

WATER OPERATOR
GRADE LEVEL PREREQUISITES

Must be met prior to acceptance for exam.

TREATMENT OPERATORS

Level	Requirements
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED and 1 year experience, OR • A 2-year Associates degree in water technology may be substituted for 6 months of the experience No other education or substitution will be credited for this level.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED and 3 years experience, OR • 1 year relevant post-high school education and 2 years experience
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED, 1 yr relevant post-high school, and 5 yrs experience, with 2.5 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 2 yrs relevant post-high school, and 4 yrs experience with 2 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 3 yrs relevant post-high school, and 3 yrs experience with 1.5 yrs of ODM
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED, 2 yrs relevant post-high school, and 6 yrs experience with 3 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 3 yrs relevant post-high school, and 5 yrs experience with 2.5 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 4 yrs relevant post-high school, and 4 yrs experience with 2 yrs of ODM
FE⁴	Currently a Level 2 Water Treatment Operator AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 yr of ODM; at a Class 2 plant or higher with conventional filtration

DISTRIBUTION OPERATORS

Level	Requirements
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED and 1 year experience, OR • A 2-year Associates degree in water technology may be substituted for 6 months of the experience No other education or substitution will be credited for this level.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED and 3 years experience, OR • 1 year relevant post-high school education and 2 years experience
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED AND 8 YEARS OF OPERATING EXPERIENCE w/2.5 Yrs ODM, OR • HS/GED, 1 yr relevant post-high school, and 5 yrs experience, with 2.5 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 2 yrs relevant post-high school, and 4 yrs experience with 2 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 3 yrs relevant post-high school, and 3 yrs experience with 1.5 yrs of ODM
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HS/GED AND 10 YEARS OF OPERATING EXPERIENCE w/3 Yrs ODM, OR • HS/GED, 2 yrs relevant post-high school, and 6 yrs experience with 3 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 3 yrs relevant post-high school, and 5 yrs experience with 2.5 yrs of ODM; OR • HS/GED, 4 yrs relevant post-high school, and 4 yrs experience with 2 yrs of ODM

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.)

45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours of professional continuing education can be substituted for 1 year of post high school education.

ODM = Operational decision making

FE = Filtration Endorsement (This requires an exam but no additional yearly certification fees)