

333-061-0225

General Requirements Applying to Water Suppliers and Water Systems

- (1) Water suppliers responsible for community and non-transient non-community water systems must at all times employ, contract with, or otherwise utilize an operator to be in direct responsible charge of every distribution system and water treatment plant. An operator designated in direct responsible charge of a distribution system or water treatment plant must be available during those periods of time when decisions relating to treatment processes, water quality, and water quantity that may affect public health are made.
 - (a) The operator(s) described in this section must be certified as prescribed by OAR 333-061-0228 or OAR 333-061-0235 through 0265, at a level equal to or greater than the classification of the distribution system or water treatment plant as prescribed by OAR 333-061-0220, for which they are responsible.
 - (b) A water supplier subject to this rule must report to the Authority, the name(s) of the operator(s) that has been designated to be in direct responsible charge of the distribution system and water treatment plant as applicable, and must notify the Authority within 30 days of any change of operator.
- (2) A water supplier may employ, contract with, or utilize other operators in addition to those required by section (1) of this rule. For operators certified at less than the Authority-required level(s) for distribution or treatment, the water supplier must establish a written protocol for each of the other operators that:
 - (a) Describes the operational decisions the operator is allowed to make;
 - (b) Requires the operator to notify the operator in direct responsible charge when they make decisions related to process control, water quality or water quantity that may affect public health;
 - (c) Describes the specific conditions under which the operator must consult with the operator in direct responsible charge, and when and how consultation is to be made;
 - (d) Takes into account the certification level of the operator; their knowledge, skills, and abilities, and the range of expected operating conditions of the water system; and
 - (e) Is signed and dated by the operator in direct responsible charge and the operator to which the protocol applies, and is available for inspection by the Authority.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 448.131

Stats. Implemented: ORS 448.450, 448.455, 448.460, 448.465 & 448.994

333-061-0228

Certification Requirements for Small Water System Operators

- (1) To qualify for certification as the operator of a water system classified as small as prescribed by OAR 333-061-0220(1), individuals must:
 - (a) Have graduated from high school or completed an approved GED program and completed an Authority-approved training for small water system operations and water treatment processes; and

- (b) Submit a certificate demonstrating the completion of the required training specified in subsection (1)(a) of this rule.
- (2) Certification at the small water system level expires on July 31 three years after the training specified in subsection (1)(a) was completed.
- (3) Individuals certified as prescribed by OAR 333-061-0235 through OAR 333-061-0265 at levels 1 through 4 for water distribution or water treatment are qualified to be designated in direct responsible charge of a water system classified as small as prescribed by OAR 333-061-0220(1).
- (4) Small water system operator certification as prescribed by this rule is exempt from fees.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 448.131, 448.450

Stats. Implemented: ORS 448.450, 448.455, 448.460

333-061-0230

Contracting For Services

- (1) Water suppliers responsible for community and non-transient non-community water systems may establish contracts with an individual certified operator, another water supplier, or an organization with certified operators available for contract to obtain operational services at a public water system.
- (2) Operators contracted to be in direct responsible charge of a water system, distribution system or a water treatment plant, as prescribed by OAR 333-061-0225 must be certified at or greater than the level of the classification of the water system or facility for which they will be responsible.
- (3) Written contracts for operators designated in direct responsible charge of a water system must:
 - (a) Require the operator to be available on call 24 hours every day and able to respond on-site, to the water system, upon request; and
 - (b) Specify that the operator will take corrective action when the results of analyses or measurements indicate maximum contaminant levels have been exceeded or minimum treatment levels are not maintained.
- (4) Water suppliers must submit to the Authority, a copy of any contract established for certified operators serving at a water system for which the water supplier is responsible.
 - (a) Contracts must be signed by the operator and the water supplier, or an authorized representative of the water supplier, before the operator may provide any services to the water supplier.
 - (b) Contracts must be submitted to the Authority within 30 days of the contract being signed by all parties.
- (5) Contracts are only valid for individuals that possess current certification.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 448.131

Stats. Implemented: ORS 448.450, 448.455, 448.460, 448.465 & 448.994

333-061-0232

General Requirements Applying to Water System Operators

Operators serving at water systems and water system facilities as specified in OAR 333-061-0210 are responsible for ensuring the safe operation of the water system facilities for which they are responsible, and the production of safe drinking water at that water system. All operators serving at water treatment plants and distribution systems must:

- (1) Comply with any Authority order or investigation;
- (2) Ensure every application, record, or other document filed with or reported to the Authority by the operator is true and accurate; and
- (3) Immediately notify the Authority when a violation of these rules is observed that may result in a public health hazard.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 448.131

Stats. Implemented: ORS 448.450, 448.455 & 448.994