

THE CHP CORNER



AMERICAN ACADEMY
of Health Physics



AMERICAN BOARD
of Health Physics

AAHP-ABHP is Moving Headquarters!

We're excited to share that the **American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) and the American Board of Health Physics (ABHP)** will soon be relocating our national headquarters office! This move marks a fresh new chapter in our organization's ongoing efforts to remain responsive, efficient, and future-focused in how we support our certified professionals and the broader health physics community.

While our physical address is changing, our commitment to providing high-quality service to our members remains the same. Day-to-day interactions with AAHP and ABHP will not be impacted—you'll continue to access all programs, services, and contacts just as you do today.

The only change that may affect you is if you need to mail something to our office. In that case, please use our **new address below starting May 1, 2025:**

New Headquarters Address:

AAHP/ABHP
50 Millstone Road
Building 200, Suite 215
East Windsor, New Jersey 08520

All phone numbers and email addresses will remain the same.

We look forward to continuing to serve you from our new space—one that better supports our work today and into the future.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at director@aahp-abhp.org.

Save the Date:

AAHP Summer CE Courses on July 12

Saturday, July 12 | Madison, WI

Make the most of your trip to the HPS Annual Meeting this summer by arriving early to participate in a full day of Continuing Education (CE) courses on Saturday, July 12 in Madison, Wisconsin! These pre-conference sessions will be hosted by AAHP and offer a valuable opportunity to deepen your knowledge and earn CECs towards your CHP.

A mix of **full-day (8-hour)** and **short-format (2-hour)** courses are expected, providing up to 16 CECs for full-day participation and 4 CECs for each 2-hour session. Attendees can expect a range of timely and relevant topics designed for professionals across the health physics community. While the full schedule is still being finalized, tentative offerings may include subjects such as:

- Emergency preparedness and response in radiological incidents
- Radiation risk assessment in environmental and regulatory contexts
- Criticality safety fundamentals and accident dosimetry
- Advances in medical and therapeutic radiation safety
- International nuclear and radiological protection standards

Courses will be offered in person, with some sessions likely to include a hybrid participation option for added flexibility.

Registration and final course announcements will be available soon, but we encourage you to plan your trip accordingly to participate in these valuable sessions on Saturday, July 12.

continued

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A Pupil's Perspective on Passing Part I

Dan Sowers, CHP, AAHP Communications Committee Chair

I connected recently with Lancer Smith, a fresh grad of University of Alabama at Birmingham's Health Physics MS program. He smartly took all the perks that come with the diploma and re-invested those dividends into UAB's ES&H program as a lead health physicist. Last year, Lancer put Part I of the CHP Exam in the rear view as a resume bullet and accomplishment; Part II narrowly escaped his crosshairs but he's keen for another engagement this year.

Look, now that Part I and Part II are on different days, Lancer recommends taking both in the same year. "The Part II questions undoubtedly helped me prepare for Part I," he says. The newly designed website—a huge effort from dozens of our AAHP and ABHP leadership as well as our management company CMA over the last couple of years—definitely helped. "The website is laid out well and easy to use for sure," Lancer exclaimed in our last chat.

In my opinion as a past and future hiring manager, I'm not looking for a health physicist who can pass a test. I'm most interested in the life-long learner. Lancer shares that he first created a study document to assist him with recording the delta between what he had mastered and what was left to learn. Today, the document serves as a running tab to correlate his vast knowledge as he learns new things. That, folks, is the value of CHP: the relentless pursuit of betterment, of being in a slightly better position tomorrow than you're in today, and the thirst for knowledge that knows no quenching.

Lancer and all exam-takers out there, we wish you the best in preparing for this year's exams. We hope to celebrate your names in a future edition of CHP Corner as having achieved board certification.

New CHP Spotlight: Celebrating the Next Generation of Certified Health Physicists

Michael Canino, AAHP-ABHP Executive Director

We're excited to continue our **New CHP Spotlight** series, highlighting recently certified CHPs and celebrating their achievements, insights, and the diverse paths that led them to this important professional milestone.

This month, we're proud to introduce two inspiring professionals: **Vineetha Ram, CHP**, and **Henry Bolen, CHP**, whose stories reflect dedication, perseverance, and passion for excellence in health physics.



Vineetha Ram, CHP

Director, Radiation Safety
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

What was the main reason you wanted to earn your CHP?

"Earning the CHP was a goal I set early in my career as a way to challenge myself to meet the highest standards in my field. Ultimately, it was a way for me to formalize everything I've learned in health physics over the years and show my commitment to excellence in radiation protection."

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How has earning your CHP impacted your career?

"Becoming a CHP has definitely boosted my confidence and professional credibility. It has also enhanced my ability to mentor and support my team in my current role as Director of Radiation Safety. I am thrilled to have reached this milestone and excited to keep growing!"

Do you have any advice for aspiring CHPs?

"The CHP is a valuable learning experience and a great investment in your career. Enjoy the journey :) PS: If you are like me—a slow writer (with not-so-bad handwriting)—the 6-hour written exam can be daunting. Timed practice tests make all the difference!"

Professional Background

Vineetha has held health physics roles at institutions like St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Mayo Clinic. Her career path has given her the opportunity to contribute to and learn from several outstanding radiation safety programs.



Henry Bolen, CHP

Senior Director, HII Mission Technologies
Supporting N3B at Los Alamos National Laboratory

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What was the main reason you wanted to earn your CHP?

"It has been a goal of mine for many years. Early in my career, I worked as a Radiation Protection Technician and admired the leaders who held the CHP. It once felt impossible, but as I grew in experience and education, I became determined to achieve it—not just for career opportunities, but to join the company of those great professionals I respected."

I've earned other certifications like PMP, RRPT, CSP, and CIT, but CHP was the one that eluded me the longest—and it was definitely the toughest. But I refused to let it beat me!"

How has earning your CHP impacted your career?

"At this stage in my career, it's more than a credential—it's a personal achievement that validates the technical expertise I've developed over decades. It's been gratifying to be recognized in the industry. Plus, it settled a fun rivalry with my wife—she earned her CHP one year before me, but I studied fewer years, so we're calling it even!"

Do you have any advice for aspiring CHPs?

"Don't give up! Study hard and apply yourself. It's a big commitment, but worth it. If you don't pass the first time, keep building on what you've learned and try again. You'll get there!"

Professional Background

Henry spent nearly 25 years at the DOE Savannah River Site, rising from Radiation Protection Technician to Area Health & Safety Manager. He's held senior roles in both commercial and DOE nuclear facilities and now serves as a Senior Director at HII Mission Technologies, supporting operations at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Want to Be Featured as a New CHP?

If you're a newly certified CHP and would like to be featured in a future New CHP Spotlight, we invite you to share your story! Please contact director@aahp-abhp.org for more information.

We look forward to continuing this series and celebrating the achievements of the newest leaders in health physics.