

Operator Renewal FAQ

How is my Wastewater System Operator certificate renewed every two years?

DEQ mails out a two-page renewal application form to each certificate holder's mailing address on record about 75 days prior to the expiration date. The form includes the operator's name, address, and unique certification number(s); it also specifies the new two-year renewal period. Operators whose certificates expire on June 30 should receive a form in mid-April. Certificate-holders with the December 31 expiration date should receive a form in mid-October.

If your form does not arrive, contact us early. Always notify the Program of any address change. Operators are still responsible for renewing their operator certificate, regardless of whether they received the form or not.

Certificate renewal is required even if applicants have a new or pending upgrade at the time of renewal. A current active certificate is required to ensure validation of any new or pending certificate.



Clatskanie Wastewater Treatment Facility

What is required to maintain or renew a certificate?

- Completion of at least 2.0 CEUs (20 hours) during each two-year renewal cycle. Education or training must have direct application to the job tasks and skills required of a wastewater system operator.
- If you have both a Collection and a Treatment certificate (any grade), you do not need twice as many credits. The same 2.0 CEUs will satisfy the continuing education requirement for both certificates.
- Operators are responsible for tracking their CEUs for their license renewal, and for ensuring that the courses they take are approved by OESAC for wastewater credit.
- Payment of the \$160 renewal fee (covers one or two certifications).
- Complete and mail the renewal materials, to be postmarked no later than your expiration date (June 30, or December 31) in order to avoid the \$120 reinstatement fee. Allow 4-6 weeks for application processing time.
- Oregon residency is not required in order to maintain Oregon certification. Continued employment as an operator is also not required.
- Avoid going into expired status. Operators with an expired certificate may not supervise the operation of a wastewater system.



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Water Quality Division Wastewater System Operator Certification Program

700 NE Multnomah St,
Ste #600
Portland, OR 97232-4100
Phone: 503- 229-5349
And 503- 229-5161
800- 452-4011
Fax: 503- 229-6957
opcert@deq.state.or.us

<http://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/wqpermits/Pages/WasteWater-Operator-Certification.aspx>

www.oregon.gov/DEQ

