



# Becoming a Certified Safety Professional (CSP)

International System Safety Society (ISSS)  
Washington DC Chapter Meeting

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Senior Lead Engineer

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

13 October 2016

**BCSP** | Board of Certified  
Safety Professionals

Advancing the Safety, Health and Environmental  
Professional Since 1969

[www.bcpsp.org](http://www.bcpsp.org)

\*This presentation is available to the public at [bcsp.org](http://bcsp.org) and may have been revised to reflect relevancy for this audience.

V2016.01

# About me

- BS in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Tech
- 21 yrs System Safety Experience
- Currently employed at Booz Allen Hamilton, Arlington, VA since 2008
  - Support NOSSA (WSESRB/SSSTRP)
  - Provide safety policy oversight
  - Provided programmatic safety engineering support to a Navy gun system program and fuze projects
  - Supported the revision and release of MIL-STD-882E
- Prior to Booz Allen, employed at General Dynamics as the Lead System Safety Engineer for the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle and employed at Applied Ordnance Technology (AOT) as a Safety Engineer for a variety of weapon and explosive safety programs
- CSP holder since June 2007

# Purpose

- Describe why safety professionals become certified
- Provide an overview of the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP)
- Summarize the advantages that come with the CSP designation
- Discuss the certification process
- In addition:
  - This counts as service to the BCSP and I obtain Recertification credit that is required over a 5 year period to maintain my CSP designation

# Specializations within Safety Practice

- Occupational Safety
- Industrial Hygiene
- Environmental Safety
- Fire Protection Engineering
- Ergonomics
- **Systems Safety**
- Risk Management
- Loss Control, Loss Prevention, and Risk Control
- Chemical Process Safety
- Construction Safety
- Institutional Safety Management
- Transportation Safety
- Safety Research and Risk Assessment

"Career Guide to the Safety Profession, Third Edition", Board of Certified Safety Professionals and American Society of Safety Engineers



# What do Safety Professionals Do?

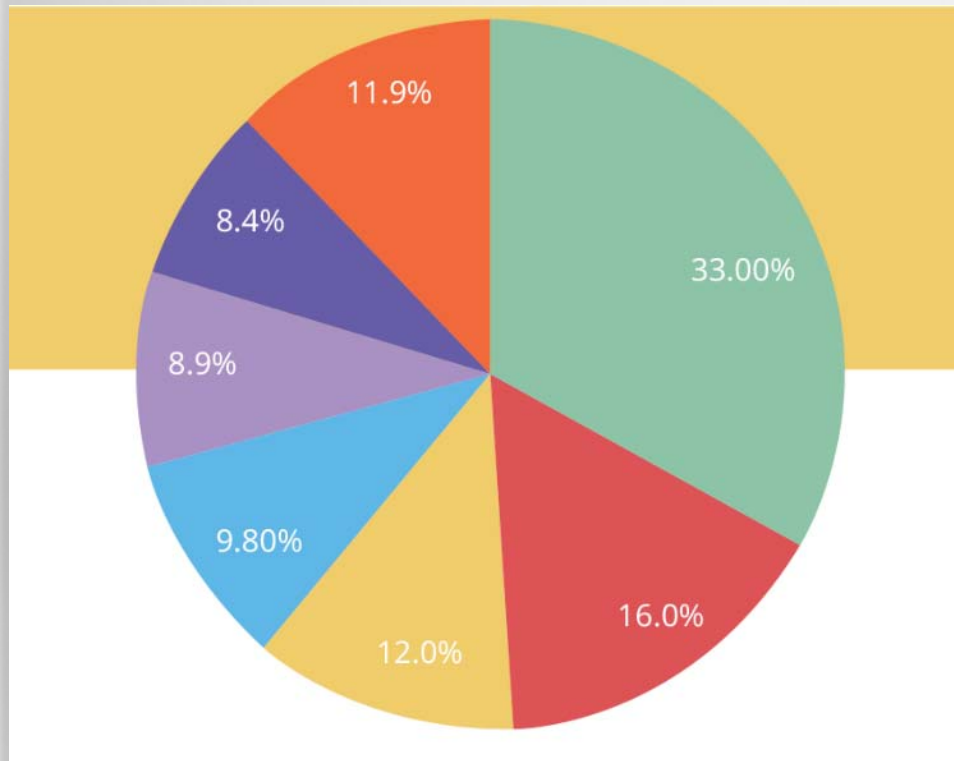
## *A Day in the Life of a SH&E Professional*

- Hazard Identification
- Risk Analysis
- Development of controls and safety assessment methods
- Fire protection
- Environmental protection
- Accident and Illness Investigations
- Inspections/audits
- Training and managing safety programs
- Record Keeping
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Product safety
- Hazardous materials management
- Ergonomics
- Emergency Response
- Advising Management

"Career Guide to the Safety Profession, Third Edition", Board of Certified Safety Professionals and American Society of Safety Engineers



# Where do Safety Professionals Work?



\*Industry data based on *Safety+Health* Magazine Salary Survey 2015

***EVERYWHERE!***

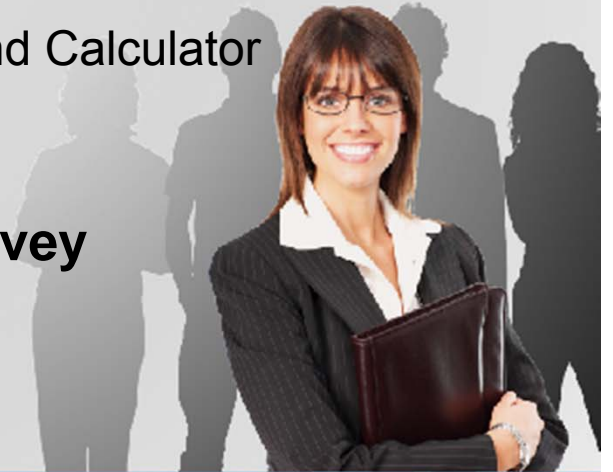
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Services and Education
- Public Administration/Government
- Utilities
- Mining, Oil and Gas
- Other



# Why Become a Safety Professional?

- High Demand
- Flexibility across industries (easy to find a job in safety)
- High satisfaction in choice of career
- Salary
  - 2015 SH&E Industry Salary Survey
  - BCSP + 5 other safety organizations
  - Tool: The SH&E Industry Safety Salary Survey and Calculator

**[www.bcsp.org/SH-E-Practice/Salary-Survey](http://www.bcsp.org/SH-E-Practice/Salary-Survey)**



# Professional Safety Certification

***Certify*** – to attest authoritatively as meeting a standard.

*Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary*

***Certified SH&E practitioners have been judged by an independent organization to be at least minimally competent to protect the safety and health of workers and the public.***

Why it's important:

- Demonstrates **Competency**
- **Competitive** Advantage
- Demonstrates **Credibility**
- **Pay** and Mobility
- Contract **Qualifications**





# Would you personally hire:

- An accountant without CPA certification
- An engineer without a P.E. license
- A Doctor, Nurse, Lawyer or Teacher without board certification
- A safety practitioner to protect your workforce without accredited board certification



# Salary Survey 2015

## Joint effort of 6 organizations, led by BCSP:

- **ASSE** - American Society of Safety Engineers
- **ABIH** - American Board of Industrial Hygiene
- **AHMP** - Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals
- **AIHA** - American Industrial Hygiene Association
- **IHMM** - Institute of Hazardous Materials Management

## Findings:

- Certified SH&E professionals typically earn **\$14,000 MORE** per year than those with no certifications
- CSP and CIH (AIHA) is higher: **>\$20,000** more per year compared to their colleagues that perform similar functions but do not have the certification

[www.bcsp.org/SH-E-Practice/Salary-Survey](http://www.bcsp.org/SH-E-Practice/Salary-Survey)



# About BCSP

- Established in 1969
- Not-For-Profit headquartered in Champaign, IL
- Up to 11-Member Director Board
- Not a Membership Organization
- Internationally recognized



# About BCSP (Cont'd)

## Core Values:

<b><i>Respect</i></b>	maintaining esteem and honor for colleagues, customers, and the profession
<b><i>Excellence</i></b>	devoted to outstanding quality and continuous improvement
<b><i>Accountability</i></b>	committed to communication and professionalism
<b><i>Leadership</i></b>	guided by ethics and integrity; fulfilling our fiduciary and social responsibilities

# BCSP A Credentialing Leader

BCSP is recognized as the leader in high-quality credentialing for safety, health, and environmental practitioners.

## **Mission:**

BCSP sets and certifies technical competency criteria for safety, health and environmental practitioners worldwide; enhancing careers, advancing the profession, protecting the public.

## **Vision:**

Creating a safer world through safety, health and environmental certification.

## 8 Sponsoring Organizations

- These Sponsoring Organizations help ensure that governance of BCSP includes broad representation from across the safety profession:
  - AIHA - American Industrial Hygiene Association (1974)
  - ASSE - American Society of Safety Engineers (1974)
  - IIE - Institute of Industrial Engineers (1984)
  - **ISSS - International System Safety Society (1977)**
  - NESHTA – National Environmental Safety and Health Trainers Association (2012)
  - NFPA - National Fire Protection Association (2007)
  - NSC - National Safety Council (1994)
  - SFPE - Society of Fire Protection Engineers (1984)



# National and International Accreditations

- National Accreditation
  - Institute for Credentialing Excellence
  - National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)\*
  - Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB)\*\*
- International Accreditation
  - American National Standards Institute (ANSI/ISO 17024)\*\*\*

\* CSP, OHST, CHST, STS

\*\* CET only

\*\*\* CSP only

# Accreditation Assures

- Governance
  - Nominations/elections
  - Peer participation
  - Public participation
- Financial disclosure
  - Stability and financial condition
  - Budget details
- Fairness to candidates
- Examinations
  - Validity
  - Reliability
  - Passing scores
- Recertification
- Independence from preparation
- Management systems

# What is Certification

- Voluntary process
  - Set standards
    - Educational
    - Experience
    - Examination
  - Evaluates individuals against standards
  - Awards certification and use of mark
  - Requires continuing professional development
- It is NOT
  - License to practice
  - Permanent
  - Membership
  - Certificate of completion

# Certification vs. Certificate

Certification	Certificate
Results from an assessment process	Results from an educational process
Typically requires some amount of professional experience	For new comers and experienced professionals alike
Awarded by a third-party, standard-setting organization	Awarded by training and educational programs or institutions
Indicates master/competency as measured against a defensible set of standards, usually by application or exam	Indicates completion of a course or series of courses with a specific focus; is different than a degree granting program
Standards set through a defensible, industry-wide process (job analysis/role delineation) that results in an outline of required knowledge and skills	Course content set a variety of ways (faculty committee; dean; instructor; occasionally though defensible analysis of topic care)
Typically results in a designation to use after one's name; may result in a document to hang on the wall or keep in a wallet	Usually listed on a resume detailing education; may result in a document to hang on the wall
Has on-going requirements to maintain; individual must demonstrate knowledge of content; holder must demonstrate he/she continues to meet requirements	Is the end result; individual may or may not demonstrate knowledge of course content at the end of a set period in time

# Why BCSP Certifications?

- General
  - Raises bar
  - Levels playing field
  - Provides benchmark
  - Demonstrates competency
- Safety Professionals
  - Personal fulfillment
  - Peer recognition
  - Pay and position
  - Competitive advantage
  - Demonstrates credibility
- Employers
  - Prescreens candidates
  - Public image
  - Indicator of professionalism
- Government Agencies
  - Contract qualifications
  - Task performance qualifications
  - Higher public assurance of competency



# Testimonial

- Why did I pursue a CSP designation?
  - Took an initial ASP training course about 5 years into my safety career
  - Set it as a personal goal to become certified
    - Differentiator and professional challenge
  - About 10 yrs into my safety career, I decided it was the right time to pursue the ASP and CSP designations
  - Process took about 2 years total for me to apply (ASP and CSP), study and prepare for both exams
  - Proud to be a CSP holder since 2007
  - CSP designation has been helpful in my career path and made me a better safety professional





# Professional Certifications and Designation



**Graduate Safety  
Practitioner®**



**Associate Safety  
Professional®**



**Certified Safety  
Professional®**

The Certified Safety Professional has been in operation for more than 40 years with over 25,000 CSPs certified during that time.

Currently, 15,558 people hold the CSP.

# Technician, Technologist, and Supervisory Certifications



**Occupational Health  
and Safety  
Technologist®**



**Construction Health  
and Safety  
Technician®**



**Safety Trained  
Supervisor®**



**Safety Trained  
Supervisor  
Construction**

BCSP also awards technician, technologist, and supervisory SH&E certifications that provide additional career paths for safety practitioners.

Over 15,000 individuals currently hold a technician, technologist, or supervisory credential from BCSP.

# SH&E Training Certification



**Certified Environmental,  
Safety and Health Trainer®**

BCSP offers a SH&E Trainer certification that provides additional career paths to professional trainers.

Over 600 individuals currently hold the CET certification.

# Current Certificants

ASP	3,100
GSP	1,776
CSP	15,558
CHST	4,338
OHST	1,904
STS	1,973
STSC	6,828
CET	679

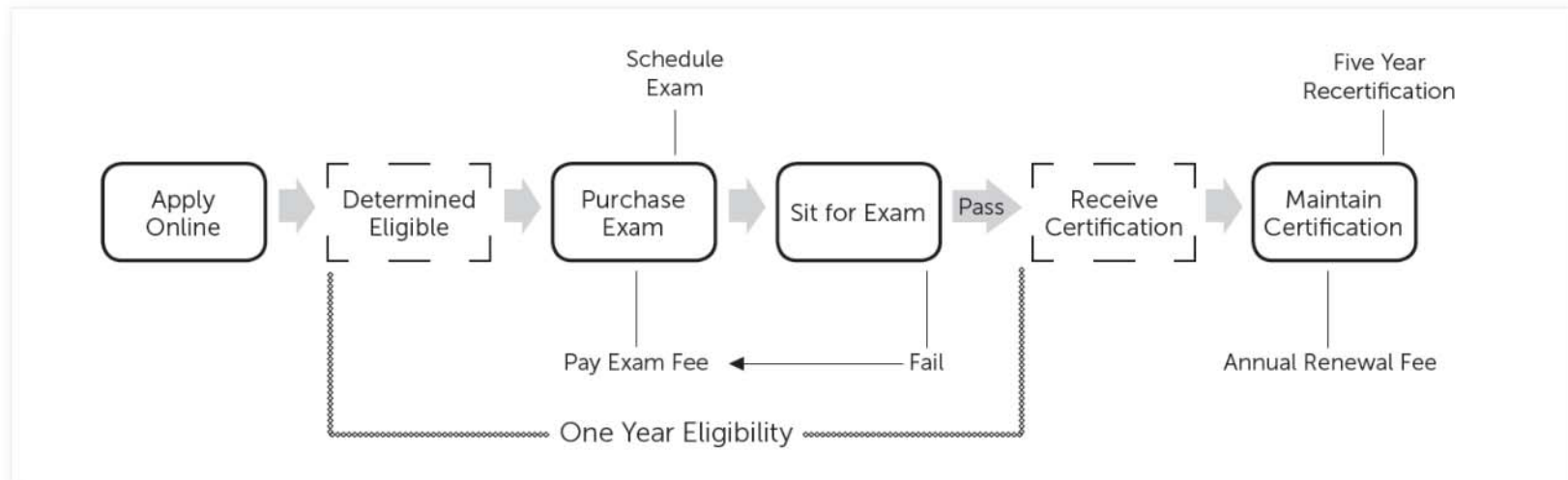
\*As of January 2016



# The Certification Process

- Determine Eligibility
- Apply Online
- Purchase Examination(s)
- Pass Examination(s)
- Maintain Certification
  - Recertification
  - Annual Renewal Fees

## Overview of the Certification Process



# Professional Certifications



Certified Safety Professional®



Associate Safety Professional®

## Designation



Graduate Safety Practitioner®





# CSP Qualifications

- Minimum Academic Requirement
  - Associate's in Safety (SH&E-related and from an accredited\* school)
  - Or Bachelor's in any field (from an accredited\* school)
  - Or Bachelor's from a QAP School (BCSP Qualified Academic Program for GSP)
    - The Graduate Safety Practitioner (GSP) designation is a path offered to the CSP certification for qualifying ABET-ASAC\*\* or AABI\*\*\* graduates.
    - GSPs only have to take one examination for the CSP
- NOTE: Non-US transcripts must be evaluated for equivalency through the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES)

- \* Accredited School is one that is recognized by the US Department of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)
- \*\* Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)- Applied Science Accreditation Commission (ASAC)
- \*\*\* Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI)



# CSP Qualifications

- Experience Requirement
  - 4 Years Minimum
    - Qualifying Criteria for Experience
      - Full-Time Position (or Part-Time  $\geq 900$  hrs/yr)
      - Professional safety is primary function ( $\geq 50\%$  of position)
      - Primary responsibility must be the prevention of harm to people, property, or the environment
      - Must be at professional level (responsible charge)
      - Breadth: Safety Tasks, Hazard Types, etc.
- Credential Requirement
  - Must hold the ASP, GSP, CIH, CMIOSH, CRSP, SISO, NEBOSH National or International Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety, **or** Diploma in Industrial Safety from CLI/RLIs of the Government of India



# ASP Qualifications

- Minimum Academic Requirement
  - Associate's in Safety (SH&E-related and from an accredited\* school)
  - Or Bachelor's in any field (from an accredited\* school)
- Experience Requirement
  - At least 1 year of experience where safety is at least 50%, preventative, professional level with breadth and depth of safety duties

\* Accredited School is one that is recognized by the US Department of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)



# ASP/CSP Recertification Requirements

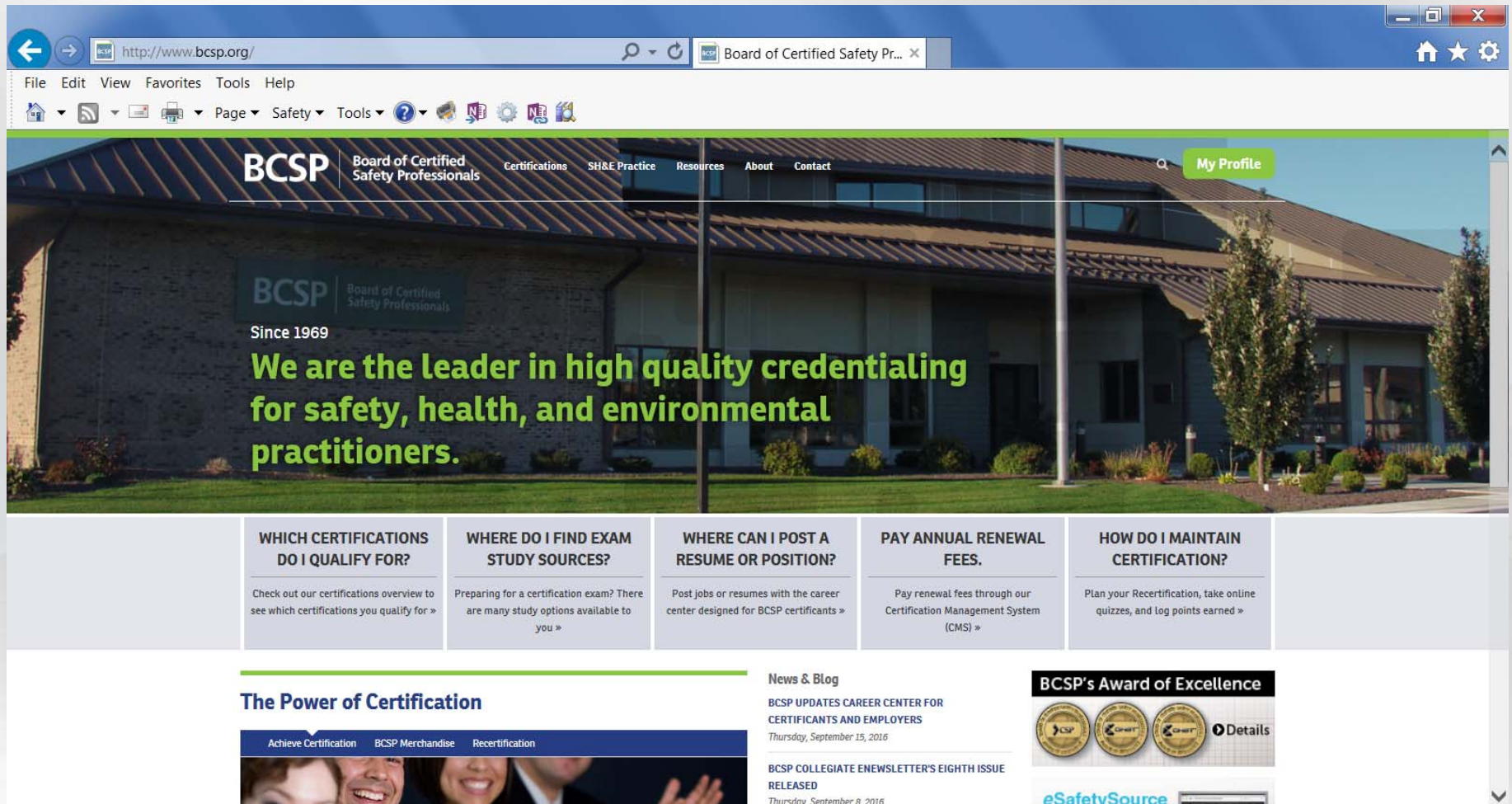
- 25 Points Every 5 Years
- 10 Point Categories (Some with Point Limitations)
  - Practice
  - Membership
  - Organizational Service
  - Publishing, Presenting, Patents
  - Service to BCSP
  - Professional Development Conferences
  - Safety-Related Courses, Seminars, Quizzes
  - Continuing Education
  - New Advanced Degree
  - Other Certifications/Re-Examination





# Website Information

- [www.bccsp.org](http://www.bccsp.org)



# Education / Experience Requirements

Education and Training	Experience	Fees	Scores and Points
	<b>Minimum Education</b>		<b>Training</b>
<b>CSP</b>	Minimum Bachelor's degree in any field or an associate's in safety, health or the environment or a closely related field.*		N/A
<b>ASP</b>	Minimum Bachelor's degree in any field or an associate's in safety, health or the environment or a closely related field.*		N/A

Education and Training	Experience	Fees	Scores and Points
	<b>Work Experience</b>		<b>Educational Substitution for Work Experience</b>
<b>CSP</b>	At least 4 years of experience where safety is at least 50%, preventative, professional level with breadth and depth of safety duties and one of the following credentials: ASP, CIH, CMIOSH, CRSP, GSP, SISO, NEBOSH National or International Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety, Diploma in Industrial Safety from CLI/RLIs of the Government of India.		N/A
<b>ASP</b>	At least 1 year of experience where safety is at least 50%, preventative, professional level with breadth and depth of safety duties.		N/A



# Fees and Scores/Points

Education and Training	Experience	Fees	Scores and Points		
	Application		Examination	Eligibility Extension	Renewal
CSP	\$160		\$350	\$100	\$150
ASP	\$160		\$350	\$100	\$140

Education and Training	Experience	Fees	Scores and Points	
	Passing Scores			Recertification
CSP	54.86%			25 points
ASP	60.57%			25 points

# CSP / ASP Resources

- <http://www.bcsp.org/Resources/Review-and-Study-Sources>

## BCSP Reference Materials

The publications listed in the following references provide reasonable coverage of the subject matter associated with the related BCSP Examination's Blueprints.

### – Blueprints & Study Sources

**Current STS Blueprint References** (PDF, 127KB)

**OHST Blueprint References** (PDF, 245KB)

**Current STSC Blueprint References** (PDF, 112KB)

**CHST Blueprint References** (PDF, 178KB)

**CET Blueprint References** (PDF, 135KB)

**ASP Blueprint References** (PDF, 83KB)

**CSP Blueprint References** (PDF, 495KB)

# CSP / ASP “Vendor” Resources

- <http://www.bccsp.org/Resources/Review-and-Study-Sources>
- Disclaimer – “BCSP neither endorses the providers below nor evaluates the providers or the providers' materials for consistency with BCSP examination blueprints or with any aspects of any BCSP examination.”

CSP and ASP Study Sources	
<b>American Society of Safety Engineers (C)(G)(S)</b> 520 N. Northwest Hwy Park Ridge, IL 60068 +1 847-699-2929	<b>Beeree Safety Technologies Co., Ltd. (C)</b> 2 Zi-Jing-Hua Road, Suite 2-703, Lianhe Building A, Hangzhou 310013, P.R. China +86 571-8839-1363
<b>Bowen EHS, Inc. (C)</b> +1 866-264-5852	<b>Center for Work, Health &amp; Environment at the Colorado School of Public Health (C)(G)(S)</b> 13199 E. Montview Ave. Suite 200 Denver, CO 80045 +1 303-724-6440
<b>China Commerce Morgan Management Consulting Co., Ltd. (C)(G)</b> Rm. 908/909, East Tower, 9F, No. 45 Fuxingmennei Ave, West District, Beijing, P.R. China 100801 +86 106-609-5360	<b>Datachem Software, Inc. (S)</b> 69 Milk Street, Suite 300, Westborough, MA 01581 +1 800-377-9717
<b>Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety (C)</b> University of Alabama at Birmingham, 1530 3rd Avenue South—VH Box 301, Birmingham, AL 35294-0019 +1 205-934-7178	<b>Institute of Safety &amp; Systems Management, Inc. (C)(G)(S)</b> 175 E. Paulatino Ave, Suite A, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 +1 949-344-8401
<b>Langlois, Weigand &amp; Associates, Inc. (C)</b> 3933 Overlook Point Court, Baton Rouge, LA 70817-1619 +1 225-755-4099	<b>Richland Community College Continuing and Professional Education Division (C)</b> One College Park, Decatur, IL 62521-0513 +1 217-875-7211 ext. 219
<b>Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (C)</b> University of Utah, 391 Chipeta Way, Suite C, Salt Lake City, UT 84108 +1 801-581-4055	<b>SafeTeach-Global (C)</b> 1325 Overstreet Lane, Lagrange, KY 40031 +1 502-225-0503
<b>Safety Minded Professionals, LLC (C)</b> 685 Title Mill Rd, Beaver, Ohio 45613 +1 740-977-8011	<b>Southern California Education &amp; Research Center; UCLA School of Public Health (C)</b> 650 Charles E. Young Dr., South CHS 61-279, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1772 +1 310-206-2304
<b>SPAN International Training (C)(G)(S)</b> 402 W. Mt Vernon St. #111, Nixa, MO 65714 +1 855-357-7726	<b>The University of Texas at Austin (C)</b> Professional Development Center, 10100 Burnet Road, Bldg. 33, Austin, TX 78758 +1 512-232-1952
<b>University of Cincinnati (C)</b> Continuing Medical Education, P.O. Box 670567, Cincinnati, OH 45267-0567 +1 800-207-9399	<b>Utah Safety Council (C)</b> 1574 West 1700 South, Suite 2A, Salt Lake City, UT 84104 +1 801-746-7233

# Conclusion

- Provided an overview of the BCSP
- Discussed the certification process
- BCSP website provides all necessary information to determine if a CSP certification is right for you
- Please take BCSP brochures – they're for you!

# Closing Comments

- I believe the CSP certification process has made me a more valuable safety professional and has improved my system safety experience and expertise
- Because of safety professionals like us, we help make the world a safer place
- Good luck with your certification process

# Questions?

**Robert E. Smith, CSP**

*Senior Lead Engineer*

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

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# THANK YOU and STAY SAFE

## BCSP | Board of Certified Safety Professionals

### *Code of Ethics*

This code sets forth the code of ethics and professional standards to be observed by holders of documents of certification conferred by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. Certificants shall, in their professional activities, sustain and advance the integrity, honor, and prestige of the profession by adherence to these standards.

#### Standards:

1. **HOLD** paramount the safety and health of people, the protection of the environment and protection of property in the performance of professional duties and exercise their obligation to advise employers, clients, employees, the public, and appropriate authorities of danger and unacceptable risks to people, the environment, or property.
2. **BE** honest, fair, and impartial; act with responsibility and integrity. Adhere to high standards of ethical conduct with balanced care for the interests of the public, employers, clients, employees, colleagues and the profession. Avoid all conduct or practice that is likely to discredit the profession or deceive the public.
3. **ISSUE** public statements only in an objective and truthful manner and only when founded upon knowledge of the facts and competence in the subject matter.
4. **UNDERTAKE** assignments only when qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields involved. Accept responsibility for their continued professional development by acquiring and maintaining competence through continuing education, experience, professional training and keeping current on relevant legal issues.
5. **AVOID** deceptive acts that falsify or misrepresent their academic or professional qualifications. Not misrepresent or exaggerate their degree of responsibility in or for the subject matter of prior assignments. Presentations incident to the solicitation of employment shall not misrepresent pertinent facts concerning employers, employees, associates, or past accomplishments with the intent and purpose of enhancing their qualifications and their work.
6. **CONDUCT** their professional relations by the highest standards of integrity and avoid compromise of their professional judgment by conflicts of interest. When becoming aware of professional misconduct by a BCSP certificant, take steps to bring that misconduct to the attention of the Board of Certified Safety Professionals.
7. **ACT** in a manner free of bias with regard to religion, ethnicity, gender, age, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.
8. **SEEK** opportunities to be of constructive service in civic affairs and work for the advancement of the safety, health and well-being of their community and their profession by sharing their knowledge and skills.



Approved by the BCSP Board of Directors November 2, 2012  
Effective January 1, 2013