

## Indiana Onsite Wastewater Professionals Association (IOWPA) Installer & Inspector Certification and Recertification Frequently Asked Questions

1. How many certification programs does IOWPA offer?
  - a. Installer's Certification
  - b. Inspector's Certification (you are not required to be IOWPA Installer certified, however, if you aren't, you will be required to attend the ISDH 410 Rule Training)
2. Are certifications for the company or individuals?
  - a. Individuals...they are not transferrable
3. Does the certified professional need to be on site?
  - a. Yes for both Installer and Inspector or the service/installation is considered fraudulent and penalties may apply.
4. What is the difference?
  - a. Installer's are typically experienced contractors who install state approved onsite sewer systems for residential.
  - b. Inspectors may be installers, realtors, home inspectors, environmental health officers, etc.
5. How do you keep your certification current?
  - a. Recertification is required every three years based on IOWPA approved continuing education.
  - b. Upon proof of 20 hours of IOWPA approved continuing education and submitting a recertification fee of \$25, you may be recertified. Maintaining your annual membership dues is also required.
6. How do I keep track of the continuing education programs I attend?
  - a. If you attend IOWPA sponsored programs and sign the attendance sheet, IOWPA will keep track of your attendance.
  - b. If you attend non-IOWPA sponsored events (WWETT, ISDH, IEHA or Local County Health Department trainings) it is your responsibility to confirm if the meeting host is providing a sign-in sheet AND if they are approved for IOWPA continuing education.
  - c. Be organized....keep your files together until it is time to recertify.  
**PLEASE DO NOT** send them throughout the three year period. You need to keep them until it is time to recertify.
7. Do you have to take 20 hours for each certification or a total of 40 hours to become recertified in both programs?
  - a. Not typically. All IOWPA educational programs provide credit for both certification programs. For example, one hour of IOWPA conference education will provide one hour for the Installer's certification AND one hour for the Inspector's certification. Your hours expire within the recertification periods, so be sure to check the website regularly.
8. Is IOWPA Installer Certification required to be an Installer?
  - a. It is based solely on the counties where you install. Many counties now require installers to be IOWPA certified. This list of counties changes frequently. It is best to contact your Local Health Department's Environmental Health Officer to confirm the requirements the county where you wish to work.
9. Can I make up my own Inspection Report?
  - a. IOWPA only recognizes the IOWPA developed Inspection Report and Summary which must be completed in its entirety based on the system you are inspecting plus sketches and photos of components inspected.

For more detailed information on IOWPA's certification programs, please reference the Certification/Recertification Criteria at [www.iowpa.org](http://www.iowpa.org) or contact the IOWPA office at 317.965.1859