



Classifications and Qualifications for DWS Operator Certification

Must be met prior to acceptance for exam

Each year of experience is equivalent to 12 months of full-time work in water treatment or distribution with 100% of time spent on activities in the certification desired (treatment or distribution). *(See rules regarding substitute experience.)*

Water Operator Classification	Minimum experience required	Education/substitution	Operational Decision Making Experience
Small Water System		0.6 hours of approved State training	
WD or WT 1	12 months	None	None
		Associates degree in Water Technology	
WD or WT Level 2	36 months	None	None
	24 months	12 months	
WD Level 3	96 months	None	30 months
WD or WT Level 3	60 months	12 months	30 months
	48 months	24 months	24 months
	36 months	36 months	18 months
WD Level 4	120 months	None	36 months
WD or WT Level 4	72 months	24 months	30 months
	60 months	36 months	30 months
	48 months	48 months	24 months
Filtration Endorsement	Level 2 operator		One year at a conventional or direct filtration treatment plant

- ◆ 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours of professional continuing education can be substituted for 1 year of post high school education.
- ◆ **Small Water System** = Community or non-transient non-community having less than 150 connections using groundwater as its source or purchasing its water without adding any additional treatment
- ◆ **ODM** = Operational Decision Making
- ◆ **FE** = Filtration Endorsement (This requires an exam but no additional yearly certification fees.)
- ◆ Individual contractors must submit a signed contract by both parties to the DWS before work can begin to ascertain that the contract is valid according to DWS rules.