

National Standards Certification Board (NSCB)

Accreditation Criteria and Process For Certified Sustainable Resource Management Professional Training Programs Reduce, Reuse, Recycle to Zero Waste



National Recycling Coalition

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NSCB Accreditation Background

The National Standards Certification Board (NSCB) will be accrediting certification programs for Certified Sustainable Resource Management Professionals (not individuals) run by states, regions, organizations, trade associations, universities, and community colleges (hereinafter referred to as recycling organizations or ROs). ROs may apply and seek this national accreditation of their local certification program. NSCB will charge a fee for this accreditation.

National certification is for “Sustainable Resource Management” programs that help students learn how to Reduce, Recycle, and Recycle to Zero Waste. NSCB has developed a set of standards and key components that certification programs must meet to achieve this national accreditation of their program.

Once the RO has provided documentation that its programs meet the national standards & key components set by the NSCB, their certification program may use the NSCB accreditation logo on their certificate. This accreditation will be valid for 5 years, at which time reapplication for reaccreditation must be made.

NSCB Accreditation Process

ROs that have established Sustainable Resource Management training programs can apply for accreditation by the National Standards Certification Board at any time.

NSCB has set an accreditation application fee of \$1,000.

NSCB has established two payment options for the application:

- Full payment at time of application.

Or

- Two payment option - \$500.00 at time of application and \$500.00 at later specified time (set by the applicant) that has to be before issuing certificates to students.

To apply for accreditation:

1. First contact NRC at CampusCouncil@NRCrecycles.org to indicate interest in submitting application and to review the criteria (below), process and application procedures.
2. Fill in the application form and submit with payment

3. NSCB Accreditation Committee will review the application for completeness once payment has been recorded and may request additional information. (time frame: 1-2 weeks)
4. Application is deemed complete once additional information or documentation is submitted.
5. NSCB Accreditation Committee will review completed application. (2 -6 weeks depending on volume of applications).
6. NSCB Accreditation Committee will submit Accreditation recommendations to the NSCB Board of Directors for approval.(Board meetings are the third Wednesday of every month)
7. NSCB issues accreditation letters, along with logo for local use on their certificates along with defined allowed uses. The RO will include the logo and an authorized signature provided from the NSCB on their Certificate.

It is anticipated that this review process will take approximately 60-90 days from receipt of application, depending on how many applications are received at the same time and whether they are complete when submitted.

ROs that would like to establish Sustainable Resource Management training programs can contact the NSCB as well for assistance and guidance at:

CampusCouncil@NRCrecycles.org

Certified Sustainable Resource Management Professional (CSRMP) Program Accreditation Criteria

The National Standards Certification Board (NSCB) will be accrediting Certification programs (not individuals) run by states, regions, organizations, trade associations, universities, and community colleges.

Accreditation is valid for 5 years. After 5 years certification program must re-apply for reaccreditation.

The NSCB reserves the right to update Accreditation Criteria yearly.

It is the intent of the NSCB to continue to enhance the Accreditation Criteria to acknowledge the variety of skill levels in certification programs around the country.

Individuals who have been certified by a NSCB accredited program and who wish to become certified in another state or region covered by another NSCB accredited certification program must follow that state's or region's defined requirements.

Accreditation Criteria

Criteria One: Program Requirements

- a. Certified by an accredited postsecondary institution (including instructor criteria)
- b. Minimum Course Work Hours: Thirty (30) hours
- c. Progressive proficiency exams for each course and for the final exam
- d. Recertification process required
 - Recertification must include a minimum of ten (10) hours per year of which 30% of the hours must be classroom or course based hours. The remaining required hours can be meetings, webinars, or conference sessions. All courses and meetings must be approved in advance by the Certification Committee or administrator. Recertification time period cannot exceed three (3) years (e.g. a three (3) year recertification period requires thirty (30) hours of recertification credits of which nine (9) hours must be classroom or course based hours.
 - Criteria for recertification credits and approval process must be established
- e. Develop and define requirements for "Alternate Certification Pathway" for experienced professionals. (Alternate Certification Pathway is a mandatory requirement for reaccreditation.)

Criteria Two: Program Administration

- a. Program Administrator or Team
- b. Broad based Certification Committee (6 of 8 below required):
 - State recycling organization
 - Municipal and regional recyclers
 - Accredited postsecondary institution

- Reuse industry
 - Recycling industry
 - Composting industry
 - Corporate Environmental Manager
 - State Government officials
- c. Required Policies and Procedures
- Defined program policy and procedures
 - Defined instructor criteria (postsecondary institution criteria)
 - Student evaluations of course content and instructors
 - Annual program review and update (to review relevancy and student evaluations)

Criteria Three: Minimum Sustainable Resource Management Course Learning Outcomes (the order and grouping of the learning outcomes below are for required learning outcomes only, not for class organization).

A person who completes and passes an Accredited CSRMP Program will be able to:

A. Sustainable Resource Management

1. Identify the fundamental principles and practices related to sustainable resource management including: waste reduction; reuse; recycling collection; processing and marketing of commodities; composting of organics; and handling and recovery of construction and demolition (C&D) and other special materials, including hazardous materials.
2. Compare the various technical material management options - Waste-to-Energy (WTE), landfills, Material Recycling Facilities (MRFs), reuse facilities, composting, digestion, incineration, gasification, etc.
3. Describe the current trends in recycling practices, research, and market expansion
4. Explain the history of residential and commercial recycling systems/programs.
5. Explain the resource management system with command of the technical language and the tools employed to eliminate waste, reuse products and packaging, and use resources efficiently.
6. Incorporate sound management practices, the applicable resource management laws, regulations and policies; economically sound business practices; health and safety regulations and best practices into their everyday resource management work.
7. Identify full cost accounting principles related to sustainable resource management.
8. Identify local markets for highest and best use of recovered products and materials while evaluating carbon footprint, greenhouse gas emissions, job potential and life cycles.
9. Design a communication plan aimed at increasing public awareness of and participation in SRM.
10. Describe the general constructs of contracts for services in your state.
11. Discuss the role of government in resource management, including important past pieces of legislation that shaped the industry.

12. Identify the types of careers associated with resource management, including the skill sets required for entry-level positions.

B. Culture and Sustainable Resource Management

1. Develop an effective outreach campaign strategy utilizing Social Media and Community Based Social Marketing (CBSM) in addition to face-to-face marketing tools.
2. Develop and present effective presentations, publications and exhibits that will enhance individual sustainable actions and habits.

C. Sustainable Resource Management and Communities

1. Explain how and why communities are adopting Sustainable Resource Management (SRM) and/or Zero Waste goals and plans, including how to develop community plans to eliminate waste and use sustainable resources efficiently.
2. Compare legislation, policies, programs and types of facilities needed for communities to improve waste management. Identify state and local structures that are barriers or incentives for initiatives.
3. Analyze markets and service opportunities for reusables, repurposing recoverables, recyclables and compostables for a variety of resources.
4. Identify Local Producer Responsibility policies and programs and advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility, and Green Chemistry policies and programs
5. Identify techniques to support and measure local economic development and job creation.
6. Identify key components of an effective Request for Proposal (RFP) or similar procurement process for program activities.

D. Sustainable Resource Management and Business

1. Describe the various types of waste streams and the businesses that create them (e.g. manufacturing, construction, hospitality)
2. Compare resource management services provided by different companies utilizing various types of strategies, technologies and/or equipment. This would include business fundamentals such as full cost accounting, life-cycle analysis and triple bottom line (economics, environment, and social equity).
3. Develop and conduct evaluations or surveys of materials and business practices to consider how companies could change practices to reduce waste generation.
4. Identify tools and metrics for businesses to design, implement and oversee waste reduction, reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting sustainable management programs (Green Business)
5. Discuss how collection/service contracts, property management contracts and policies of large companies might support or thwart resource management efforts.

**All Accreditation information is available on the NSCB website:
<http://nrcrecycles.org>**