

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TECHNOLOGY, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE



Information

Environmental Health & Safety Technology (EHST) is a specialized branch of the health professions focusing on the environment of workers. Professionals in this field strive to find and eliminate conditions in the workplace that may result in occupational injury or disease. This is achieved through a process of anticipation, recognition, evaluation, and control of the various stresses that contribute to unsafe working environments.

The EHST program is multi-disciplinary in nature, providing students with relevant exposure to disciplines including biological, chemical, physical, mathematical, and health sciences, as well as a thorough introduction to occupational health and safety concepts. Common occupational safety concerns deal with safety hazards involved with confined space entry, hazardous energy control, hazard communication, and compliance with safety standards, environmental protection, and other areas. Environmental health and safety personnel are expected to perform the following functions: identify and analyze accident and loss-producing conditions; develop accident prevention and loss control methods, procedures, and programs; communicate accidents and loss control data to individuals on a need-to-know basis; and measure and evaluate the effectiveness of accident and loss control systems.

The curriculum is modeled from guidelines of the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) and the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP). Students who complete the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in EHST may qualify to begin the examination process to become an Associate Safety Professional (ASP) through the BCSP. Students may also complete course work at a number of upper-level universities leading toward additional certifications such as the Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) through the ABIH, the Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) through the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP), the Certified Risk Manager (CRM) through the National Alliance for Insurance Education and Research (NAIER), and many others.