to re-take my exam, can I re-take the same version?** The new exam is going to be released on September 1, 2021. Exams taken between now and August 31, 2021 will use the current exam. NEHA typically recommends a 90-day window between test attempts however, that window is waived for candidates wanting to re-test before the August 31, 2021 cutoff. NEHA cannot guarantee you can get another test appointment at the testing center before August 31 and recommends starting your re-take application as early as possible. Allow a minimum of 2 weeks processing time.
- Will the cost of the exam be changing?** No, the cost for the REHS/RS® exam will not change when the new exam becomes available.
- Will updated REHS/RS® study material be available?** A new study guide for the REHS/RS® exam is currently being developed for anticipated release in June 2021.
- Will the existing Study Guide prepare me for the new exam?** Yes, the existing 4th Edition Study Guide remains relevant to content areas covered in the new exam.
- Can I return the Study Guide I bought and purchase the updated Study Guide when it's available?** Returns must be done within 30 days of purchase. Customers need to contact Trisha Bramwell at tbramwell@neha.org with the reason for their return.
- Where can I go for more information?** If you have additional questions regarding the new REHS/RS® exam, please contact Sarah Hoover at shoover@neha.org.

1/11/2021