



# Water Distribution Minimum Qualifications for Certification

Grade	Minimum Qualifications for Certification
D1	Successful completion of the <b>Grade D1</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification
D2	Successful completion of the <b>Grade D2</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification
D3	<p>Successful completion of the <b>Grade D3</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <b>AND:</b> <u>One year</u> 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 <b>AND:</b> At least <u>one additional year</u> of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)</p>
D4	<p>Successful completion of the <b>Grade D4</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <b>AND:</b> At least <u>one year</u> 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 <b>AND:</b> At least <u>three additional years</u> of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)</p>
D5	<p>Successful completion of the <b>Grade D5</b> operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification, <b>AND:</b> At least <u>two years</u> 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 <b>AND:</b> At least <u>three additional years</u> of operator experience working as a distribution operator (may be substituted with (1) or (2) below)</p>

Experience substitutions for certification, as referenced above.

- 1) A relevant degree earned at an accredited academic institution may be substituted as follows:
  - 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 **1 year of operator experience**.
  - b) Bachelor Degree in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental engineering, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill **1.5 years of operator experience**.
  - c) Masters Degree in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill **2 years of operator experience**.
- 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.