

Certified Tree Care Professional

Outcomes:

The outcome of the Certified Tree Care Safety Professional (CTSP) program is to eliminate or substantially eliminate work-related fatalities and injuries as well as their associated costs. By training one or more employees as CTSPs, companies have safety leaders, working side-by-side with employees, who are responsible for building and maintaining a team-oriented, consistent safety culture within their companies.

With the completion of the training, the CTSP will be able to:

1. Use a simple method to easily plan an on-the-job session to meet the training needs of his team employees
2. Use adult learning techniques to improve retention and reduce learner resistance
3. Easily write realistic learning objectives
4. Use feedback to improve their teaching approach
5. Identify different employee learning preferences and how to adjust teaching style to be successful
6. Structure demonstrations to minimize risk

The model for the CTSP safety program is adapted from the Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines developed by National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) in 1978 and published by OSHA in 1989. The four elements of the model are:

- A. Management Leadership (Commitment) and Employee Involvement,
- B. Worksite Analysis,
- C. Hazard Prevention and Control, and
- D. Learning & Improvement.

CTSP training consists of four parts: a Core Competencies Study Guide, an Advanced Safety Workshop, Professional Exam, and Continuing Education Units.

Part 1

A Core Competencies Study Guide with “Critical Thinking” and other exercises are designed to build skills and knowledge of safety management, and they bring almost immediate benefit to a company’s safety program.

Part 2

After satisfactorily completing the Study Guide, trainees will participate in an advanced Safety/Behavioral training. Candidates will review safety management systems concepts and receive professional instruction in teaching safety concepts to adults and in developing a coaching style based on their own company’s needs. Role-playing, group exercises and skills demonstrations will be used to instruct and evaluate participants.

Part 3

CTSP candidates must pass a randomly generated, 70 question, multiple-choice, objective exam to establish competency and earn certification. Exam questions have been reviewed by a psychometrician for validity and effectiveness.

Part 4

All trainers who successfully complete parts 1, 2, and 3 must maintain their status through continuing education. This is achieved by accruing 30 CEU points every three years. Education will be available through numerous ways, including but not limited to:

- Workshop/seminar attendance in a safety-related subject at green industry shows
- Conducting and teaching workshops or seminars in tree care safety for the green industry, industry manufacturers, public sector, schools and consumer groups
- Writing articles on safety for industry publications
- Proof of implementation and management of a company safety program
- Safety program consultations with other tree care businesses or community forestry organizations
- Approved continuing education credits in a related field (college level adult learning, including community college).