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"Why Can't I Pay My AAHP Dues Online?"

Jim Yusko, CHP, Director AAHP

Several CHPs have asked about paying their Academy dues through a secure Web site so they can enter their credit card number and have their dues paid that way, instead of having to write a check.

The Executive Committee has looked at this service and found that the Academy would be losing money were this to be offered. At present, the credit card companies charge

between 2% and 5% for this feature, in addition to the set-up and maintenance charges the Academy would have to pay. These charges, by the way, are the same the stores where you shop are charged by the credit card companies for that privilege.

Thus, in the interest of not having to pay the start-up and maintenance fees (\$1,600 start-up, \$2,200 maintenance first and subsequent

years) and not losing between 2 and 5% per transaction, the Executive Committee has decided not to pursue this option at the present. We are doing this in the interest of trying to keep our Academy dues at a reasonable level and without having to raise the dues to support this feature. At present, it is less expensive to print and mail the dues envelope to you for payment than it is for Web site payment.

What's Available on the AAHP Web Site

Jim Yusko, CHP, Director AAHP

The Academy's Web site has lots of information for both the new and the seasoned CHP, as well as information for candidates who are seeking American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) certification. Besides this, there are many items of interest for both CHPs and aspiring CHPs.

Or if you've already been certified and have delayed filing your renewal for certification, you can find out what courses have been reviewed and how many continuing education credits were granted for your getting up so early at the midyear or annual meetings or for having to be away from home at a training course.

The "AAHP Members Only Area" also contains information relevant to the Academy and its operations. Included on the site are items such as its rules, by-laws, membership, committees, and documents called "GTTKAMJ," if you've accepted a nomination for election to the Academy Executive Committee. "GTTKAMJ" is an unpronounceable acronym, but it means "Good Things To Know About My Job," which gives you, the actual or prospective candidate, information about what you should be doing in your term of office, or about what others are supposed to be doing in their roles. Thus, you don't show up without any clue

about what you (or they) should be doing.

Also on this site is information for the prospective certified health physicist with stuff about the examination process and its rules. These include reference libraries for both the ABHP and American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) and a chatroom. The reference libraries are restricted, however, to those elected or appointed to the respective entities.

Some of the past Part II examinations are also there for you to try your hand at solving (this covers only the 1993-2002 exams, however).

CHP Average Salaries 1995-2005

Gary L. Lautenschlager, CHP

The CHP Salary Survey is 10 years old this year, and to mark the occasion the last 10 years of the reported average CHP salary is graphed. The trend shows that the average CHP salary has increased by \$28,801, or about 39%, over the 10 years of the survey. According to inflationdata.com, the inflation rate from January 1995 to January 2006 was about 32%.

The first few years of the survey were done by hand, that is, respondents mailed or faxed their completed survey forms to the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) headquarters, and then the data from each completed survey form was transferred into a database. The process was tedious and required rechecks for errors. Thanks to the

support of the AAHP, especially Nancy Johnson and many helpful suggestions from Nancy Daugherty, CHP, colleagues, and others, the very first CHP Salary Survey appeared in 1995 coauthored by Elizabeth Thompson and me.

Then in 1999, the salary survey went online. Scott Medling, CHP, coded the online version of the survey, enabling the data to be collected electronically. The survey data no longer needed to be input by hand, which was a great time-saver and minimized the potential for errors. The data in electronic form could be imported directly into another program for the statistical analysis.

In 2000 the salary survey was expanded to include the entire Health Physics Society (HPS) membership.

Several persons had previously suggested that the HPS membership be included in the surveys prior to 2000, but it wasn't possible until Chris Graham and Andy King graciously volunteered to do the HPS survey.

The salary survey is done completely with volunteer effort. If you've enjoyed reading the salary surveys through the years and find them useful, please be sure to participate with your confidential responses if you haven't before. Your replies are confidential and are never released in a form that it would be possible to determine your identity. The 2006 survey is now open. Please visit the Members Only section of the HPS Web site to participate.

The graph shows the average of all CHP salaries from 1995 through 2005.

Year	Average	Year	Average	Year	Average
1995	\$74,000*	1999	\$80,818	2003	\$97,039
1996	\$78,327	2000	\$83,602	2004	\$101,356
1997	\$77,168	2001	\$88,662	2005	\$102,801
1998	\$82,660	2002	\$91,194		

* All CHPs comprehensive certification

