

Important Dates and Deadlines

6th Annual International IH Conference & Professional Development	December 25
AIHA Named Awards Nominations — Deadline	December 31
AIHA Fellow Nominations — Deadline	December 31
Emerging Economy Projects Fund — Deadline	December 31
AIHA Technology Initiatives Strategic Advisory Group Nominations — Deadline	January 4
OCCUCON 2019-69th National Conference of IAOH	January 9
Now Accepting AIHF Online Scholarship Applications — Deadline	January 28
AIHA Finance Committee Nominations — Deadline	January 31
AIHce EXP Student Poster Abstracts — Deadline	March 4
Face-to-Face Training: Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene	March 25–28
AIHce EXP 2019	May 20–22

CALL TO ACTION

Renew Your Membership and Get a Free eBook!

Don't lose a minute of access to your member benefits and features, including the Catalyst online community! Renew by **December 31** and receive the newest edition to the *Essentials Series* (\$19.95 value) in early January. [RENEW TODAY!](#)

Open Call: Nominations for AIHA Fellow

AIHA is seeking [nominations for Fellows](#). Each AIHA Local Section and Volunteer Groups may submit one nomination. This prestigious designation is limited to no more than 5% of the AIHA membership. **Deadline: December 31.**

Open Call: AIHA Named Award Nominations

Want to recognize a peer or colleague for their contributions to the IH/OEHS profession or the Association? Then nominate them for one (or more) of the AIHA Named Awards by submitting the [online application](#). Recipients will be recognized, center stage, during AIHce EXP 2019. **Application Deadline: December 31.**

Please see the [AIHA Awards and Honors Policy](#) for complete details, including nominations, eligibility, nominators, what to expect after submitting a nomination, nomination committee make-up, and more!

Emerging Economy Projects Fund

The International Affairs Committee's [Emerging Economy Projects Fund](#) has been established to increase understanding and build capacity for occupational hygiene in developing economies around the world. Interested parties should complete the [online application form](#). **Deadline: December 31.**

Open Call: AIHA Technology Initiatives Strategic Advisory Group

The purpose of the [AIHA Technology Initiatives Strategic Advisory Group](#) is to draft a strategic plan that outlines where AIHA should invest its resources across multiple technology initiatives to bring them into a cohesive and complementary whole for the Association as well as to move these initiatives forward.

Deadline: January 4.

Open Call: Nominations for the AIHA Finance Committee

There is currently one opening on the Finance Committee that the Board must fill for a three-year term beginning May 2019. If you are interested in serving on the Finance Committee, [please review the roles and responsibilities and submit your application](#). **Deadline: January 31.**

OSHA Seeks Nominations for its Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH)

OSHA is seeking nominations for its Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH). Would you like to be nominated by AIHA to serve on this committee? If so, please contact Mark Ames via email at mames@aiha.org or (703) 846-0730. **View the Federal Register notice [here](#). Deadline:**

December 10.

AIH Foundation

AIHF Scholarship Application

[Scholarship applications](#) for 2019 are being accepted. Students who are not enrolled in ABET accredited or CEPH schools are still eligible to apply by completing a separate application...*learn about eligibility requirements [here](#)*. **Deadline: January 28.**

AIHF Year End Donations

Make your [donations](#) before **December 31** to qualify for the current scholarship award cycle and leave a legacy on the profession and the students you support. Contributions to the AIHF are tax-deductible, as provided by law.

Meet Paige Gallant, Scholarship Recipient

Burdened with additional medical expenses, with little left to set aside for education, the AIHF scholarships helped relieve her financial difficulties tremendously... *learn more about her journey [here](#)*.

National

Small Business Affairs—NEW Catalyst Community

Are you new to consulting or work/own a small consultancy firm? If so, we invite you to join the Small Business Affairs, the newest Catalyst community. To join the community, please click [here](#), look for the Small Business Affairs community, select "Join" and introduce yourself!

Introducing Synergist "Town Hall" Webinars

The Synergist and Bulwark FR are collaborating on a new kind of webinar that will debut in February 2019. We're calling it a "town hall" webinar, and we're asking AIHA members for help in getting it off the ground... *get full details [here](#)*.

AIHA Offers Guidance on CA Wildfire Response, Recovery

With the recent wildfires claiming at least 56 lives across California, AIHA is reaching out to the relevant government entities in the state, offering resources on wildfire response...[read more here](#).

AIHA and OSHA Renew Worker Safety & Health Alliance

Through the alliance, the two organizations will pursue the following national priorities, among others: young worker health and safety; temporary workers; workplace hazards....[read more here](#).

DOL Gives No Evidence for Decision to Change Teen Worker Safety Rule

The Fair Labor Standards Act rule, which the DOL says will expand employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities for 16-and-17-year-olds in healthcare occupations, will remove a prohibition from the Department's Hazardous Occupations Orders (HO) 7.. [Read more here](#).

Early Access Registration Now Open for AIHce EXP 2019

[AIHce EXP](#) registration fees are based on AIHA and ACGIH membership categories. You must be an individual member of [AIHA](#) or [ACGIH](#) in order to secure the member rate for AIHce EXP 2019. **Register by January 31** to be entered to win complimentary travel to Minneapolis!

Early Bird Special for E-Learning Subscription

For a limited time, AIHA is offering significant savings on the full 2019 [e-learning subscription](#). Get 10 hours contact hours of AIHA Education Webinars; 10 contact hours of AIHce OnDemand Recordings (new for 2019); and fees for individuals waived (where applicable). **Save \$250! Deadline: December 31.**

Coming in 2019: Delivery Schedule Change for AIHA's E-newsletters

AIHA's two weekly e-newsletters [will be delivered on different days of the week beginning in January 2019](#). *The Synergist Weekly*, which is currently delivered each Wednesday, will be sent to all AIHA members on Thursdays. *The Synergist Newswire*—currently AIHA's Friday e-newsletter—will be sent each week on Tuesday.

Catalyst—The IH/OEHS Online Community

Annual Health Goals

Does your company have global annual occupational hygiene goals that are monitored by the executive board? If so, can you [share what are them and how are they monitored?](#)

Mold and Mold Beetles in Housing

I am working to rid an apartment style housing area of household fungus beetles (*Adistemia watsoni*). I suspect these are common household fungus. I have done a lot of mold/ IAQ work but have never run across these bugs. [What else might they be indicating to me?](#)

NIOSH 582 Course Requirement for Asbestos Sampling

I have a question regarding the following statement under "Quality Control Procedures"... *All individuals performing asbestos analysis must have taken the NIOSH course for sampling and evaluating airborne asbestos dust or an equivalent course.* [Does this apply to consultants who perform only personal breathing zone sampling and exposure evaluation or just laboratory personnel performing the analysis?](#)

Government Relations

Agencies Issue Semi-Annual Regulatory Agendas

US Federal agencies have issued their updated semi-annual regulatory agendas. The US Dept. of Labor's agenda contains several updates to possible OSHA regulations including... [read more here](#).

Pre-Filing Bills in State Legislatures

Many State legislatures are different than the US Congress, in that they follow a process called "pre-filing", where legislators indicate their intent to introduce legislation, and nonpartisan staff employed by the State legislature... [read more here](#). Check out [AIHA's Government Relations Action Center](#) for a map of which States are currently pre-filing, as well as the full list of bills and regulations we're tracking.

The Strength and Challenge of America

America's elections are among our most revered traditions, serving as a beacon to the world. However, they also threaten to shatter, divide, and cut us into warring factions... [read more here](#).

Elections Bring New Opportunities for Occupational Safety and Health

Throughout the nation, there were more than 6,000 local, State, and Congressional elections. The result of these contests (some of which are still being determined) is that hundreds of new policymakers are coming into office... [read more here](#).

OSHA Issues Final Rule, Updating Standard for Crane Operator Qualification

OSHA is updating the agency's standard for cranes and derricks in construction by clarifying each employer's duty to ensure the competency of crane operators through training, certification or licensing, and evaluation. OSHA is also altering a provision that required different levels of certification... [read more here](#).

Local Section Events

Utah Local Section

[Holiday Meeting](#): December 7 – Salt Lake City Technical Center

Yuma Pacific Southwest:

[44th Annual Meeting](#): January 23-25 – San Diego, CA

Gulf Coast:

[ASSP & AIHA Gulf Coast 2018 Holiday Social](#): December 6, 6-9 pm – Dave & Busters by the Galleria

St. Louis Section

[Fall Planning- Board Meeting](#): December 6, 2-4 pm – Trailhead Brewing Company

[AIHA Membership Appreciation Night](#): December 6, 4-7 pm – Trailhead Brewing Company

[AIHA Luncheon](#): January 17, 11am-1 pm – Favazza's on the Hill

Western Michigan

[Safety Matters Review & Youth Outreach](#): December 4 - Tentative

New England

[Technical Meeting: December 4 - Quincy, MA](#)

Philadelphia/Metro New York/ New Jersey

[2018 Northeast Regional IH Conference & Exposition: December 7 - Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village](#)

[AIHA New Virtual Section starting in 2019](#)

Beginning in January for all AIHA members living in regions without local section is an optional add-on virtual section for only \$25. Enjoy the benefits of networking, getting involved, joining in webinars and on one on one's with industry leaders. Call 703-849-8888 to join.

In the News

IARC Classifies Some Nitrobenzenes, Other Industrial Chemicals

A working group of experts affiliated with the International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified *ortho*-phenylenediamine and its dihydrochloride salt, 2-chloronitrobenzene, 4-chloronitrobenzene, 1,4-dichloro-2-nitrobenzene, 2,4-dichloro-1-nitrobenzene, 2-amino-4-chlorophenol, *para*-nitroanisole, and *N,N*-dimethylacetamide as “possibly carcinogenic to humans.” [Click here for more.](#)

Study Finds Association between High Exposure to Radio Frequency Radiation and Cancer in Rats

The National Toxicology Program and a panel of external scientific experts have concluded that high exposure to the kind of radio frequency radiation generated by older cell phones is associated with... [read more here.](#)

OSHA Amends Requirements for Determining Competency of Crane Operators

A final rule published by OSHA last week clarifies certification requirements for crane operators and establishes minimum requirements for determining operator competency. The agency is amending its requirement that crane-operator certification be based on... [read more here.](#)

OSHA Bulletin on Lockout/Tagout Outlines Requirements for Protecting Temporary Workers

A new bulletin published by OSHA addresses lockout/tagout, which involves preventing the re-energization of a de-energized system, and safety for temporary workers. The bulletin is part of a series of guidance documents developed under OSHA's Temporary Worker Initiative, which is intended to help host employers and staffing agencies understand... [read more here.](#)

European Chemicals Agency Seeks to Prepare Companies for Brexit

The European Chemicals Agency, ECHA, has published new web pages intended to prepare companies for the United Kingdom's upcoming withdrawal from the European Union... [read more here.](#)

NIOSH Seeks to Improve Participation in Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program

NIOSH issued a request for information to inform efforts to improve participation in its Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program, which offers free and confidential chest radiographs and spirometry examinations to eligible miners. According to NIOSH, periodic health screenings offered through CWHSP can potentially detect early signs of... [read more here.](#)

The Urgency—Or Lack Thereof—To Digitize Industrial Hygiene Practices

You are a supervisor for a large plant maintenance team at a very large chemical processing facility. At this instant, more than 10 workers from your team are performing hazardous tasks. Your job becomes a lot easier if you know the exact location of each worker in real time and the exact levels of hazardous agents that may be present in their vicinity... *read more [here](#)*.