



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF HEALTH PHYSICS

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AAHP SPECIAL SESSION – POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS OF LOW-DOSE RADIATION AND THE ROLE OF RADIATION PROTECTION PROFESSIONALS

Kyle Kleinhans, AAHP Past President

This special session, co-chaired with Dr. Armin Ansari, is to focus on *Low Dose Radiation and the Role of Radiation Protection Professionals*.

We have twelve topics, as follows:

- *Radiation Epidemiology and Low Dose Effects* by John D. Boice, Jr., Sc.D., NCRP
- *Estimating Cancer Risk at Low Doses and Dose Rates: Lessons from Dr. Land* by Dr. David J. Pawel, EPA
- *What Does Radiation Biology Tell Us About Potential Health Effects at Low Dose and Low Dose Rates?* by Edouard Azzam, Ph.D., Rutgers
- *Enhancing Low Dose Risk Assessment Using Mechanistic Mathematical Models of Radiation Effects* by Igor Shuryak, MD, PhD, Center for Radiological Research, Columbia University Medical Center
- *Low-Dose Radiation: Interagency Collaboration on Planning Research Could Improve Information on Health Effects* by John Neumann, Natural Resources and Environment GAO
- *Translating Science to Recommendations – NCRP CC-1* by Donald A. Cool, Ph.D., EPRI
- *Low-Dose Radiation Research and Implementation of Radiation Protection Policy at the Department of Energy* by Derek Favret, CHP; Noelle Metting, Sc.D.; James Dillard, CHP; Isaf Al-Nabulsi, Ph.D.; Andrew Wallo, DOE
- *Studies of Low Dose Health Effects Inform EPA Regulations* by Mike Boyd, EPA
- *The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Radiation Protection Policy and Opportunities for the Future* by Cynthia G. Jones, Ph.D., NRC
- *INPO Approach for Maintaining Low Worker Dose* by Charles B. Mitchell, INPO
- *State Radiological & Toxicological Risk Assessment and the Linear No-Threshold Perspective* by William Irwin, Sc.D., CHP; Vermont Department of Health Radiological & Toxicological Sciences Program Chief
- *The Role of Radiation Protection Professionals* by Armin Ansari, Ph.D., CHP, CDC

Following the Session, the AAHP Open Business Meeting will be conducted.

CHANGES TO THE PART 1 EXAM PROCESS HAVE ARRIVED!

Bill Rhodes, ABHP Chair

The American Board of Health Physics (ABHP) announced changes to the management of the exam process last year. Beginning in 2018, the Part 1 and Part 2 application process has been

conducted on-line through the ABHP website. This included completing the initial application and the submission of supporting documents; such as professional reports. Notifications of approval / disapproval to take the exam will be sent via email after review of the applications in April. Fees for applications and exams were collected using PayPal.

The ABHP made this change to:

- increase the security of the exam process,
- have electronic records for every step of the exam; from application to results,
- provide informational e-mails to candidates during the application, testing and results process,
- provide more testing options (locations, dates and times) to candidates wishing to take the exam, and to
- have a professional, consistent and standardized testing environment

The 2018 Part 1 exam will be delivered at testing locations throughout the world through Pearson VUE. Pearson VUE offers similar services to many other boards and certification entities. The 2018 Part 1 exam will be offered over the course of one week from 5 July to 12 July 2018, just before the annual meeting of the Health Physics Society. Candidates will choose a 3-hour block of time on a date of their choosing (during the authorized week) at a testing center. There are thousands of testing centers world-wide.

When candidates are approved to take the Part 1 exam, they will receive an “Authorization to Test” email with detailed instructions regarding testing site options and directions to apply for a date and time to take the exam. After scheduling the exam, candidates will receive a confirmation email from Pearson VUE. Help lines are available from Pearson.

There is a Pearson VUE testing center fee that candidates will pay when they apply. The Pearson VUE fee is in addition to the application and testing fees that are paid to the ABHP. The Pearson fees are \$126 for domestic locations and \$146 for international locations. While the additional Pearson fees represent an increased cost for the candidates, total candidate fees remain well below those of similar certification bodies.

Pearson VUE will administer and proctor the exams, following ABHP proctoring procedures. The calculator policy remains the same, and candidates should carefully review the calculator policy on the ABHP website. Candidates will be asked to sign a calculator policy form.

The Part 1 exams will be graded electronically, and exam statistics will be reviewed and validated by the ABHP at November 2018 meeting. Shortly after the meeting, candidates will be notified by e-mail of their results.

There are no changes to the Part 2 examination process. The exam will be delivered via paper on 16 July 2018 at selected locations, and scored in the same fashion as previous exams. Part 2 results will also be e-mailed after the November meeting of the ABHP.

The Board is excited about the future of the ABHP exam process, and the benefits these changes will bring to current CHPs and future health physicists wishing to become certified. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Bill Rhodes at wqrhode@sandia.gov.