



# 2018 MINIMUM CRITERIA GUIDANCE

## A Summary of Changes



The **Minimum Health and Safety Training Criteria** (Minimum Criteria) is a national guidance document for training hazardous waste workers and emergency responders. It also serves as the primary quality control foundation for training grants awarded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Training Program (WTP). In October 2017, the WTP held a national technical workshop to develop consensus on proposed revisions to the Minimum Criteria. This fact sheet provides a summary of changes made to the document as a result of workshop discussions in the following areas:

- E-learning
- Collateral Duty
- Proficiency Assessment
- Instructor Development
- Evaluation
- Disaster Training
- Infectious Disease
- Evergreening of Curricula

The Minimum Criteria document and related training resources are available at <https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/index.cfm?id=142>.

### General Updates

- Revised organization of the document
- Updated the Definitions section
- Guiding Principles: Added language justice and the need for a code of conduct
- Deleted old Annex C, provided current link to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's "Guidelines for HazMat/WMD Response, Planning, and Prevention Training"
  - Link now found in the Guiding Principles and the References and Resources section

### E-learning (Sections 10.5, 10.5.1, 10.8.1)

- Changed "e-learning" to "technology-enhanced training methods"
- Added definition for blended learning
- Added Technology Literacy and User-Friendliness (Section 10.5.1)
  - Includes suggested criteria for technology-enhanced activities
- Added Trainees Engaged in Technology-Enhanced Learning (Section 10.8.1)
  - Includes considerations for programs where trainees will be engaged in technology-enhanced learning

### Collateral Duty (Section 11.4)

- Added new category: "A variety of workers under (q)(6) who are also considered collateral duty"
- Specified the types of workers that fall under (q)(6)
- Moved text on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Disaster Site Worker course to new section on Disaster Response and Recovery Workers (Section 11.5)
- Removed text on OSHA Hospital-Based First Receivers document (new at time of last update)



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## Proficiency Assessment (Section 9.3.7)

- Added information on thresholds for satisfactory completion (100%, 70%, 100%)
- Added text on what to do to if trainees do not meet criteria for successful completion
- Added Representative Good Practice for Proficiency Assessment (Section 9.3.7.3)

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## Instructor Development (Section 9.3.3)

- Added to the list of competencies
- Added text to introduce the concept of mentors
- Added text to introduce the concept of a code of ethics and cultural sensitivity

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## Program Evaluation (Section 10.10)

- Revised to specify considerations for process, outcome, and impact evaluation
- Added resources on evaluation, including the Kirkpatrick model

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## Disaster Training

- Added Disaster Response and Recovery Workers (Section 11.5)
  - Includes text on the OSHA Disaster Site Worker course
  - Encourages all rescue and recovery workers who may provide assistance at a disaster site to be trained prior to deployment
  - Suggests types of training these workers should receive
  - Lists populations to be trained, including volunteers, homeowners, and business owners
  - Provides additional resources

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## Infectious Disease

- Categorized infectious disease training as a 1910.120-supporting training program

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## Evergreening of Curricula

- Added references throughout the document on keeping curricula current, reviewing materials periodically to include the latest scientific findings, guidance, and/or standards



(Photos [top to bottom] courtesy of: New Jersey/New York Hazardous Materials Worker Training Center, Alabama Fire College, Department of Energy)