

CLEANOLOGY 411



Information and Training Updates On the Science and Art of Cleaning

This Newsletter Created

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Cleaning is **an art** and a **science**. The cleaning industry generates billions in annual revenues in the United States alone and ranks as one of the world's big 10 businesses. It's also nearly recession proof, due to the nature of cleaning as an essential and necessary part of daily life. As a growing industry — and with many seasoned cleaning professionals now reaching retirement age — there are plenty of opportunities and careers available in the world of professional cleaning.

The Value of Clean:

- Image and cleanliness
- Health and wellness
- Safety and comfort
- Morale and happiness
- Value and maintenance

Did You Know?

- The average person spends 90 percent of their time indoors.
- Indoor air pollution is the nation's biggest pollution problem, which can trigger allergies, asthma and infectious illnesses.
- Tightly constructed buildings don't breathe.
- There is little or no air exchange in buildings.
- Indoor air is re-circulated. Indoor air pollution is trapped indoors

- Indoor air pollution affects our bodies through our noses, eyes, mouths and skin.

The indoor (built) environment includes our homes, schools, hospitals, office buildings, stores, banks and other buildings. These are places that must be kept clean, maintained and protected to ensure a safe, clean and healthy environment for everyone.

Cleaning Careers:

Facility types: hospitals, nursing homes, hotels and resorts, retirement homes, educational facilities, retail stores, shopping centers, government buildings, commercial office buildings, residential homes

Frontline positions: house-keeping aides, room attendants, utility workers, house persons, project specialist, custodians/porters, supervisors, personal housekeepers

Management positions: environmental service directors, housekeeping service managers, executive housekeepers, facilities managers, directors of housekeeping services

Salaries:

According to a 2010 salary survey conducted by the International Executive Housekeepers Association, cleaning professionals earn competitive wages.

Most frontline employees make between \$9.51 and \$15 an hour. In general, the IEHA survey found that colleges and universities pay frontline employees higher wages.

Those in management positions average salaries between \$48,685 and \$86,000 a year. An individual's education, knowledge, skills and experience impacts his or her earning potential



Professional Support:

A valuable resource for cleaning professionals is the International Executive Housekeepers Association (IEHA), which represents 3,500-plus persons employed in facility housekeeping at the management level. IEHA provides its members leadership opportunities, resource materials, education program designation, employment referral services, a technical question hotline, networking, an annual convention and trade show with education sessions, and a monthly trade publication.

To learn more about IEHA, visit www.ieha.org.