

STAPPA/ALAPCO
Training Committee
Questionnaire
Of
State and Local Air Quality
Training Providers

August 8, 2001

The STAPPA/ALAPCO/EP A Joint Training Committee developed the following questions to be used in collecting commonly available information from state and local air quality training providers. The information collected will be used, as needed, to assess the training activities and performance of training providers. For example, the information can be used to assist the Committee in situations where total grant requests from air quality training providers exceed the total amount of "off-the-top" Section 105 grants allocated for national air quality training.

NAME: Jeffery Cole

TITLE: Program Specialist

TRAINING PROVIDER: CenSARA

ADDRESS: 10005 S. Pennsylvania, Suite C

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Oklahoma City, OK 73159

PHONE: 405-378-7377

FAX: 405-378-7379

E-MAIL: jcole@censara.org

1. How does your training plan (e.g., course offerings) address the air quality training needs identified in the most recent biannual STAPPA/ALAPCO training needs assessment (currently the FY 2002-2003 Assessment)?

Our current training schedule includes three of the top ten requested courses in the survey (APTI 461, 445, and 452). We also have had and will continue to include courses on NSR/PSD for the permit writer (Advance NSR/PSD by Gary McCutchen) and enforcement personnel (CARB NSR/PSD) that were identified as two of the top three courses that agencies would send staff to for training. In addition to our schedule we are working on having MOBLE6 (Modeling) training and APTI 413.

2. What is your historical "off-the-top" Section 105 grant funding level? Do not include in this amount any base Section 105 grants provided by state and local agencies or other extraneous sources of funding that support your program.

\$60,000 – FY1999; \$60,000 – FY2000; \$70,000 – FY2001

3. Is your current request for "off-the-top" Section 105 grant funds:

 X Greater than last year?

 Less than last year?

Why?

We are requesting \$80,000 for FY2002. As our training program expands, the request for training has increased. Members are now more restrictive with their travel budget and are requesting training to be held within their area. The additional amount will be used for revising/improving training courses and to provide additional courses throughout our region.

4. When you hire external training consultants to provide training, what process or criteria do you use to ensure the cost-effective use of those funds?

References from other training providers and past attendees of courses given by the consultants.

5. Who may attend your training courses?

 X Only member agencies

 X National audience

Generally describe who attends your courses and the area where your courses are offered.

Member agencies, other Federal/State/Local agencies, and occasionally the private sector attends our courses. Courses are held throughout the CenSARA region (Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota).

6. Describe your infrastructure (e.g., training staff, training facilities, training networks/consultants) for providing air quality training to state and local air agencies?

I handle all training for CenSARA. We have a conference room at our office in Oklahoma City, OK that is used for training. We have training contacts for the states and local agencies that is notified of training available.

7. Identify whether you primarily facilitate the delivery of existing training and/or develop training materials and courses, and your process for revising/improving training courses.

We primarily facilitate the delivery of existing training and encourage the training consultants to provide updated materials for the courses that they present.

8. Have you tracked your past performance in delivering training to state and local air agency staff? Please identify your previous reporting practices (e.g., to EPA) and summarize the number of state and local air agency staff trained per course/topic and the number of courses offered during the last calendar year. If you have statistics for earlier years, provide them too.

We started tracking attendance last year by course and attendees. See attached.

9. Do you request course evaluations from trainees and do you track the results?
We try to get evaluation and although no tracking is done, they are reviewed to see the value of the course and the responses are taken into account when scheduling future training.
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10. How do the state and local air directors in your area, as well as your EP A regional manager(s), rate your training program?
We feel that our states and locals rate our training program as good. We are trying to meet the needs of our members by providing needed training and specialty conferences. Travel budges make it hard for some states/locals to attend the training offered. We try to spread the training around evenly.
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