



Frequently asked questions about Class IV Training



Is the Class IV training the equivalent of AHERA Asbestos Awareness training?

Class IV Asbestos Work training, also referred to as Class IV training, is described at 454 CMR 28.05(8)(c). It is not the same as the training required under Requirements for Schools Subject to AHERA found at 454 CMR 28.13(8)(a)(1), also referred to as AHERA Asbestos Awareness training. Class IV training allows for, among other things, “...activities to clean up dust, waste and debris resulting from Class I, II, and III Activities”, which is not allowable with only the AHERA Asbestos Awareness training found at 454 CMR 28.13(8)(a)(1).

Is a Licensed Training Provider required to teach the AHERA Asbestos Awareness?

No. AHERA Asbestos Awareness training can be provided in many different methods, as long as the required topics are covered. Such methods may include taking online course, viewing an approved DVD, or attending an in-person class.

What topics must be covered in AHERA Asbestos Awareness?

The topics required by 454 CMR 28.13(8)(a)(1) for school maintenance and custodial personnel include:

- Background on asbestos, its various forms, and uses,
- Health effects associated with asbestos exposure,
- Locations of Asbestos-containing material (ACM) in each school building where they work,
- Recognizing damage, deterioration, and delamination of ACM,
- Contact information for the Designated Person, and the location of management plans.

DLS recommends that the information listed at 29 CFR 1910.1001(j)(7)(iv) be provided during the awareness training, such as:

- How to handle a fiber release episode
- Any special housekeeping requirements for friable ACM

Is a test required at the conclusion of Class IV training?

Class IV training under 454 CMR 28.05(8)(c) requires a test consisting of 25 multiple choice questions with a minimum passing grade of 70%. The questions will reflect the topics covered during the training. A training certificate shall be issued that satisfies the requirements of 454 CMR 28.05(8)(d). Records of the training will be maintained pursuant to 454 CMR 28.05(2)(r). Notification of Class IV training is not required.

AHERA Asbestos Awareness training required for schools subject to AHERA, 454 CMR 28.13(8)(a)(1) does not require a test.

Is refresher training required for Class IV work?

Class IV training under 454 CMR 28.05(8)(c) requires that refresher training be completed within five (5) years of the initial training. There is no grace period. The refresher training shall be two (2) hours in duration.

Asbestos Awareness training under 454 CMR 28.13(8)(a)(1) does not specify a refresher training. However, due to the extension of OSHA coverage to municipal employees, the OSHA training requirement found at 29 CFR 1910.1001(j)(7)(iv) does require an annual refresher.

Where can I obtain AHERA Asbestos Awareness training for my Local Education Agency?

Local Education Agencies can obtain the AHERA Asbestos Awareness training through online courses, DVDs, professional organizations (such as MFAA and MIIA), a training provider, your consultant, or DLS upon request.

Summary Table:

Regulation	Test Required	Training Provider License Required to Teach	Refresher Training Requirement
Class IV Asbestos Work – 454 CMR 28.05(8)(c)	Yes, 25 multiple choice questions with a minimum passing grade of 70%	No	Yes, refresher training must be completed within five years; there is no grace period. Such training shall be 2 hours in duration.
Training under Requirements for Schools Subject to AHERA – 454 CMR 28.13(8)(a)(1)	No	No	Not under 454 CMR 28.00. Other standards, such as OSHA may apply.