

ASBESTOS ABATEMENT WORKER

Licensing Authority Ellen Hester
Labor Services Division
Iowa Workforce Development
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Legal Authority Code of Iowa, Chapter 88B

Job Description Asbestos abatement workers use hand-operated or power-operated tools to remove or encapsulate asbestos-containing materials; wear protective clothing and use a respirator to prevent exposure to airborne asbestos fibers; follow all safety regulations regarding work practices, such as work site preparation, decontamination, and waste disposal; and, use encapsulating materials in an appropriate manner. They need to understand the nature of asbestos-related diseases, routes of exposure, and synergism between cigarette smoking and asbestos exposure. Workers construct and maintain proper barriers and decontamination enclosure systems; position warning signs; and, complete electrical and ventilation system lockouts. They must follow proper working techniques for minimizing fiber release through the use of wet methods, negative pressure ventilation equipment, high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) vacuums, and proper clean-up and disposal procedures.

Education & Experience Required An applicant must have successfully completed the proper training and exam by a training provider approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The initial worker training course includes lectures, demonstrations, at least six hours of hands-on-training, respirator fit test, course review and written examinations. Persons seeking this license must complete an initial five-day training course and an annual refresher course thereafter.

A completed application form from the Division of Labor Services must be submitted containing a physician's certification and a respirator fit test. Required attachments include: the non-refundable fee, a copy of their training certificate, and two 1"x1" photographs. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

Continuing Education An eight-hour refresher course is required annually for license renewal.

Examination Applicants must pass a written examination after completing the training.

Fees Application:\$20 (non-refundable)
Duration: All licenses are valid until their training certificate expires.
Renewal: \$20 (non-refundable)

SOC Code, Title, & Avg. Hourly Wage 47-4041 – Hazardous Materials Removal Workers (\$11.01)

Number of Licenses Issued Total number of licenses active as of December 31,
2001: 1,179 (Total of all asbestos occupations)
2000: 1,058
1999: 1,070
1998: 1,235

For Additional Information See Appendix for additional registration and permit requirements for those interested in starting a construction business in the state of Iowa.