

Dutch Scheme

Summary of the Dutch Occupational Hygiene Certification Scheme

Table 1 Characteristics of the Dutch certification scheme

Organization	NVVA, 500 members, founded 1983
Foundation	SKO
Type of certification	External 3 rd party ISO 17024
Certification level	RAH, registered occupational hygienist
Education	Academic or poly technical college 5 yr/ 4 yr MSc/B Chem.,phys.,boil,erg + supporting (tox, epi, stat., monitoring, controls measures, safety, process technology; 6 pages req) 1.5 yrs = 82/30 stp 1800/660 hrs
Experience	3 years or more
Examination	MSc/B, no external
Maintenance cycle	3 years, 15 pt Mgmt/commissions; 6 Membership; 3 Refresher courses; 9
Recertification	16 (24) hrs wk (OH/Safety), 15 mpt + documentation
Code of ethics	Yes: NVVA

With the change from SCA to SKO the certification scheme introduced two new aspects:

- Third party" process carried out by SKO, a foundation for the certification of professional competence. SKO complies with national and international standards (EN 45013/17024) and is recognized by the RvA (Raad voor Accreditatie, Council for the Certification), to maintain the quality of the national independent certification organizations. The requirements used by SKO to verify professional competence of occupational hygienists are based upon international standards and determined by the Board of Experts.
- Board of Experts, consisting of representatives these two professions with additional members of unions, employer organizations, educational institutes, certificate holders, and from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.
- the three year full time experience can be build up during the study, if the candidate is working under supervision of a certified occupational hygienist

Education and examination

The required education level is a general certificate of secondary education with including mathematics, chemistry and physics and:

An education program in occupational hygiene or closely related field at Master of Science level approved by the SKO

An education program (a four year full-time program with a physical, chemical or biological study profile) at Bsc level followed by a postgraduate course in occupational hygiene, approved by the SKO.

No separate certification examination exists in The Netherlands. Instead SKO monitors the quality of the post Bsc studies of occupational hygiene by regularly auditing the education program and examinations.

Experience

The experience required is set at a period of at least three years. To prove experience, documents or reports of the daily work of the candidate are part of the certification process.

References

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