



## **Certified Asbestos Custodial Awareness Specialist Course (CAAS)**

**Course Length: 3 Days CEU's 2.6**

**Course credential: Certified Custodial Asbestos Awareness Specialist CAAS**

**Note: Refresher certification is required every three years to maintain professional credential.)**

**Course Fees: \$595.00**

### **Program Overview**

Training of custodial and maintenance workers is one of the keys to a successful operations and maintenance (O&M) program. If building owners do not emphasize the importance of well-trained custodial and maintenance personnel, asbestos O&M tasks may not be performed properly. This could result in higher levels of asbestos fibers in the building air and an increased risk to building workers and occupants.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires employers to institute and ensure participation in a worker training program for employees exposed to fiber levels (either measured or anticipated) at or above the permissible exposure limit (0.1 fibers per cubic centimeter (f/cc) as an 8-hour, time-weighted average (TWA) and/or the excursion limit (1.0 f/cc as a 30-minute TWA). This training program consists of an initial training period, the duration of which is determined by the type of work the employee performs, and annual refresher training.

### **Types of Training**

As an illustration of the different types of maintenance worker training, below are two out of the three types of training under the EPA regulations.

*Type 1: Awareness Training*

This training is for maintenance and custodial staff involved in cleaning and minor maintenance tasks where ACM may be accidentally disturbed.

Two-hour Asbestos Awareness Training may include such topics as:

- Background information on asbestos
- Health effects of asbestos
- Worker protection programs
- Locations of ACM in the building
- Recognition of ACM damage and deterioration
- The O&M program for that building.

### *Type 2: Special O&M Training*

This training is for maintenance and custodial workers involved in general maintenance and asbestos-containing material repair tasks.

For example, the job may involve repair or removal of a small section of damaged thermal system insulation, or the installation of electrical conduit in an air plenum containing ACM or ACM debris. This training generally lasts at least 14 hours. Special O&M training usually involves more detailed discussions of the topics included in Type 1 training as well as:

- Federal, state, and local asbestos regulations
- Proper asbestos-related work practices
- Descriptions of the proper methods of handling ACM, including waste handling and disposal
- Respirator use, care, and fit-testing
- Protective clothing donning, use, and handling
- Hands-on exercises for techniques such as glovebag work and HEPA vacuum use and maintenance
- Appropriate and proper worker decontamination procedures.

**Courses are offered in both English and Spanish.**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Audience**

**This course is valuable for:**

- Custodial Workers
- Maintenance workers
- Managers & Supervisors  
Safety Managers,

- Safety & Health Committee Members
- Industrial Hygienist
- Environmental Professionals
- Risk Managers,

**Testing:**

Students completing the course must take a proctored final exam. A score of 80% on the final exam is necessary to receive your personalized certificate of completion. The student gets three (3) attempts to pass the course.

