**Section 750.1831 Alternative Training Methods**

The Department will approve alternative training methods, such as interactive computer training courses, interactive video or distance learning for purposes of certification or recertification if the training provider/sponsor submits the following information to the Department for approval before use:

a) Documentation that the training course content is:

1) Equivalent to the course content described in Section 750.1820(b) titled Subject Area – Specific Elements of Knowledge; and

2) Based on a psychometrically valid job analysis developed by personnel who include qualified test development specialists and a representative group of individuals with significant experience in food safety. A pyschometrically valid job analysis is a detailed job description in which a profession, in this instance food service sanitation manager, is broken down into necessary knowledge and skills. The job analysis study is then used as the basis for examination development in the profession being credentialed.

b) The Department-approved instructor/proctor shall monitor time spent by students during the alternative method of training to ensure that the student is meeting the minimum required number of training hours described in Section 750.1820 and that the students are not allowed to complete the training at their own pace if less than the required number of training hours has been completed.

c) Only Department-approved instructors and proctors may oversee alternative methods of training. If a student is using an alternative method of training, the Department-approved instructor affiliated with that training is responsible for proctoring the certification examination or for issuing a letter of permission to take the examination to the student and assisting the student in finding an approved proctor to provide an examination.

d) The Department will evaluate the effectiveness of the alternative method of training based on a 70% pass rate over a 12 month period. Approval will be revoked if the Department determines that the alternative method of training is not effective in preparing students to pass an approved Food Service Sanitation Manager Certification examination.

(Source: Amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 5006, effective March 17, 2015)