

BIOSAFETY CABINET FIELD CERTIFICATION – ENHANCED ACCREDITATION PROGRAM



WHAT IS THE ENHANCED ACCREDITATION PROGRAM?

The enhanced accreditation program is recognized as the premier credential for individuals who certify Class II biosafety cabinets in hospitals, laboratories and research facilities. It addresses different types of biosafety cabinets (BSCs) used in North America, including A1, A2, B1, B2 and C1. Understanding of other industry concerns, including worker safety, industrial ventilation requirements and troubleshooting, is also evaluated in the enhanced accreditation program.

The enhanced accreditation program is the new name for NSF International's original accreditation program, which was initiated in the 1990s. The program was rebranded in 2017 as "enhanced" to differentiate it from the newly introduced basic accreditation program, which is geared toward field certifiers who live and work outside of North America, particularly those in under-resourced countries.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE ENHANCED ACCREDITATION PROGRAM?

The enhanced accreditation program is offered globally. Individuals living or working outside of North America may become accredited under this program. Alternatively, they may become accredited under our basic accreditation program, which is geared toward certifiers outside of North America, with special considerations given to technology availability and language barriers.

HOW TO BECOME ACCREDITED

The biosafety cabinet enhanced certification program includes both objective written and practical evaluations of a candidate's aptitude. The written examination* is open book and consists of 120 multiple-choice questions. The written exam is provided in English. Upon request, one may have a translator. Topics for the practical examination** include:



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- > Downflow velocity
- > HEPA filter leak - gross probe
- > Inflow velocity (secondary, constricted access)
- > Cabinet leak (to be replaced by decontamination test)
- > Inflow velocity (primary, direct inflow measurement)
- > Lighting intensity
- > HEPA filter leak – scan
- > Vibration test
- > Site installation assessment
- > Noise level test
- > Smoke patterns
- > Inflow velocity, Type B2 (to be replaced by concurrent balance value test)



Only approved NSF representatives are qualified to proctor practical examinations. Individuals who pass both the written and practical examinations may use the NSF enhanced biosafety cabinet field certifier accreditation mark.

*requires a passing score of 80% or higher

**Primary tests require a passing score of 90% or higher; user comfort tests require a passing score of 70% or higher.

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