



Institute of Professional Environmental Practice

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IPEP Written Examination Format

Eligibility requirements for the written exam:

Environmental professionals possessing at least a baccalaureate degree in physical, earth or natural science, engineering, or mathematics and 5 subsequent years of professional environmental work experience acceptable to IPEP, or a baccalaureate or equivalent degree in a discipline other than those previously listed and 8 subsequent years of professional environmental work experience acceptable to IPEP.

Written Exam Format:

The QEP written examination consists of two parts—each has approximately 100 multiple-choice questions. The time limit for each part of the exam is three hours. Part I tests your knowledge in the general environmental science area. All candidates are required to take this portion of the exam. Part II tests your knowledge in one of the specific practice areas: Air Quality; Waste Management; Water Quality; or Environmental Science, Management, and Policy.

The exam is closed notes/books. It has been designed to measure the breadth of knowledge in the environmental field. Some calculations are required. However, they are minimal. A list of unit conversion factors that may be needed will be provided with the exam. Only calculators that are silent, battery-operated, do not have paper tape printing capabilities, and do not have full alphabetic keyboards are permitted.

Certification & Examination Guide:

IPEP publishes and supplies a standard guide, which provides an overview of the subject matter on the exam, sample questions, and a recommended resource list. The guide is free of charge.

Written Examination Fees:

The application fee for the written exam is \$75.00. If the candidate is approved to take the exam, the examination fee is \$150.00, payable within 60 days of notification of approval. All fees are non-refundable, payable to IPEP by check in U.S. funds. An approved candidate has 12 months to take the exam after notification of acceptance to the exam. If confirmed as a QEP, there is an Annual Renewal Fee of \$150.00, with the first year's fee prorated.

Notification of Results:

A professional testing company scores Examinations, and candidates generally receive a letter from IPEP's office within 60 days after the test date notifying them of the outcome of their examinations. The results are confidential. To be recommended for QEP certification, candidates must receive a passing score on both parts of the examination. A candidate failing a first exam may request one re-examination within two years without having to pay an additional filing fee. The candidate only has to re-take that portion of the exam not passed. A candidate failing for the second time must wait ten months before being re-tested and must submit a new application and filing fee, along with evidence of additional professional education. A waiting period of twenty-two months is required for each subsequent failure.