



## **Basic Inspector Academy**

*Ensuring Consistent, Effective and Coordinated  
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement*



**CalEPA**  
California Environmental  
Protection Agency

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**CALIFORNIA**  
AIR RESOURCES BOARD



Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control



California Department of  
Pesticide Regulation



**CALIFORNIA**  
**Water Boards**

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS



**OEHHA**  
SCIENCE FOR A HEALTHY CALIFORNIA

## What is Basic Inspector Academy and who can take it?

The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) Basic Inspector Academy (BIA) is a free, three-day training class open to state, local, and tribal environmental enforcement staff. BIA gives environmental inspectors across California the core skills necessary to conduct thorough, effective inspections to implement environmental programs.

The training is conducted by a team of instructors from the six CalEPA boards, departments and offices (BDO), as well as a local environmental attorney.

BIA helps to ensure all environmental agencies take consistent, effective, and coordinated compliance and enforcement actions.



## What will I learn at BIA?

BIA provides students with instruction on key concepts that form the foundation for effective environmental enforcement.

After completing BIA you will be able to:

- Explain the purposes for regulatory inspections and describe the general inspection process
- Discuss legal considerations for facility entry, obtaining consent, and gathering evidence during an inspection
- Recognize the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication cues and how to apply effective interviewing techniques
- Analyze a regulatory requirement for enforceability and identify the specific elements of a violation
- Explain legal and practical considerations for sample collection and chain of custody
- Discuss enforcement options available to regulatory agencies

## What makes BIA different from other training classes?

At BIA, attendees gain experience as well as knowledge. They get to apply what is learned in class as they complete mock-inspection and court-testimony exercises. These exercises include review by and immediate feedback from an experienced environmental attorney – an aspect of the course that students find especially useful.



## What is the prerequisite to BIA?

BIA students must first complete the free online Fundamental Inspector Course (FIC). The FIC provides a comprehensive overview of environmental laws and programs in California. While the target audience of the course is new environmental enforcement professionals, members of the public and regulated facility owners, operators, and employees may also find this online course helpful.

For more information on BIA and its online prerequisite, visit [calepa.ca.gov/enforcement/enforcement-training-resources](http://calepa.ca.gov/enforcement/enforcement-training-resources) or contact Julia Hooten at [julia.hooten@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:julia.hooten@waterboards.ca.gov) or (916) 322-6010.

Advance registration is required. To register, visit [arb.ca.gov/training](http://arb.ca.gov/training) to log in or create a new account. Walk-ins are not allowed.

## BIA Schedule

2020	
Jan 14-16	Clovis
Feb 25-27	Alameda
March 17-19	Rancho Cordova
April 21-23	Red Bluff
May 12-14	Cerritos
June 9-11	Monterey