



American Academy of Health Physics
American Board of Health Physics

Corner

Nancy M. Daugherty

Address contributions for "CHP Corner" or *CHP News* to:

NANCY M DAUGHERTY CHP

EDITOR *CHP NEWS*

511 N BERMONT

LAFAYETTE CO 80026

Home: 303-673-0283

Work: 303-692-3050

FAX: 303-782-5083

e-mail: nancy.daugherty@state.co.us

Thinking of Getting Certified?

Nancy M. Daugherty, CHP
Editor, *CHP News*

Subscribe to the RADSAFE radiation protection electronic bulletin board, and occasionally the discussion turns to the subject of ABHP Certification. Often the discourse is heated, with a wide variety of opinions offered regarding both the process and the result of becoming a CHP. I wish that some of these discussions would be submitted to the *CHP News* for publication. However, candor appears to be easier via e-mail than through more traditional means of communication.

A question raised on RADSAFE concerned what information is available from the ABHP for deciding whether or not to pursue Certification and to help in assuring success in that pursuit. The following ABHP publications should be useful to potential candidates:

"Prospectus of the American Board of Health Physics"

If you are looking for a brief overview of the ABHP and the purpose, process, and requirements of Certification, this information is summarized in the "Prospectus of the American Board of Health Physics." The Prospectus is an 11-page pamphlet that can be obtained free of charge from Nancy Johnson at the AAHP Secretariat. It addresses the following topics:

- ▶ the history and purpose of the ABHP;
- ▶ the meaning of ABHP Certification and the professional responsibilities of CHPs;
- ▶ the general requirements for Certification;
- ▶ the application process, fees, schedule, and primary locations for the written examination;

- ▶ the nature of the written examination;
- ▶ re-examinations and postponements;
- ▶ revocation of Certification;
- ▶ Certification renewal; and
- ▶ administration of the Certification program.

ABHP Examination Preparation Guide

If the Prospectus has piqued your interest, but you are wondering about that written examination, there is another ABHP publication that will be helpful—the *ABHP Examination Preparation Guide*.

The guide is a ½-inch thick document that provides detailed information concerning the Part I and Part II written exams. It begins with a brief Message to Candidates declaring its purpose and describing the level of preparation required for good performance on the exam. The bottom line is: be prepared to be prepared thoroughly in fundamental concepts and their application to good health physics. Subsequent topics in the Guide include:

- ▶ exam locations, exam scheduling and re-examinations;
- ▶ the general content of the examination and its specific topics, as based on identified role delineations within the health physics profession;
- ▶ exam strategy;
- ▶ grading criteria;
- ▶ suggested study references;
- ▶ typical Part I questions; and
- ▶ copies of past Part II exams.

The *ABHP Examination Preparation Guide* is available from Nancy Johnson for \$35, and it is provided at no additional charge when an application (with fees) to take the exam is approved. The Guide is reviewed for revision every two years, with the next version to be distributed beginning January 1997. Suggestions for improvements to the Guide are welcome and should be submitted **IN WRITING** to Nancy Johnson, who will forward them to the appropriate ABHP members.

For further information contact:

NANCY JOHNSON
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
AAHP
1313 DOLLEY MADISON BLVD
SUITE 402
MCLEAN VA 22101

703-790-1745
703-790-2672 Fax
nkjburkngt@aol.com