

Water Distribution System Operator

Responsible for delivery of safe, aesthetically pleasing water to the consumer’s tap. Service pumps to ensure adequate pressure, meter flows both from the source and at the point of use, respond to complaints on water quality, and administer programs such as cross-connection control to prevent system contamination, install new mains or repair existing mains, and sample water quality in the distribution system. Certified operators are required for community (residential) and non-transient, non-community (such as schools and workplaces) public water systems.

Legislation

Statute: NH RSA 332-E
 Administrative Rules: Chapter Env-Dw 502

Licensure Requirements

- Satisfactory physical condition
- Be able to read and write in the English language
- High school graduate
- Postsecondary education according to grade, with a concentration in environmental engineering, civil engineering, environmental sciences, or related fields, where 30 semester hours of study is equivalent to one year of postsecondary education
- Operating experience according to grade
- Varying experience and education requirements depending on grade of operator:

Grade	Education	Experience
I-A	12	6 months
I	12	1 year
II	12	3 years
III	14	4 years
IV	16	6 years

Examination

Written examination required. Applicants successfully completing a written examination may be required to obtain a satisfactory grade in an oral examination prior to certification. Applicants will be notified of the test results as early as practicable.

Continuing Education

Continuing education is required for renewal — five hours for Grade I-A; and 20 hours for Grades I - IV

Regulatory Agency

Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau
 New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95
 Concord, New Hampshire 03302

phone (603) 271-2410
fax (603) 271-5171
web <www.des.nh.gov/water/drinking-water>
contact Jason M. Smith, Program Manager
e-mail jason.m.smith@des.nh.gov

Fees

Application	\$50.00
Biennial renewal	\$50.00

Water Distribution System Operator (continued)

Reciprocity

Permitted with limited states

Active Licenses

958

Related Training

Water Quality and Wastewater Treatment Management and Recycling Technology/ Technician

O*Net Codes

51-8031.00 Water and Liquid Waste Treatment Plant and System Operators

Additional Information Sources

Association of Boards of Certification
<www.abccert.org>

New Hampshire Water Works Association
<www.nhwwa.org>