

FSSMC Subcommittee
Illinois Food Safety Advisory Committee
Illinois Department of Public Health
Division of Food and Dairies

The Food Service Sanitation Manager Certification Subcommittee initial meeting was held in Bloomington, Illinois at Illinois Farm Bureau, on November 10, 2010. Patricia Welch called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Committee members in attendance: Pat Welch, Bill Beaty, Donnie Simmons, Brian Turner, Ken Rosenwinkel, Mary Wilkie, Mary Troken, Rob Karr, Barb Viers, Evelyn Neavear, and Steve Curatti

Alternates in attendance: Angie Crawford for Bob Keller (IPHA) and IAPHA
Russ Coomans for Brian Jordan (Illinois Food Retailers Ass.)
Brenda Hamby for Stacey Bailey (Will County Health Dept.)

Participants: Ron Thomas, Safe Food Handlers
Larry Swacina, NIPHC EH Committee Chair

The Illinois Food Safety Advisory Committee (FSAC) decided to convene a subcommittee to review the food manager certification rules and regulations with the purpose of making a recommendation to the Department on any changes needed.

2. Sections of Illinois Food Service Sanitation Code

The following sections of the code pertain to the FSSMC program:
Section 750.540 – Management Sanitation Training and Certification
Section 750.551 – Certificate Issuance
Section 750.560 – Certificate Revocation or Suspension
Subpart J: Food Service Sanitation Manager Certification
Section 750.1800 – General
Section 750.1810 – Instructor approval
Section 750.1815 – Instructor Denial
Section 750.1820 – Course content
Section 750.1830 – Course approval
Section 750.1831 – Alternative Methods of Training
Section 750.1835 – Make Up work
Section 750.1835 – Home Study
Section 750.1837 – Course Waiver
Section 750.1838 – Course Denial
Section 750.1840 – Reciprocity
Section 750.1850 – Certification Examination
Section 750.1855 – Test Criteria
Section 750.1860 – Examination Notification
Section 750.1861 – Class Enrollment Form

Section 750.1862 – Administration of Examination
Section 750.1865 - Monitors
Section 750.1868 – Cheating
Section 750.1870 – Re-Test Class
Section 750.1876 – Dictionary
Section 750-1880 – Retake Examination
Section 750.1890 – Certificates
Section 750.1895 – Change of Address

3. Discussion on Hours of Training:

Continued Discussion from Oct. 15th:

Alternate Training - The original game plan for today's meeting, presentations and discussion on corporate training programs, was postponed until the December 7th meeting at the request of industry representative, Rob Karr (IRMA). Mr. Karr cited the need for more time to prepare for said presentations.

Refresher Course – Committee members spent a majority of the meeting discussing this item. The concept of “recertification”, as opposed to “refresher”, was raised and appeared to gain much momentum. It was understood by all that the process of recertifying would include the completion of an 8 hour course specifically designed to cover/recap all major areas of food safety and sanitation, and the taking and passing of a recertification examination. With this concept in mind, a number of options were discussed and eventually boiled down to the following three:

- A. Initial 8 hour FSSMC Course with exam
Recertification: 8 hr. course with certification exam every 5 years;
- B. Initial 16 hour FSSMC Course with exam every 5 years (no change)
Recertification – 8 hr course with certification exam every 5 years;
- C. Initial 16 hour FSSMC Course with exam
Renewal – 5 hour refresher course every 5 years.

Both B and C option would allow for industry to apply to receive credit for in-house training for part of 15 hours and complete last day in classroom with exam. (How this will be done is still under review and will be discussed at December meeting).

It is important to note that options A and B would require a change to the Act.

A handful of committee members at the table are FSSMC instructors. With reference to option A., all but one instructor expressed that the current FSSMC course requirements could not be taught (at least effectively) within 8 hours, and that even 16 hours can even be a push.

New Discussion Items

The committee was unable to discuss the new discussion items listed, online courses and reciprocity, until the matter of course hours (the three options referenced above) has been fully addressed. Inasmuch, these new discussion items had to be postponed for a future meeting.

Set meeting dates for next year: Postponed to December meeting as waiting for legislative calendar to be released.

Breaking for the day, committee members were instructed to return to their respective groups with the above referenced options. Each member is to return on December 7th with their group's preferred option.

Bill Beaty reminded the committee members that they serve in strictly an advisory capacity and that no agreements/decisions made should be considered or perceived as binding.

4. Time Line

Hopefully try to complete within 6 months

5. Next Meeting: December 7, 2010

The meetings will be held at Illinois Farm Bureau, 1710 Towanda Ave, Bloomington, IL

6. Adjournment- Meeting concluded at 1:30 pm.