



# Water Distribution

## Minimum Qualifications for Examination/Certification

Grade	Minimum Qualifications for Examination	Minimum Qualifications for Certification
D1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High School or GED*</li> </ul>	Successful completion of the <b>Grade D1</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification
D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High School or GED*</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>One 3-unit (or 36-hour)</b> course of specialized training covering the fundamentals of water supply principles (<a href="#">Water 140, 141, 150, or 151</a>)</li> </ul>	Successful completion of the <b>Grade D2</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification
D3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possession of a valid D2 certificate</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Two 3-unit (or 36-hour)</b> courses of specialized training that includes at least one course in the fundamentals of water supply principles (<a href="#">Water 140, 141, 150, or 151</a>) <b>AND a second course</b> (<a href="#">Water 120, 130, 131, 132, 135, 140, 141, 150, 151, 160, or 161</a>)</li> </ul>	Successful completion of the <b>Grade D3</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AND:</b></p> <p><b>One year</b> 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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AND:</b></p> <p>At least <b>one additional year</b> of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)</p>
D4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possession of a valid D3 certificate</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Three 3-unit (or 36-hour)</b> courses of specialized training that includes at least two courses in the fundamentals of water supply principles (<a href="#">Water 140, 141, 150, or 151</a>) <b>AND a third course</b> (<a href="#">Water 120, 130, 131, 132, 135, 140, 141, 150, 151, 160, or 161</a>)</li> </ul>	Successful completion of the <b>Grade D4</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AND:</b></p> <p>At least <b>one year</b> 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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AND:</b></p> <p>At least <b>three additional years</b> of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)</p>
D5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possession of a valid D4 certificate</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Four 3-unit (or 36-hour)</b> courses of specialized training that includes at least two courses in the fundamentals of water supply principles (<a href="#">Water 140, 141, 150, or 151</a>) <b>AND two courses from</b> (<a href="#">Water 120, 130, 131, 132, 135, 140, 141, 150, 151, 160, or 161</a>)</li> </ul>	Successful completion of the <b>Grade D5</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AND:</b></p> <p>At least <b>two years</b> 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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AND:</b></p> <p>At least <b>three additional years</b> of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)</p>

\*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"> <li>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 <b>1 year of operator experience</b>.</li> <li>b) Bachelor Degree in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental engineering, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill <b>1.5 years of operator experience</b>.</li> <li>c) Masters Degree in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill <b>2 years of operator experience</b>.</li> </ul> <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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