

Requirements for Becoming a Certified Water or Wastewater Operator in Georgia

Certification	Prior Certification	Course Work Required
Class 4 Water <i>For Groundwater Systems Serving a Population of Less than 1,000</i>	No Prior Certification	Must Complete the 6 Hour Class 4 Water Course
Class 3 Water	No Prior Certification	Must Complete the 40 Hour Basic Water Course
Class 3 Groundwater <i>For Groundwater Systems Only (Will be offered late 2023 or early 2024)</i>	No Prior Certification	Must Complete 40 Hour Basic Groundwater Course (Course Will be offered late 2023 or early 2024) <i>More details about this certification will be announced later and will be posted on our website</i>
Class 2 Water	Must Have a Class 3 Water License	Must Complete 48 Hours of Advanced Water Training
Class 1 Water	Must Have a Class 2 Water License	No Further Course Work is Required – See Experience Requirement Chart Below
Water Distribution	No Prior Certification	Must Complete the 27 Hour Water Distribution O&M Course
Water Laboratory Analyst	No Prior Certification	27 Hour Basic Water Laboratory Course Work or Associate Degree or Higher In Biology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Or An Equivalent Degree
Class 4 Wastewater	No Prior Certification	Class 4 Wastewater Course - 6 Hour Basic Wastewater Stabilization Pond Operator Course Work
Class 3 Wastewater	No Prior Certification	Must Complete the 40 Hour Basic Wastewater Course
Class 2 Wastewater	Must have a Class 3 Wastewater License	Must Complete 48 Hours of Advanced Wastewater Training
Class 1 Wastewater	Must have a Class 2 Wastewater License	No Further Course Work is Required
Wastewater Collection Systems	No Prior Certification	Must Complete the 27 Hour Wastewater Collection Systems O&M Course
Wastewater Laboratory Analyst	No Prior Certification	27 Hour Basic Wastewater Laboratory Course Work or Associate Degree or Higher In Biology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Or An Equivalent Degree

To complete the required course work visit our website WWW.GRWA.ORG and register for the course(s) of your choice.

Experience Requirements			
The amount of experience that is required is dependent upon the applicant's education, as follows:			
CERTIFICATE APPLIED FOR	<u>EXPERIENCE</u> H.S. School Diploma or GED Certificate	<u>EXPERIENCE</u> Accredited B.S. Degree in Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, or an equivalent Degree	<u>EXPERIENCE</u> Accredited B.S. Degree in Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, or an equivalent Degree, or a current Class 1 certificate in another category
Class 4 – Water or Wastewater	1 month	1 month	1 month
Class 3 – Water or Wastewater	3 months	3 months	3 months
Class 2 – Water or Wastewater	24 months	18 months	12 months
Class 1 – Water or Wastewater	36 months	30 months	24 months
Water or Wastewater Laboratory Analyst	3 months	3 months	3 months
Water Distribution Wastewater Collection	3 months	3 months	3 months

Experience Requirements

Applicants for the following licenses may take the exam before the experience requirement is met, but they shall not apply for the license until they have completed the requisite experience in the actual system operation:

- * Public Water Supply System Operator Class 4
- * Public Water Supply System Operator Class 3
- * Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class 4
- * Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class 3
- * Industrial Wastewater Treatment System Operator
- * Water Laboratory Analyst
- * Wastewater Laboratory Analyst
- * Water Distribution System Operator
- * Wastewater Collection System Operator

Class 1 and Class 2
Experience Requirements are
Required Before the Exam

Experience Requirements – Please Read Thoroughly

Applicants for the following licenses must have completed experience in the actual system operation prior to taking an examination:

- * Public Water Supply System Operator Class 2
- * Public Water Supply System Operator Class 1
- * Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class 2
- * Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class 1

Education – Every applicant must have earned a minimum of a high school diploma or GED certificate prior to taking the examination and must provide proof of education when he/she submits his/her application for certificate to the Board.

Examination – An Applicant Must Pass A Written Examination In Order To Receive A Certificate.
All Exams Are Administered Through PSI. Visit [PSI Website](#) For Exam Information, Dates and Locations.
Applicants Must Apply For A Certification Within 12 Months Of Passing An Examination.

Below are Links to Help Applicants When Applying for a License, Reviewing Rules & Regulations and Helpful FAQs. The How to Guides Link is very useful and will usually direct you to the right forms and answer questions.

[How to Guides](#)

[Forms](#)

[Documents](#)

[Applying to the GA
Certification Board](#)

[Rules & Regulations for Water &
Wastewater Operators in GA](#)

[Frequently Asked
Questions](#)

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