

TO: ALL LICENSED ASBESTOS CONTRACTORS AND TRAINING PROVIDERS

As a precautionary response to COVID-19, Ohio EPA employees have been directed to work remotely. Although the offices are not staffed, OEPA employees are working remotely to provide services to our customers. Communications are currently limited but we are available by voicemail and email. Telephone communications are difficult so if you leave a voicemail please include an email address in your message so that we can assist you. If you need to contact the Asbestos Program please do so at the general program email address: [Asbestos@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:Asbestos@epa.ohio.gov). We will respond as soon as possible.

We have received several inquiries regarding renewal of individual asbestos certifications if refresher training course are not available. As of this time, OEPA has reached out to our Ohio asbestos trainers and most have responded that they are operating business as normal and still holding classes. We understand the worry about COVID-19, as we at OEPA are all working from home. If you are unable to enroll in a training course refresher at this time ;and are within 60 days of your expiration date, then we would recommend that you submit your renewal application for your OEPA certification card to the Asbestos Program before your hard card expires. This would include the completed application, the photo, and the fee. If you do that, then the OEPA allows you to keep working while your application is under review. This will buy you time to get your refresher at a later time once this virus passes. If you do not get your renewal to OEPA prior to your hard card expiration date then you will be considered expired and are no longer legally allowed to perform any asbestos work.

It is important that the renewal application must be submitted on line. Applications submitted through the mail are not being processed at this time due to lack of physical access to mail and lack of digital security. Although the received date of the application will be captured, the system won't be updated with a certification status of "Extended" since we are unable to process these paper applications at this time. If the application is submitted online, then the system will automatically update the status of the certification. When this changes we will let you know. Individuals can create an eBiz account by going to the Asbestos Program web page here: <https://www.epa.state.oh.us/dapc/atu/asbestos> and scrolling down to the eBiz logo on the right side of the page. The process is not difficult, just follow directions to set up the account. When the application is completed payment can

be made with a credit card or by ACH (electronic check) from your bank account. Please note that if paying by ACH then Ohio EPA eBusiness account holders must have an Ohio EPA PIN. The payment must be completed in order for the application to be processed and put in line.

We are asking the training providers and licensed contractors to pass this certification renewal information along to all students and employees.

The situation is changing constantly as everyone adjusts to this new environment. Please keep a close watch on your email account as we will continue to issue updates to you. As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact the program at the email addresses given below.

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