

## Certification, Quality Systems, and Auditing

**Author:** Nancy Wentworth

**Key Words:** professional, certifications,  
environmental, quality systems, Environmental  
Protection Agency, EPA

**Abstract:** What is the value of professional  
certifications in environmental programs? Do  
certifications have any impact on the quality of  
the work that is done?

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



## Abstract

Does having certifications give you an  
advantage in getting work in the environmental  
field? What do the certifications mean when you  
are working with EPA, your clients, and others?  
This presentation will explore the various  
certifications available to environmental  
professionals, the value of these certifications in  
the professional fields of practice, and how EPA  
views professional certifications.

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



## Certification, Quality Systems, and Auditing

**Nancy W. Wentworth, P.E.**  
**Director, Quality Staff**  
**Office of Environmental Information**  
**USEPA**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Professional Certifications

- What are they?
- Do government employees need them?
- Are they needed to get government work?
- Role of certifications in DOING government work
- Where does Quality fit in?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Professional Certification

Recognition, through education, experience, and/or documented performance on the appropriate "body of knowledge" of qualification to practice in a given field



---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

### Examples of Certifications

- PE
- PhD
- MD, FACS/FACOG
- CPA
- Esq.
- CIH
- CQA
- CUMM**



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Certifications for Federal Employees

- Some jobs series require them, but relatively few
  - Attorneys – Bar Exam – absolute requirement
  - Medical/Veterinary fields - MD, DVM
  - Health and Safety – CIH – sometimes
  - Engineering -- PE – sometimes
- Not required to supervise work in most technical areas

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Getting Federal Work

- Request for proposals/applications contains requirements for qualifications of certain project personnel by class or job
- Focus is on project managers, health and safety personnel
- Presumption that supervision by certified personnel will ensure quality and appropriateness of the work

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Getting Federal Work, continued

- When certifications are not required by the RFP/A
- Make sure certifications are **OBVIOUS** in the personnel qualification statements
- Show value added of certifications in description of work to be done
- CHMM requires breadth and depth of training not found in PE or PG – take advantage of it

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Where does QUALITY fit in?

- Our common goal
  - Do the work that is needed
  - When it is needed
  - For the right price
- (This is also the definition of Quality)



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### What Does a CHMM Bring to the Job?

- Knowledge – a wide range of subjects
- Experience – has actually used the knowledge
- Ability to act as a “translator” between personnel and programs
- Professional reputation

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### ISO 14000 and Auditing

- Environmental Management Systems and related auditing
- CHMM meets workplace experience requirement for 14000 auditor certification
- ISO 19011, Guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems auditing being balloted (voting closes 10/31/2001)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Certifications and Auditing

US organizations with responsibility for auditor training, testing, and certification

- American Society for Quality
- Registrar Accreditation Board



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Information Sources

[www.asc.org](http://www.asc.org) for quality auditing information

[www.rabnet.com](http://www.rabnet.com) for EMS auditor information

[www.epa.gov/quality](http://www.epa.gov/quality) for EPA Quality Staff documents on Agency-wide Quality System

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---