



Indiana Accredited Horticulturist Certification What's it all about?



Q: Why is the Indiana Accredited Horticulturist program an important aspect of the Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association?

A: The purpose of the IAH program is to develop a knowledgeable, motivated, professional employee for the green industry through providing a method of self study and accreditation for individuals.

Q: How does the program work?

A: IAH online study materials are available for free at hort.purdue.edu/iah/. If you decide to become certified, you must register and pay the enrollment fee using the online application at <https://inla1.org/iah-certification/>. A certificate and IAH logo patch or pin will be presented to those individuals who achieve a grade of 80% or higher on the initial exam. This exam is 90 multiple choice questions with 10 points plus one bonus in plant identification. For the IAH who wants to continue his or her professional development in the industry, there is a master level of accreditation. The passing grade for the master level test (over the same study material) is 90%. This test is 90 points worth of essay questions and the same plant identification as the initial test.

Q: How does the INLA recognize me if I become an IAH?

A: An individual who passes the exam is recognized in the *Indiana Nursery and Landscape News* as an Indiana Accredited Horticulturist. In addition, many employers use the accreditation program as a training tool as well as a wage incentive for their employees.

Q: What happens once I'm accredited?

A: Your accreditation is current for two years. During that two year period, you will need to either attend seven (7) hours of continuing education OR retake the test and achieve a passing score. All INLA educational opportunities fulfill this requirement as well as those of the North West Indiana Nurseryman's Association, The Indianapolis Landscape Association, the Chicago Arboretum, The Taltree Arboretum and many others. You just need to submit documentation of your CEU's with a recertification processing fee to the office and a new certificate will be sent to you and your certification will again be current for another two years.

Q: What's new with the program?

A: The INLA is very excited to announce a partnership with Purdue University involving a review and rewrite of the IAH manual.

Q: What's the cost of the program?

A: The cost of a CD is \$95 for members and \$145 non-members. This fee includes the first testing fee. Test retakes are \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members.

Q: Are there any other aspects of the program I should know?

A: We do have a "Reciprocity" agreement with all states that border the Great Lakes. If you are an IAH in Indiana, and you move to Ohio, for example, you will be grandfathered into the Ohio program. You will still need to follow their rules in regards to re-certification. But you will not need to buy their study materials or take their test initially.

Q: How would you summarize the reason someone should be a part of this program?

A: The IAH program will increase your credibility as an employee as well as that of your employer as a service provider. You can potentially increase your earning power, become more productive while receiving the recognition you deserve. As a whole, this program will allow your employer to boost sales while improving the image of the industry.

For more information on the Indiana Accredited Horticulturist program, contact the INLA office.

Phone: 317-889-2382 or 800-443-7336 • Fax: 317-889-3935 • Website: www.inla1.org