



CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Fire and Rescue Division
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Fire & Rescue Division Hazardous Materials Section

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WMD EQUIVALENT CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTOR CREDENTIALING CRITERIA (Type 1 Inspections) **[For Inspection Purposes Only]**

Instructor Credentialing (Must be one of the following):

- a. College or University Teaching Credential
- b. Community College Teaching Credential
- c. State Fire Marshal's Office Credentialed Instructor, Hazardous Materials Specialist
- d. CSTI Credentialed Instructor, Hazardous Materials Specialist, or, CSTI Instructor Train-The-Trainer Certificates that include instructor training in the requisite WMD CSTI course(s).
- e. Haz-Mat Certified Instructor as credentialed from a reputable educational institution, university or college program, or a state or federal agency whose focus is emergency response and training in the field of hazardous materials specialist and WMD / Terrorism response training. (i.e. U.S. Fire Academy, Emergency Management Institute, DoE, DoT, ODP, LSU, Texas A&M, etc).

Class or course Criteria:

- a. Must be written and provided by a reputable and acknowledged governmental agency, educational institution, or a university or college program whose focus is emergency response and training in the realm of hazardous materials and/or WMD.
- b. Class or course must be accepted as certifiable and/or accredited by adoption or reference in the California Code of Regulations, or by an acknowledged reputable accrediting educational institution or program (i.e. CSTI, State Fire Marshal's Office, U.S. Fire Academy, four year college or university, or State Chancellors Office of Community Colleges).
- c. Class or course must be compliant with SEMS and NIMS credentialing criteria and requirements.
- d. If the course is offered through a private enterprise, by a private sector business or corporation (by contract with and for a governmental agency), or by an independent non-governmental entity, the funding and presentation of the course must be supported

- and audited by the contracting governmental agency, and, the instructors must be credentialed as explained above.
- e. The class or course must meet or exceed the basic course outline and student objectives of the course for which it is in substitution of, and must be of at least equal in class presentation time (hours).
 - f. "Certificates of Completion" must be provided to each student by the lead government agency providing the training program or by the educational institution that is accrediting and credentialing the program. Sign-in sheets or roll call records are not acceptable. Records of issuance of "Certificates of Completion" must be kept and maintained by the lead governmental agency providing the training program or by the educational institution that is accrediting and credentialing the program.

Credentialing for California is essentially a "self-certifying" procedure, except if inter-state mutual aid is requested or provided. In such case, credentialing will attempt to follow the "Credentialing the Nations Emergency Responders – Working Group Guidelines" (version 1.5) provided by the NIMS Integration Center. If an employer wishes to achieve "State Credentialing" and a card so indicating the SEMS / NIMS level and position credentialed, it must comply with the "Certification and Qualification" standards for each level and position desired, and follow the "State Credentialing Processing Procedure". Once the requirements and procedures are met, the California Emergency Management Agency will issue an identification card indicating the level and position the applicant has requested.

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