

News Release Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council

HLAC Seeks Accreditation Inspectors

PLAINFIELD, IL - January 12, 2016 - The Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) - the nonprofit organization that inspects and accredits laundries processing textiles for hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities - is seeking to add to its distinguished roster of inspectors.

Interested individuals should visit HLAC's website, <u>www.hlacnet.org</u>; review the <u>Inspector Agreement</u>;and complete the <u>HLAC Inspector Application</u>, which is due Feb. 12, 2016.

An HLAC inspector is an independent contractor - a laundry and textile professional with wide-ranging experience - whose sole responsibility is to conduct a one-day, on-sight inspection of a healthcare laundry seeking HLAC accreditation. The inspection is conducted according to predetermined <u>Standards</u> and involves a thorough review of the applicant laundry's processes - its systems and procedures for ensuring that product being shipped from the laundry is free of contamination and adheres to professionally recognized infection prevention and control policies.

Inspectors receive in-depth training of *HLAC Standards* and inspection guidelines before they begin their work, according to John Scherberger, president of HLAC's board of directors.

"The inspection is an important first step in the process to HLAC accreditation," Scherberger said. "While the inspectors don't have the authority to grant accreditation, it's their submitted inspection evaluations that affect the ultimate decisions of HLAC's authoritative body granting accreditation."

Scherberger said HLAC inspections and renewals are at record levels as more laundries are realizing the importance of becoming part of the solution in healthcare's infection prevention efforts. "HLAC accreditation is becoming a requirement to be considered as a healthcare laundry provider, hence we're seeing an increase in <u>requests</u> for inspections," he said. "This is a good opportunity for the qualified individual with the skill, temperament and integrity

to make a difference."

The HLAC board of directors determines selection of inspectors. Inspectors are not HLAC employees. As independent contractors, they are paid per the inspection plus they are reimbursed for their travel expenses. Applicants are encouraged to address with their employer the necessary time away from the office (one to three days a month) to conduct inspections.

For more information, contact HLAC's executive director Regina Baras,rbaras@hlacnet.org, or call 855-277-HLAC (4522)

About HLAC

The Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) is a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of inspecting and accrediting laundries processing healthcare textiles for hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities. For more information, www.hlacnet.org, on Twitter @NewsHlac.

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