

Announcing: Specialist in Housing Credit Management™ Certification Program

On August 17, 2005, NAHMA announced the launch of its new Specialist in Housing Credit Management™ (SHCM™) certification program for affordable housing management professionals. The SHCM certification is designed by managers for managers of properties developed and operated under the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program.

“As experienced affordable housing management professionals know, the LIHTC program is the primary pro-

including a certificate, pin, and annual identification card. They will also be listed in NAHMA’s Online Directory of Credentialed Professionals, receive a free subscription to *NAHMA News* (a \$95 value) and *NAHP Update*, and earn a discount on their NAHMA NAHP or NAHP-e annual renewal dues.

SHCM certificants will also enjoy free access to NAHMA’s LIHTC Web Site, and will



participate in a “candidacy period” equal to the amount of time remaining to meet the two-year experience requirement. Once the candidacy period is satisfied, the candidate may then begin to use the SHCM certification.

For a limited period, housing credit professionals who have earned a certification based on criteria similar to the SHCM and awarded by a

nationally recognized organization or entity may apply to be “grandfathered” into the SHCM program. Under this special limited offer, previously certified professionals may earn their SHCM by submitting an application to NAHMA. With the Grandfather Application, the requirement to sit for the SHCM exam is waived.

Also, the first 100 professionals to return their SHCM application and application materials will be entered into a drawing to receive one of 10 free copies of *Managing Housing Credit Apartments: A Question and Answer Handbook for Property Owners and Managers* (a \$48 value).

More details and application materials for the SHCM are available at the NAHMA website at www.nahma.org/content/shcm.html. To request an SHCM application and information by mail, contact NAHMA SHCM Program Manager, 400 N. Columbus St., Suite 203, Alexandria, VA 22314; email: leighann.davis@nahma.org; phone 703-683-8630; fax 703-683-8634.

As of Aug. 4, 2005, NAHMA is no longer affiliated with the Housing Credit Certified Professional certification program. **NN**

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duction tool for creating new affordable housing properties across every state in the country, and it is also the most important tool for rehabilitating and preserving the nation’s existing stock of aging affordable housing,” said NAHMA President Jim McGrath, NAHP-e.

“To maximize their careers, managers in the affordable housing industry must be able to demonstrate their experience and expertise in mastering the complex requirements of the LIHTC program to their peers, employers, residents, regulators and the general public. Earning your SHCM enables you to do just that,” he stated.

As an SHCM, certificants will receive a congratulatory welcome kit,

join an elite corps of managers who can demonstrate they are in the forefront of their profession.

In order to become SHCM certified, applicants must have two years of housing credit management employment experience, successfully complete a minimum of 12 hours of housing credit specific coursework or training by an approved provider (listed on NAHMA’s website), sit for the SHCM exam, and submit their SHCM application and \$150 application fee.

Candidates with less than the required two years of employment experience may still take the SHCM exam, provide a certificate demonstrating 12 hours of housing credit training, and complete a SHCM application; however, these candidates need to par-