

# Instructions for Cross Connection Specialist & Backflow Assembly Tester Application Drinking Water Services

Phone: 971-673-0321 | Fax: 971-673-0694 | Email: [cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov)

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Thank you for applying for an Oregon specialist or tester certification. The below instructions will help you fill out the application.

- After completing your application, make a copy for your records before submitting it.
  - Once the application is received, it will be reviewed for completeness.
  - We will notify you by phone, email, or mail if we require additional information to process your application.
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## 1. Personal Info

- Please provide your first, middle, and last name.
- **Social security numbers:** if this is your first certification with DWS we cannot process your application without your social security number. If you have a certification with DWS, check the box 'On File'.
- If you currently or have previously held a tester, specialist, distribution, or treatment certification please let us know. If you can't remember your cert number, leave that field blank.
- Let us know if you are currently a licensed **journeyman plumber** or **apprentice plumber**.
- We have a voluntary **public list of backflow testers**. You do not have to be on the list. If you would like to be on the list, you must provide you or your employers LCB or CCB license number. The info you enter in the 'work' or 'employer' fields on the application will be displayed on the website. The list is currently organized by county. Please include the county you would like to be listed in. You can access the list here: <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/backflow.php>

## 2. Employer Information

- Provide your employer company name and mailing address.
- If you want your certification card, and future renewal information to be sent to your work address, check the box 'primary mailing address'.
- *Note: if both 'primary mailing address' boxes are checked for work and home mailing addresses, we will send your certification and future renewal paperwork to your **work address**.*

## 3. Home Mailing Address

- Provide your home mailing address.
- If you want your certification card, and future renewal information to be sent to your work address, check the box 'primary mailing address'.
- *Note: if both 'primary mailing address' boxes are checked for work and home mailing addresses, we will send your certification and future renewal paperwork to your **work address**.*

## 4. Contact Info

- Provide at least one phone number. We use this to contact you if we have questions about your application or returned mail.
- Provide us with your email address. We use this to contact you if we have questions about your application and to send you copies of your certification if you need a replacement. You may include a work and personal email if you want.

## 5. Required Specialist Attachments

- **All attachments are required for certification**
- Copy of the certificate of completion or letter you received from your 4-day training course
- Copy of your high school diploma, GED, or college diploma. You can send copies of transcripts. Please highlight your graduation date.
- **Proof of 1-year experience working in water or plumbing.**  
You can send a signed letter from your manager stating how long you have been working in water.  
If you are a plumber, you can send a copy of your plumbing license.  
If you have a Level 1-4 treatment or distribution certification, all you need to do is provide your cert number.

## 6. Required Tester Attachments

- **All attachments are required for certification**
- Copy of the certificate of completion or letter you received from your 5-day training course.
- Copy of your high school diploma, GED, or college diploma. You can send copies of transcripts. Please highlight your graduation date.

## 7. Certification & Fees

The two-year certification cycle is split up based on your last name.

Last names that begin with A-K expire in even numbered years.

Last names that begin with L-Z expire in odd numbered years.

Fees are based on where we are in the certification cycle.

Fees are prorated by 50% if applications are submitted ½ way through the cycle.

First initial of last name	Year	Tester or Specialist	Tester & Specialist
A-K	Even	\$97.50	\$195
	Odd	\$195	\$390
L-Z	Even	\$195	\$390
	Odd	\$97.50	\$195

- If you become a new tester or specialist in the last half of the certification cycle (you pay the smaller prorated fee), you will be required to renew before the end of the year, but don't panic, you will **not** be required to take a refresher course since you just finished the initial training and this will be your first renewal.

## 8. Payment Options

- Select only one of the payment options below.
- **Check:** Make your check out to **OHA Cashier**.  
Sign and mail all documents to: OHA Cashier; PO Box 14260; Portland, OR 97293
- **Credit Card:** pay online [www.healthoregon.org/testercertification](http://www.healthoregon.org/testercertification).  
If you have never been certified enter 0000 for your certification #.  
Providing the name on the credit card and date paid, helps us find your payment. Once you complete the payment you will be emailed a receipt. Include the receipt with the application packet.  
Sign and send all documents (including payment receipt) by mail, email, or fax.  
**Mail:** DWS – Cross Connection; PO Box 14260; Portland, OR 97293  
**Email:** [cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov), **Fax:** 971-673-0694

## RENEWAL INFORMATION

Individual renewal forms are mailed to all current Testers & Specialists approximately 90 days before they expire (typically the beginning of October).

- **Renewal forms are not available on-line.**
- If you misplace your renewal form, contact the office for a replacement [cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov), or call 971-0321.

The following requirements must be completed to maintain your backflow tester certification:

- Successful completion of an approved 1 or 2 day tester renewal course. (*not required for your 1st renewal*)
- Copies of your last two-gauge calibrations (*For your first renewal you may only have 1 or none. That's ok*)
- Application fee of \$195.00. There is a \$50.00 reinstatement fee if your renewal is submitted after Jan 31<sup>st</sup>.

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Additional forms and info can be found on our website [www.healthoregon.org/crossconnection](http://www.healthoregon.org/crossconnection)  
Need help? Contact the program [cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:cross.connection@odhsoha.oregon.gov) or 971-673-0321