



WA. Aggregates & Concrete Assn.
and WA. ACI Chapter
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washingtonconcrete.org

March 13, 2020

All,

An update on ACI & Pervious Certification Sessions scheduled in March to April 3rd and looking ahead. As you know, WA and beyond has been significantly impacted by the COVID virus through quarantines, bans, closures and other restrictions. Today Gov. Inslee has expanded his Executive Orders statewide beyond King, Pierce and Snohomish counties. We hope you and your family are safe and taking the recommended and necessary health precautions.

Clearly, the most advanced strategy in combating the virus and reducing exposures is limiting contact in small and large group sessions, working remotely, and minimizing unnecessary travel and contact. Many companies have implemented travel bans in and out of state, restricted group meetings and suspended other normal business practices.

After a lot of discussion and input from our Examiners and following the recommendations of the Board of Directors for both WACA and WA ACI, ***we will be suspending our ACI certification schedule in March through April 3***. This includes other Association events and Chapter meetings. At that time, we will look at what may have changed or developed regarding state implemented strategies, business practices and any recommendations at the Federal, State and local levels.

I trust this will make sense to you. Factors in our decision making included:

- To force these sessions as scheduled would be the exact opposite approach the state and nation are taking.
- We use outside resources (some are currently closed) used by the general public for classrooms and exam rooms.
- We use member labs and must be mindful of their worksites, employees and their comfort zones in bringing a group of 10-30 examinees into their labs.
- We have received notice that examinees scheduled for March classes would not attend as scheduled and would like to take it at a later date so overall attendance would understandably decline.

Pending when we resume certifications and under what conditions, we will likely require the safe health protocols already in place. These may include:

- Be able to provide the 6-foot social distance rule for abbreviated review and written exams.
- Examinees will need to bring their own sanitizer, wipes, gloves etc. or whatever they feel they need. These are hard to find items and we may not be able to have enough as well.
- Breaks for washing hands during the exam sessions and wiping down desks and testing equipment.
- Folks with a cold or other visible health signals will be turned away. No exceptions.
- Recognizing we will have examinees that are over 60 and may have contributing risk factors, the expectation is others will be responsible for their own health and not expose others when in our group setting. If they can't do that, we will turn them away, No exceptions

In the meantime, we will be trying to reschedule classroom space once facilities are available again so we can project future dates.

*** To reduce exposure time and contact, review sessions will be abbreviated.

*** Our working phrase is. ***"Come prepared to pass". This applies to both the written and performance exams.*** The study guide is the resource that will help prepare examinees for the exams.



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*** All study guides for March classes have been distributed so encourage your examinees to take advantage of the additional study time.

ACI also offers online training for the following to support your efforts:
On-Line Training for Your Certification:

Prepare for your upcoming certification test on-line with the following:

[Concrete Field Testing Grade I Certification Training \(6 Courses\)](#)

[Concrete Strength Testing Technician Certification Training](#)

[Adhesive Anchor Installer Certification Training](#)

Thank you for your understanding, cooperation and patience. As things get better, April will be a crazy month and we will do our best to accommodate the needs but recognize certification on demand is not something we can do. We will work with our examiners and testing locations to meet the need as scheduling permits. We will get the rescheduled sessions conducted first and schedule additional sessions accordingly.

*** *If you need to advise others on your project regarding a delay in having needed certifications in place, please let us know and we can provide an email or letter indicating you are in progress of obtaining and meeting certification requirements however delayed due to the current restrictions and protocols established by State and County Governments and awaiting sessions to be rescheduled .*

*** *Watch the website for new dates and online registration as soon as we have new information to post.*

See a very interesting [Seattle Times article about the Spanish Flu of 1918](#) that affected the nation and world. An interesting read and the precautions our Govt. leaders are implementing now were effectively implemented then.

Again, thank you very much. This is obviously a different time for all of us in many areas of our personal, social and working lives. Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mary Stewart or myself and we will keep you updated as new information is available.

Stay healthy,

Bruce Chattin