FAQ’s about CEUs

Understanding the difference between CEUs and Contact Hours

What do you need to recertify?

A Continuing Education Unit (CEU)

is a standardized method of recording participation in continuing education classes designed to improve occupational skills or knowledge.

One CEU equals 10 actual classroom hours.

Confusion is Common

• Even CS professionals who have been in practice for many years are sometimes confused by the terms Continuing Education Unit, Contact Hour, CE Hour, CE Credits or CEU.

• The confusion is understandable as many providers, some states, and marketing materials often use the terms interchangeably.

A contact hour is 60 minutes of instruction. The term continuing education is also allowed.

No Contact Hours

• Instructional [Contact]hours do not include time involved in:
  – Coffee Breaks
  – Meals
  – Social Activities
  – Vendor Exhibits (unless the vendor is providing specific approved education)
  – Business Meetings
  – Committee Meetings.

How Many Contact Hours Do I Need to Maintain CRCST Status?

• CRCST – 12 per year (or the equivalent of 1 per month) This is the baseline for all IAHCSMM Certification.

What if I have additional certifications?

You will need the baseline 12 contact hours plus additional contact hours.

• CIS – an additional 6 per year
• CHL– an additional 6 per year
• FCS – an additional 6 per year

Where can I get Contact Hours?

• Conferences
• Seminars
• Workshops
• Hospital In-Services
• Printed Publication In-services
• Online Educational Programs
• Vendor Education Programs