CalEPA
California Environmental Protection Agency

Basic Inspector Academy

Ensuring Consistent, Effective and Coordinated Environmental Compliance and Enforcement

September 2016

What is Basic Inspector Academy and who can take it?

The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) Basic Inspector Academy (BIA) is a **free**, three-and-a-half-day training class **open to State, local, and tribal environmental enforcement staff**. BIA gives environmental inspectors across California the core skills necessary to conduct thorough, effective inspections to implement environmental programs operating under the CalEPA umbrella.

The training is conducted by a team of instructors representing the six boards, departments and offices (BDO) that make up CalEPA, as well as a local environmental attorney.

BIA helps to satisfy the requirement that CalEPA ensure all BDOs and local agencies that implement its laws and regulations "take consistent, effective and coordinated compliance and enforcement actions" by providing "training and cross-training of inspection and enforcement personnel." (Cal. Gov. Code §12812.2.)

What will I learn at BIA?

BIA provides students with instruction on key concepts that form the foundation for effective environmental enforcement.

After completing BIA you will be able to:

- Explain the purposes for regulatory inspections and describe the general inspection process
- Discuss legal considerations for facility entry, obtaining consent, and gathering evidence during an inspection
- Recognize the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication cues and how to apply effective interviewing techniques
- Analyze a regulatory requirement for enforceability and identify the specific elements of a violation
- Explain legal and practical considerations for sample collection and chain of custody
- Discuss enforcement options available to regulatory agencies

What makes BIA different from other training classes?

At BIA, attendees gain experience as well as knowledge. They get to apply what is learned in class as they complete mock-inspection and court-testimony exercises. These exercises include review by and immediate feedback from an experienced environmental attorney – an aspect of the course that students find especially useful.

What is the prerequisite to BIA?

BIA students must first complete the free online Fundamental Inspector Course (FIC). The FIC provides a comprehensive overview of environmental laws and programs in California. While the target audience of the course is new environmental enforcement professionals, members of the public and regulated facility owners, operators, and employees may also find this online course helpful.

You will find a link to the FIC on CalEPA's training website at: *www.calepa.ca.gov/enforcement/training*

BIA Schedule

2016	
October 4-7	Fountain Valley
November 15-18	Sonora

2017	
January 24-27	Riverside
February 21-24	Bakersfield
March 21-24	Sacramento
April 25-28	Los Angeles
May 16-19	Salinas*
June 6-9	Eureka*

*Tentative

CalEPA
California Environmental Protection Agency

California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board

CalRecycle

Department of Toxic Substances Control

California Department of Pesticide Regulation

CALIFORNIA
Water Boards
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

OEHHA
SCIENCE FOR A HEALTHY CALIFORNIA

For more information on BIA

Visit *www.calepa.ca.gov/enforcement/training*,
or contact Alan Ito at *Alan.Ito@dtsc.ca.gov* or (916) 255-3627.