Frequently Asked Questions about NGS Webinar-based Classes

What can I expect when I log into an NGS webinar?
- Once you log in, you will see what is on the presenter's computer screen.
- You will have the ability to type in questions, which will either be answered during the webinar or afterward.
- Audio will be transmitted over the internet, and in most cases there will also be a call-in number if audio over the internet is not an option for you.

Who can attend a webinar?
- Anyone can attend an NGS webinar, unless otherwise stated. NGS occasionally hosts training specifically for its employees, but this will be clearly stated on the calendar.

What are the benefits/drawbacks of attending a webinar?
> **Benefits**
> - No travel needed to receive training
> - Webinars are free
> - Can ask questions in written form and receive answers from experts
>
> **Drawbacks**
> - No face-to-face interaction
> - Cannot ask questions out loud
> - Audience is normally large, so questions are sometimes not answered immediately

Why is it preferred that I receive audio over the internet rather than over the phone?
- It will likely be more comfortable for you to listen to the presentation with headphones or speakers, since most webinars are several hours long.
- Telephone background noise is a major distraction for both presenters and the audience. Transmitting the audio over the internet (Voice over Internet Protocol, or VoIP) cuts down on most audio interference. For some webinars, especially large ones, the telephone option may not be available.

Can I ask questions?
- Yes, the webinar software allows you to type in questions. These will be addressed during the presentation if possible. If there is not time, the questions will be answered by the presenter or other subject-matter expert(s) and emailed to all participants in the form of a Word document or PDF.

Will the webinar be posted for later viewing?
- In almost all cases, the powerpoint presentation(s) will be posted on the Corbin Training Center website (http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/corbin/calendar.shtml) before or immediately after the webinar.

- In order to post the audio from the presentation, a transcript must first be compiled. The audio to go along with the powerpoint will be posted as soon as a transcript is complete.

What are the program requirements of the webinar?
- You do not need to pre-install any software prior to joining the Webinar. In most cases, you do **not** need administrative rights to your computer to be able to run GoToWebinar.

For PC-based participants:

- Internet Explorer® 6.0 or newer, Mozilla® Firefox® 2.0 or newer (JavaScript™ and Java™ enabled)
- Windows® 2000, XP, 2003 Server or Vista
- Cable modem, DSL, or better Internet connection
- Minimum of Pentium® class 1GHz CPU with 512 MB of RAM (recommended) (2 GB of RAM for Windows® Vista)

Participants wishing to connect to audio using VoIP will need a fast Internet connection and speakers (a USB headset is recommended).

For Mac-based participants:

- Safari™ 3.0 or newer, Firefox® 2.0 or newer (JavaScript™ and Java™ enabled)
- Mac OS® X 10.4 (Tiger®) or newer
- PowerPC G4/G5 or Intel processor (512 MB of RAM or better recommended)
- Cable modem, DSL, or better Internet connection

Participants wishing to connect to audio using VoIP will need a fast Internet connection and speakers (a USB headset is recommended).