



Water Distribution

Minimum Qualifications for Examination/Certification

Grade	Minimum Qualifications for Examination	Minimum Qualifications for Certification
D1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High School or GED* 	Successful completion of the Grade D1 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification
D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High School or GED* <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One 3-unit (or 36-hour) course of specialized training covering the fundamentals of water supply principles 	Successful completion of the Grade D2 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification
D3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possession of a valid D2 certificate <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two 3-unit (or 36-hour) courses of specialized training that includes at least one course in the fundamentals of water supply principles 	Successful completion of the Grade D3 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <p style="text-align: center;">AND;</p> One year of operator experience working as a certified D2 operator, interim D3 or higher operator, or temporary D3 operator for a D2 system or higher or a system that prior to January 1, 2001 would have met the criteria for classification as a D2 system or higher <p style="text-align: center;">AND;</p> At least one additional year of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)
D4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possession of a valid D3 certificate <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three 3-unit (or 36-hour) courses of specialized training that includes at least two courses in the fundamentals of water supply principles 	Successful completion of the Grade D4 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <p style="text-align: center;">AND;</p> At least one year of operator experience working as a certified D3 operator, interim D4 or higher operator, or temporary D4 operator for a D3 system or higher or a system that prior to January 1, 2001 would have met the criteria for classification as a D3 system or higher <p style="text-align: center;">AND;</p> At least three additional years of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)
D5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possession of a valid D4 certificate <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four 3-unit (or 36-hour) courses of specialized training that includes at least two courses in the fundamentals of water supply principles 	Successful completion of the Grade D5 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <p style="text-align: center;">AND;</p> At least two years of operator experience working as a certified D4 operator, interim D5 or higher operator, or temporary D5 operator for a D4 or D5 system or higher or a system that prior to January 1, 2001 would have met the criteria for classification as a D4 or D5 system or higher <p style="text-align: center;">AND;</p> At least three additional years of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)

*High school/GED equivalency for **Grades 1 and 2 ONLY** can be fulfilled with either successful completion of **Basic Small Water Systems Operations** course provided by the Department **OR 1 year** as an operator of a facility that required an understanding of a piping system that included pumps, valves, and storage tanks.

<p>Experience substitutions for certification, as referenced above.</p> <p>1) A relevant degree earned at an accredited academic institution may be substituted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Associate Degree or Certificate in Water or Wastewater Technology that includes at least 15 units of physical, chemical, or biological science may be used to fulfill 1 year of operator experience. b) Bachelor Degree in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental engineering, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill 1.5 years of operator experience. c) Masters Degree in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill 2 years of operator experience. <p>2) A certified operator may substitute, on a day-for-day basis, one additional year of operator experience working as a distribution operator with experience gained while working with lead responsibility for water quality or quantity related projects or research.</p>
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