



Institute of Professional Environmental Practice

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The Value of the Qualified Environmental Professional Certification

- Undertaking environmental protection and compliance activities and the potential consequences of not completing these activities correctly the first time, can be very expensive. It is more important than ever to make sure the key decisions/recommendations are being made by QEP's in order to reduce the potential for project failure and/or the need to do a project over.
- With the adoption of ASTM E 1929-98 *Standard Practice for the Assessment of Certificate Programs for Environmental Professionals: Accreditation Criteria* in 1998, the Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP®) credential has reached pre-eminent status in the environmental profession. Of the more than 90 different environmental associations/certifying bodies offering "certificates", very few environmental credentials meet the ASTM criteria. Of these, only the QEP is multi-disciplinary and international in scope.
- Board certification can be an important element in making your career as an environmental professional a sustainable one. It should contribute to your job security during difficult economic times and help you "stand out from the crowd" when opportunities such as promotions and new jobs or projects present themselves.
- Your QEP certification provides tangible proof that qualified, independent, third party professionals have examined you and deemed you a competent and dependable professional within your chosen specialty area who carries out environmental responsibilities with integrity and high quality standards.
- Forward-looking industrial, municipal, and governmental employers view favorably those environmental professionals that obtain and maintain a valid environmental credential or license, especially when considering individuals for hiring and promotions.