



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HYDROLOGY ROLE OF AIH STUDENT CHAPTERS IN EXAMINATION, CERTIFICATION AND RECRUITMENT

PREFACE:

AIH certifies people qualified to provide professional services in all areas of hydrology. A person earns certification with 1) a college degree with a major in hydrology, physical science hydrogeology, or related science including 5 semester or 8 quarter hours each in chemistry, physics, and calculus and 25 semester or 37 quarter hours in hydrology/water quality related courses, 2) at least five years of professional experience, 3) documentation of performance and reporting of substantive work, and 4) passing an examination. The first exam, called the Fundamentals Exam deals with the basic fundamental principles, and the second exam addresses applications in solving either ground water or surface water practical problems. A person becomes a hydrologist-in-training upon passing the first examination, and is fully certified after passing the second part.

In its first decade, the Institute certified hydrologists, in both surface water and ground water. In response to a growing need for expertise in preserving a high quality environment, we are now certifying hydrologists in water quality also.

In the past, most of the certifications went to relatively senior people. We are now recruiting more people earlier in their professional careers. Student chapters are designed to convey the importance of uniting hydrologists as a profession to younger people. We want to see effective student chapters and to encourage the state sections of AIH to support the students.

GOALS FOR STUDENT CHAPTERS:

- To establish a Student Chapter of AIH in each university or college granting degree(s) in hydrology or related sciences.
- To use these student chapters to foster professional interaction among students entering hydrology from different disciplinary backgrounds and among related faculty.
- To provide students in hydrology moral and procedural assistance in launching their professional careers.
- To facilitate and thereby increase the number of student members who become hydrologist-in-training in AIH.
- To establish a working presence in each university to support national interactions among professional hydrologists.
- To assist students in preparing for the Fundamentals examination.
- To administer the Fundamentals examination to students before they leave the university and can become a H-I-T.
- To encourage faculty members in hydrology to set an example for their students by becoming certified through AIH.

(Note: Please check information on the web: www.aihydro.org)