

CAOHC- Approved Occupational Hearing Conservationist Certification Course

Online: July 31-August 4, 2023

Onsite: West Burlington, IA -August 3

Altoona, IA -August 4

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: 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.

OBJECTIVES

Upon course completion, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the responsibilities and scope of practice of Occupational Hearing Conservationists.
2. Discuss basic anatomy of the ear.
3. Identify types and causes of hearing loss, and bases for appropriate review and referral.
4. Describe the effects of hearing loss on communication, safety, and quality of life.
5. Discuss the impact of environmental factors, including noise and ototoxicants, on hearing and overall health.
6. Explain basic noise measurement and noise control.
7. Recognize fundamentals of sound physics.
8. Identify parts of audiometric equipment, maintenance, calibration requirements, and potential issues with equipment or testing environment.
9. Administer pure tone air conduction audiometric tests, compliant with federal standards.
10. Manage special issues in hearing conservation.
11. Discuss federal and state regulations regarding hearing conservation.
12. Identify hearing protection device types, and describe purposes, fitting, maintenance, and efficacy.
13. Discuss requirements for hearing conservation education, and ways of improving employee motivation.
14. Identify necessary record-keeping for compliance with regulations and for best practice.

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>

These materials can also be ordered through the course director (see registration form) to take advantage of the course director discount. Ordered materials will be sent out with course notes in advance of the class.

Certification Course Schedule

Monday, July 31

- 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 – *Guest speaker Paul Richmond*
- 4:00 Adjourn

Tuesday, Aug 1

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

Wednesday, August 2

- 10:00 Personal Hearing Protection
- 11:15 Education and Motivation
- 12:15 Lunch
- 12:45 Review
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 Review
- 4:00 Adjourn
Online Evaluation will be completed upon adjournment

Thursday, August 3 (West Burlington) or Friday, August 4(Altoona)

- 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
- 2:45-4:00 Exam and Course Evaluation

After you have completed the registration and payment, Your ZOOM link will be emailed prior to the start of the course. Please Note, that for successful completion you must fully attend all Online and in-person practicum day time frames.

About the Instructors:

Laura Kauth: The course director and primary instructor is Laura Kauth, MA, 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 over 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 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.

Location:

The hands-on portion of the course will be held in:

West Burlington, August 3: AmericInn
628 S Gear Ave
West Burlington, IA 52655-1045

Altoona, August 4: Holiday Inn Express
165 Adventureland Dr
NW, Altoona, Iowa 50009

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 on-site day.

Additional locations may be offered as requested; Please contact the course director if interested.

Educational Credit:

This course has been approved by Des Moines Area Community College - DMACC IBON Provider #22 for 21 Nursing Contact Hours. Contact Hours will only be awarded for full attendance on all days, no partial credit will be awarded. It is the licensee's responsibility to determine if the continuing education they attend meet the requirements of their professional board.

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 test produced and scored by CAOHC, consistent with both American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards. Results are given once the exam is submitted. 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.

Cancellations:

In the event of significant changes in circumstances due to illness, weather, or other severe events, the face-to-face portion of this course may be rescheduled in a manner which best accommodates all attendees. In the event that an attendee has tested positive for COVID-19 or other infectious illness, or is experiencing symptoms, an alternate date for completion of the face-to-face portion will be scheduled, or a full refund will be provided.

Registrations which are cancelled for other reasons by July 21 will be refunded in full minus \$50 plus any material fees if sent; after that point, cancellations will be refunded 75% through July 28. No refund will be made after the course has commenced, except in case of emergency; however, if needed, registration may be transferred. Please contact the course director in that event.

COVID-19 Measures:

- Space will be appropriate to allow physical distancing.
- Masks may be requested, depending upon current recommendations, community transmission, health of other attendees, etc. KN95s and N95s will be available.
- Sanitizing wipes for the audiometers and other equipment will be provided.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided.
- If you are experiencing illness**, 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 for Materials: _____

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 course	\$700
Preferred onsite location: West Burlington, August 3	_____
Altoona, August 4	_____

Optional supplements:

_____ CAOHC Hearing Conservation Manual	\$65
_____ CAOHC Study Guide	\$12

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

Laura Kauth
PO Box 4181
West Burlington, 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.