

IAQH HVAC Mold Inspection Certification

Complete Course Outline — ten modules, three phases, field assignment and certification requirements. \$497 · one year of course access.

PHASE 1 · MODULES 1–3

Learn the system

Understand the problem, learn the IAQH professional language, and establish the complete inspection and documentation workflow.

Module 1 — Problem, Solution, Opportunity

Why mold-supporting conditions develop in modern HVAC systems, and where the technician's scope begins and ends.

What you learn: How tighter buildings, recirculated air, moisture and dust interact; the technician's role within HVAC scope; the boundary between field observation, laboratory confirmation, and health diagnosis.

Capability gained: Recognize the inspection opportunity, explain the service clearly, and stay within a defensible professional scope.

Follow the air. Read the dust. Understand the moisture.

Module 2 — Core Code and Professional Language

The shared vocabulary and decision frameworks that keep every inspection consistent.

What you learn: The RSAPD route; the Component Status decision gate; the MATE diagnostic lens; MAP and CRUM; professional language for observed, suspected, reported, and laboratory-confirmed conditions.

Capability gained: Convert observations into consistent status decisions and explain findings without guessing or exceeding scope.

Module 3 — Inspection Process

The complete workflow from authorization through documentation, sampling decisions, and same-day delivery.

What you learn: Testing Recommendation and Access Authorization; clean-to-dirty route discipline; PPE and contamination control; photo documentation standards; two approved Mold Sentinel workflows.

Capability gained: Perform a repeatable inspection, preserve documentation integrity, and leave the property with the report completed.

Access. Evaluate. Photograph. Assign Status. Continue Route.

PHASE 2 · MODULES 4–8

Inspect the system

Follow the RSAPD route through Returns, Supplies, Air Handling Unit, Plenums, and Ducts.

Module 4 — Returns

The entry side of the system, and how return pressure, filtration, infiltration, moisture, and dust affect everything downstream.

What you learn: Return grilles, filters, cabinets, boots, ducts, and leakage points; filter fit and bypass pathways; how negative pressure pulls air and dust from unintended spaces; Component Status decisions for return-side conditions.

Capability gained: Identify return-side causes that can influence the complete system.

Module 5 — Supplies

What the system delivers to occupied space, and how to trace visible findings back to upstream causes.

What you learn: Registers, boots, diffusers, and nearby surfaces; condensation at cold-surface and humid-air interfaces; dust streaking, thermal bridging, insulation gaps; local register issue versus system-level condition.

Capability gained: Read supply-side evidence without mistaking the last visible symptom for the root cause.

Module 6 — Air Handling Unit

The center of the system, where filtration, cooling, condensation, drainage, and airflow converge.

What you learn: Coil, blower, cabinet, drain pan, condensate line, and insulation inspection; how airflow and equipment operation affect moisture removal; dust adhesion and moisture-history patterns; component-specific corrective actions.

Capability gained: Recognize the air handling unit as a moisture-management engine and connect failures to downstream consequences.

Module 7 — Plenums

Transition chambers that store accumulated material and launch it into the air pathway.

What you learn: Plenum construction, liner condition, seams, joints, insulation; moisture-history indicators and adhered accumulations; material cleanability; when cleaning or repair is appropriate and when replacement is required.

Capability gained: Determine whether a plenum can be cleaned or repaired, or whether replacement or upgrade is the defensible action.

Storage and launch points.

Module 8 — Air Ducts

How ducts transport conditioned air while revealing patterns created elsewhere.

What you learn: Inspection methods for metal, fiberglass-lined, flex, and duct-board systems; dust, leakage, insulation, condensation, damage, and connection conditions; how distribution patterns separate local from system-level causes; cleaning, sealing, repair, replacement, and insulation considerations.

Capability gained: Use duct evidence to trace the pattern upstream and recommend a correction that addresses the cause.

The ducts show the pattern. The cause lives upstream.

PHASE 3 • MODULES 9–10

Confirm and deliver

Collect defensible laboratory samples, connect findings across the system, and deliver professional results.

Module 9 — Sampling

Laboratory sampling as a disciplined confirmation tool that supports the inspection rather than replacing it.

What you learn: Discovery, verification, and baseline sampling purposes; naming the question before selecting the location; surface-sampling procedure; photographs, labeling, barcoding, and chain of custody; Pending and Testing Declined report status.

Capability gained: Collect a defensible sample, preserve chain of custody, and explain what a laboratory result can and cannot establish.

Name the question first.

Module 10 — Complete System

Integrating everything into one system-level inspection, recommendation, reporting, and quality-assurance process.

What you learn: Connecting findings across all RSAPD zones; using Component Status, MATE, MAP, and CRUM together; building stacked corrective and preventive recommendations; completing the final quality-assurance review.

Capability gained: Perform the inspection consistently from authorization through final report and build corrective plans designed to hold over time.

Stacked solutions hold. Single-point fixes fail.

The certification field assignment

Inspect

Follow the RSAPD route and document observations, photographs, and Component Status decisions in Mold Sentinel.

Sample

Collect three required field-assignment samples using the provided barcoded swabs. The current three-sample protocol must be followed. A protocol-directed surface wipe may be taken from a visually clean area, because mold-related material may be present without visible growth. The course teaches the required locations and protocol, including the return and entry condition, suspect material within the system when identified, and the supply and output condition, together with labeling, photographs, and chain of custody.

Confirm

Submit all three samples together for complimentary independent laboratory analysis using the provided return label. Estimated delivery of the completed laboratory-supported report is within 72 hours after all three assignment samples are received by the laboratory.

Combine and review

IAQHealth produces one custom report combining information from the Mold Sentinel report with the laboratory analysis of all three samples, then reviews the assignment for certification completion.

What enrollment includes

- 10 online course modules with written and audio training materials
- One year of course access from enrollment
- Inspection-tool selection and field-use guidance
- Mold Sentinel inspection and reporting instruction
- 10 individually barcoded mold-sampling swabs
- One prepaid return shipping label
- Complimentary independent laboratory analysis of three field-assignment samples
- One custom report combining the Mold Sentinel report information with the laboratory analysis of all three samples
- 30 days of Mold Sentinel access, beginning the day the final examination is passed at 80 percent or higher

- 50-question final examination (80 percent to pass, two attempts included)
- Digital certificate, IAQH Certified Inspector badge, and Mold Sentinel Certified Inspector hat after all requirements are completed and approved

Certification requirements

- Complete all 10 course modules
- Pass the 50-question final examination with a score of at least 80 percent
- Complete one documented HVAC Mold Sentinel field assignment
- Collect and submit the three required barcoded samples using the provided return label
- Receive approval of the field assignment and combined custom report

Important notes

Ten barcoded swabs are included. Three are used for the certification field assignment and receive complimentary independent laboratory analysis. The remaining seven are available for future paid laboratory and reporting services.

The current three-sample protocol must be followed. A protocol-directed surface wipe may be taken from a visually clean area, because mold-related material may be present without visible growth.

Estimated delivery of the completed laboratory-supported report is within 72 hours after all three assignment samples are received by the laboratory.

The final examination is 50 questions and requires 80 percent to pass. Two attempts are included. After two unsuccessful attempts, the participant receives a complimentary one-on-one consultation with the course instructor before continuing.

The included 30-day Mold Sentinel period begins on the day the participant passes the final examination at 80 percent or higher. After that period, continued Mold Sentinel access is optional at \$19.95 per month. Continuation is not required to earn or keep the certification.

Course access remains open for one year from enrollment. Completion within 30 days is encouraged but not required.

Inspection tools and equipment are not included. The course provides guidance on selecting and using appropriate field tools.

The certificate, Certified Inspector badge, and Mold Sentinel Certified Inspector hat are issued only after the participant completes all 10 modules, passes the final examination, and receives approval of the field assignment.

This course and Mold Sentinel are educational and documentation tools for HVAC hygiene and mold inspection within the participant's permitted professional scope. They are not a state license and do not authorize regulated mold inspection, remediation, laboratory, or other professional services where licensing or additional qualifications are required. Participants are responsible for following applicable laws, regulations, licensing rules, ethical obligations, and employer requirements.

The IAQH HVAC Mold Inspection Certification is an educational credential developed and issued by Indoor Environmental Systems, Inc. It is not accredited or approved by a national certifying body. Continuing-education approval is in development and may be described publicly only when formally obtained and documented.

Certification requirements do not replace applicable state or local licensing requirements.