

MBSS Physical Habitat Assessment Certification Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Physical Habitat Assessment certification?

Physical Habitat Assessment certification qualifies a person to collect stream physical habitat assessment data following MBSS protocols. This certification is good for one year from the date of issue.

To be certified, you must:

1. Be present during the presentations given on the Physical Habitat Assessment Certification Day at MBSS summer training.
2. Be present at the field demonstration given on the Physical Habitat Assessment Certification Day at MBSS summer training.
3. Pass a written test given on the Physical Habitat Assessment Certification Day of summer training.
4. Undergo a field audit given during MBSS summer training.

How much will each certification cost?

Individuals seeking the MBSS Physical Habitat Assessment certification must pay the registration fee to attend MBSS summer training. There is no additional cost associated with this certification. MBSS now offers a single-day registration option.

Can our firm/organization/agency become certified?

No. Only individuals can be certified in MBSS physical habitat assessment.

Must I pursue all certifications offered at MBSS summer training?

No. The MBSS certification is *a la carte*. You can choose one or all.

How can I pay for training?

Payments to attend MBSS summer training must be made in advance of MBSS summer training (i.e., no later than May 1). No checks will be accepted at the door and we cannot admit walk-in registrants.

Can I attend MBSS summer training without certification? If so, what are the costs?

Yes. MBSS summer training will continue as in previous years. The only required fee will be the MBSS summer training fee.

Will MBSS trainings continue to be open to non-professionals?

Yes. However, MBSS training registrations will continue to be accepted on a first come-first served basis.

If I submit payment for registration but then cannot attend the training, can I get a refund?

Sorry. No refunds will be given. Refunds are not possible for the training registration.

How long does certification last?

Physical Habitat Assessment certification is valid for one year from the date of issue.

What will I receive if I pass all requirements for certification?

Following completion of the MBSS Physical Habitat Assessment certification, your name and affiliation will be posted with your permission on the MBSS Certification Registry on the DNR website <http://dnr.maryland.gov/streams/Pages/mbsregistry.aspx>. MBSS certification may qualify you to work on certain stream-related projects in Maryland. Some state and county agencies are considering making MBSS Physical Habitat Assessment certification a requirement for working on certain projects.