

CAOHC- Approved Occupational Hearing Conservationist Certification Course

Online: December 7-9, 2020

Onsite (Davenport, IA): December 10, 2020

CAOHC Course Director Laura Kauth presents a CAOHC-approved certification course for Occupational Hearing Conservationists. This 20 hour course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the basic components of hearing conservation in industrial settings and prepare participants to perform hearing testing and otherwise support their hearing conservation programs. This hybrid course provides 3 part-days of online instruction via Zoom, and a final day of hands-on, practical training. At the conclusion of the hands-on day, students will take the standardized CAOHC certification exam.

Covered topics include:

- An overview of hearing conservation and the role of the Occupational Hearing Conservationist (OHC)
- Anatomy, physiology, and diseases of the ear
- Environmental factors which affect hearing health (including ototoxins and otoprotectants)
- Hearing and the physics of sound
- Noise measurement and control
- Audiometric equipment and testing procedures
- Audiometric maintenance and calibration
- Hearing test review, referral, and follow-up
- Federal and state regulations regarding hearing conservation
- Hearing protection device: types, purposes, fitting, and maintenance
- Education and motivation
- Recordkeeping

For further details on the curriculum, please visit: <http://www.caohc.org/occupational-hearing-conservationist/ohc-course-curriculum>

Additional resources:

CAOHC offers both a Hearing Conservation Manual and a Study Guide for students. While class notes and presentations are designed to comprehensively cover hearing conservation in preparation for the certification exam, students may benefit from supplementing their course experience with one or both of these resources.

The CAOHC materials are available for order at: <http://www.caohc.org/educational-resources>

Note that the manual can also be ordered through the course director and picked up at the start of class to take advantage of CAOHC's course director discount; however, students may benefit from getting the manual in advance.

Certification Course Schedule

Monday, Dec 7

10:00	Introductions, CEU information
10:10	Hearing Conservation and Noise: an Introduction
10:45	Role of the Occupational Hearing Conservationist
11:30	Anatomy and Physiology of the Ears
12:15	Lunch
12:45	The Audiometer and the Test Environment
1:30	Audiometric Technique
2:15	Break
2:30	Physics of Sound and Hearing – <i>Guest speaker Paul Richmond</i>
4:00	Adjourn

Tuesday, Dec 8

10:00	Regulations
11:15	Record-keeping
12:00	Lunch
12:30	Audiometric Equipment, Care, and Calibration – <i>Guest Speaker Brian Hough</i>
1:15	Audiometric Technique: Histories and Special Problems
2:00	Break
2:15	Audiogram Review: Referral and Follow up
3:15	Ototoxins and Otoprotectants
4:00	Adjourn

Wednesday, Dec 9

10:00	Personal Hearing Protection
11:15	Education and Motivation
12:15	Lunch
12:45	Testing During the Pandemic: Discussion
1:15	Review
2:15	Break
2:30	Review
4:00	Adjourn

Thursday, Dec 10 (on site at the Village Theatre, Davenport)

10:00	Otoscopy/ HPD practicum
11:00	Audiometric practicum
12:00	Lunch
12:30	Audiometric Practicum/ practical exam
2:15	Break
2:30	Last questions; exam prep
3:00	Exam

About the Instructors:

Laura Kauth: The course director and primary instructor is Laura Kauth, M.A., CPS/A. Laura has taught CAOHC courses since 2001 through the University of Iowa, the Iowa-Illinois Safety Council, and independently. She is an active member of the National Hearing Conservation Association, serving as President of that organization in 2012-2013. She has 20 years of experience as a professional supervisor for hearing conservation programs. Laura is committed to the effective prevention of hearing loss, and encourages students to consider her an ongoing resource in this important area of occupational health.

Paul Richmond: Instruction on noise measurement and physics of sound will be provided by Paul Richmond (CIH, CSP). Paul is a highly skilled health and safety professional with diversified experience in the management of environmental, health and safety programs. Paul is the Director of the Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) at Iowa State University and Vice President of Barlowe Environmental Services, LLC. He has significant experience providing health and safety training content to various audiences including frontline workers, supervisors, and college students. He is currently a listed co-PI on a federal OSHA grant (Susan Harwood) to provide noise hazard training to small businesses and manufacturers.

Brian Hough: Brian Hough will be discussing audiometric equipment selection, maintenance, and repair. Brian has a background in audiology and trained at the University of Nebraska. He has worked in the instrumentation field for the past 14 years; as part of the Midwest Special Instruments team, he specializes in hearing testing equipment as well as other Occupational Health systems. Brian has been assisting with numerous CAOHC courses in the Nebraska and Iowa area for over 15 years, bringing his expertise in hearing testing and equipment to the class.

Educational Credit:

The University of Iowa College of Nursing is Iowa Board of Nursing provider #1. With full attendance, 19.75 contact hours will be awarded.

All participants will receive a separate participation certificate.

About the Exam:

The CAOHC online certification exam will be administered at the end of the class. **Students are responsible for providing their own laptop/tablet to access the exam.** The examination is a standardized form produced and graded by CAOHC, consistent with both American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards. Results are returned to the student via e-mail within 1-2 business days. In the event that a student does not pass the initial exam, there is a remotely proctored online retest. The class registration includes the CAOHC certification and exam fee; if a retest is needed, the first retest fee is waived.

Location:

The hands-on portion of the course will be held at the **Village Theatre**, located at
2113 E 11th St
Davenport, IA 52803

The Theatre offers ample space for distancing and robust ventilation. Parking is available on site. Class will run from 10 am to 4 pm each day (both online and the face-to-face), with breaks and lunch. Lunch is included in the course fee for the day. Neighboring Lindsey Park provides an inviting open space to take breaks (weather permitting).

Cancellations:

In the event of significant changes in circumstances due to either COVID-19 or other severe circumstances, the face-to-face portion of this course may be rescheduled in a manner which best accommodates all students.

In the event that a student has been diagnosed with COVID-19, is experiencing symptoms, or is otherwise concerned about attending for COVID-19 related reasons, an alternate date for completion of the face-to-face portion will be scheduled, or a full refund will be provided. The priority is to limit spread of SARS-CoV-2, and every effort will be made to accommodate this priority, while completing student training.

Registrations which are cancelled for other reasons by September 14 will be refunded in full minus \$50; after that point, cancellations will be refunded 75% through September 25. No refund will be made after the course has commenced, except in case of emergency. Please contact the course director in that event.

COVID-19 Measures:

To reduce risk and keep group size below ten, the face-to-face day will be capped at 8 attendees. If there is additional interest, a second face-to-face day will be scheduled October 2.

- Students will observe physical distancing as well as possible during all parts of the practicum.
- Masks are required. These may be cloth, medical, or higher grade. **Please remember to bring your own mask.**
- Restrooms adjacent to the class space provide for handwashing; hand sanitizer will also be provided.
- Sanitizing wipes for the audiometers, as well as earphone covers, will be provided.
- If you are experiencing respiratory issues, fever, or other symptoms**, please contact the Course Director to discuss scheduling an alternate date.

Please contact Course Director Laura Kauth with any additional questions at (563) 499-6627, or email at Lstkauth@gmail.com.

This course is sponsored by the Heartland Center for Occupational Health & Safety.



Registration:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Company/ Employer: _____

Employer's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact information:

Work Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

E-mail: _____

Any necessary accommodations? (ADA, Spanish test, etc):

_____ Certification: December 7-10, 2020 \$650

To pay via check (payable to Laura Kauth), mail registration and payment to:

Laura Kauth
PO Box 4181
Davenport, IA 52808

It is recommended that you confirm mailed registration via e-mail or phone.

For credit card transactions, please e-mail completed registration form to Lstkauth@gmail.com.