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WEEKLY WORKFLOW: August 19, 2020

CEI Virtual Essentials of Project Management Certificate- Enrollment Open



The Construction Education Institute (CEI) is offering the Essentials of Project Management Certificate virtually this year due to COVID-19. Since the classes are being conducted online via the Zoom platform, the CEI is offering all of its education partners, which includes the PCA, the opportunity to send its members at the discounted MCA rate of only \$395 per person.

The 2020-2021 Essentials of Project Management (EPM) Certificate Program online classes (a total of 36 hours of training) will still be taught by university-level instructors and/or those acknowledged to be highly experienced project management professionals including John Koontz who has more than 30 years of wide-ranging mechanical industry experience that includes contracting, academics and consulting. In addition all participants will receive personalized coaching before and after the program.

This (limited enrollment) program focuses on core skills like communications, labor, legal, dealing with change orders and project close-out. It is designed for project managers who have less than five years of project management experience, little or no formal project management training, or employees who are not project managers but have the potential to be a project manager. The EPM program will help your employees:

- Better prioritize their work.
- Appreciate how to manage in a way that is typically only learned through years of on the job training.
- Increase their confidence to do what's right to protect the work and best represent your company on a project.
- Improve their relations with general contractors, customers, other subcontractors, and most importantly their boss, foreman and employer overall.

Candidates are required to fill out a formal application that ensures their readiness for the program and willingness to commit to it. Participants should complete this application no later than **Wednesday, August 26, 2020** by clicking the button below. Classes will begin on September 1, 2020 and continue through February of 2021. Questions about the application or the curriculum should be sent to rlintow@mca.org.



PCA Contractors: Attend a Free Strategic Planning Basics Webinar on Thur., Aug. 27th

The PCA in collaboration with our industry partners at MCA of Chicago, SMACNA Greater Chicago, the Electrical Contractors Association of Chicago and NECA will present a complimentary webinar on strategic planning for our contractor members and their staff on **Thursday, August 27th from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM**. This webinar will focus on the basics of strategy, including its purpose in business and how it relates to an organization's values, vision and mission. Participants will gain a solid foundational understanding of the role and importance of strategy, including the advantages of regular strategic planning. Nicole Bettinger, a consultant with *The Family Business Consulting Group* specializing in communication, conflict resolution and training next-generation family business owners will facilitate the session. Registration is required to attend this (no-cost to PCA members) event. To register, click the registration button below.



Illinois PHCC Virtual Expo



The Illinois PHCC is offering PCA contractors and their staff the opportunity to connect you with plumbing industry exhibitors in a virtual format this year. The Illinois PHCC virtual Expo will be ongoing throughout the fall with new and updated product information added as it becomes available. Several exhibitors and sponsors will be promoting giveaways during the virtual Expo. In order to be included in the giveaway drawings, you will need to make sure that you create an account and participate in the surveys. The giveaway drawings will begin on **September 8, 2020** and are currently scheduled to continue each day until mid-September. To access the Expo, participants will need to download an app from "AgendaPop" on their mobile phones either from the Google Play or Apple Store. For instructions on how to download the app, [click here](#). You can also download the app on your computer or laptop by [clicking here](#).

IDPH Continuing Education Classes



The PCA has contacted the IDPH on several occasions recently to inquire about the Governor's ordered deadline extension for plumbers' license renewals, apprentice plumbers' license renewal, and plumbing inspectors' certificate renewals that is set to expire on August 28, 2020. With very limited to no capacity to earn C.E. credits during the year due to COVID-19 restrictions, our Association can only assume that the deadline will be extended once again, although we have not yet received word back from the IDPH. As soon as we know, we will inform all of our PCA contractors. In the meantime, check out all of the available IDPH sponsored C.E. classes being offered throughout the state including several classes being held over the next several months at the Grand Victoria Casino in Elgin by [clicking here](#).

Matthew W. Beaudet Appointed Chicago Department of Buildings Commissioner



Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot recently announced the appointment of Matthew W. Beaudet as the Commissioner of the City's Department of Buildings (DOB). Beaudet, who has served as Acting Commissioner for the Department following Judy Frydland's retirement, will become Chicago's first-ever Native American to serve as a City Commissioner according to City historians. Since 2011, Beaudet has served as DOB's First Deputy Commissioner, managing the day-to-day operations of the nation's third-largest local buildings department. In this role, Beaudet has modernized the City's building code and led a number of process innovations over the years to increase productivity and accountability at every level of the Department. Outside of his roles in City government, Beaudet serves as the Legal Counsel and on the Council of Elders for the Montaukett Tribe of Indians in Long Island, New York, providing pro bono counsel to his Tribe on legal and governance matters since 2001. He also volunteers at Chicago Public Schools and serves on the Lane Tech Local School Council. The PCA has reached out to Commissioner Beaudet and offered to assist him and his department on numerous plumbing industry issues moving forward.

U.S. Government CARE Act Main Street Lending Funding Program Informational Call

PCA contractors are invited to join the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Federal Reserve, and the Small Business Administration for an update on the new Main Street Lending Program on **Wednesday, August 26 at 1:00 PM** central time. This program will provide credit support to eligible small and medium-sized businesses that are integral to the U.S. economy and create jobs for a large share of the U.S. workforce, particularly in the construction, design and infrastructure sectors. Using established lenders, Main Street will offer several types of 5-year term loans supported by the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department, ranging in size from \$250,000 to \$300 million. In addition, the SBA will give an update on the Paycheck Protection Program. Registration is free, however you must register to join the call. To register, [click here](#).

PHCC Connect Is Going Virtual in 2020: Registration Now Open

The Plumbing, Heating & Cooling Contractors Association (PHCC) will present its national convention online this year from **Wednesday, September 30 through Thursday, October 1, 2020**. Registration is now open by [clicking here](#). Both PHCC member and non-member contractor registration includes up to 4 additional staff registrations this year. Additional discounted registration fees are offered for contractors registering more than 5 staff members. This year's virtual event includes over 20 educational sessions; a virtual product and technology showcase; live Q&A with select speakers; and more.

PCA to Resume Full Drug Testing as of November 1, 2020

As we announced earlier this month, the PCA informed all of our contractors that our Association and the Local Union are planning to resume our random & mandatory drug testing program at full capacity as of November 1, 2020. The mutual decision of the PCA and Plumbers' Local 130 UA to temporarily suspend our drug testing program administered by Screen Safe, Inc. as of March 18, 2020 (with the exception of "Reasonable Suspicion," "Accelerated Testing," or "Return to Duty") was deliberately instituted in an effort to reduce the risk of infection in our industry of the COVID-19 virus during the worldwide pandemic. Please note that the start date of the resumption of our drug testing program may possibly be further delayed depending on circumstances that merit our re-consideration – related to the COVID-19 pandemic or other conditions that may arise prior to November 1, 2020. We will keep you updated. If you have any questions, please contact PCA Executive Director S.J. Peters at the Association office at 312-563-9526 or 630-280-9307 (mobile); or by email to: sj@plumbingcouncil.org. Thank you.

Illinois Compliant Sexual Harassment Prevention Training

PCA contractors have several "free" options to provide their employees with required Illinois compliant sexual harassment prevention training by the state imposed deadline of December 31, 2020 (which may possibly be extended due to COVID-19 although no official announcement has been issued at this point in time). You should note that your employees are to be paid to take this training whether it's done at your workplace or not. Other frequently asked questions and answers can be viewed by visiting the [Illinois Department of Human Rights website](#). For now, PCA contractors should consider registering their employees to sign up for the following sexual harassment prevention training options:

- [ERS Training](#) (Approximate training time 30 minutes.) You and your employees will need to create your own individual new profile including a username and unique password. The process is simple. Once activated, scroll down to the "Soft Skill Courses" at the bottom of the screen. From there, scroll down to "required training courses" to access the Illinois Sexual Harassment Training course, which includes a quiz and certificate of completion at the end.
- [Construction Education Institute \(CEI\) Training](#) (Approximate training time 10-15 minutes.) You and your employees will need to register on the CEI website for this training course. For detailed login instructions, [click here](#).
- [Illinois Department of Human Rights Training](#)

PCA Website: COVID-19 Pandemic Resources and Information

Our members are reminded to visit the PCA website at www.plumbingcouncil.org/pca to utilize the constantly updated information and useful links to help guide, assist and support our contractors in the midst of this unprecedented pandemic. The PCA staff has assembled pertinent and practical resources specifically focused on our industry and businesses to provide our Association members with direction and help to navigate the many and ever-changing challenges we're all facing. (Please note that the information provided is not intended to serve nor should be interpreted as legal advice, and you should contact your attorney regarding all legal matters.) If you have questions or would like to recommend the addition of any items to the special section of the PCA website, please contact our office at 312-563-9526 or by email to: jeff@plumbingcouncil.org.

Industry News You Can Use

The PCA partners with various industry-related associations to bring our affiliated contractors the most current plumbing and mechanical news, legislative updates, and event happenings. Please take the time to read through the latest industry publications by clicking on the links below.

- [CISCO News Briefs](#): August 13, 2020
- [CSC Free Excavation Hazards in Construction Virtual Course](#): August 25, 2020 @ 10:30 AM
- [ERS-FAP Free Webinar on Reflection & Self Awareness](#): August 26, 2020 @ 11:30 AM
- [IMSCA Substance Magazine](#): Summer 2020

PCA - UA Local 130 CBA (2020-2024)

The new PCA-UA Local 130 four-year CBA (2020-2024) is now in effect. Please click on the links below for more details.

- [PCA-130 CBA \(2020-2024\)](#)
- [PCA-130 CBA \(2020-2024\) Wage Sheet](#)
- [PCA-130 CBA \(2020-2024\) Synopsis of Changes](#)
- [Schedule A for Residential & Light Commercial \(2020-2021\)](#)
- [Residential Plumbing Service Agreement \(2020-2021\)](#)

For specific CBA questions or industry-related concerns, please contact the PCA office at 312-563-9526 (during regular business hours) or reach out to Executive Director S.J. Peters at any time by email at sj@plumbingcouncil.org or by mobile phone at 630-280-9307.

