

IMPORTANT!!

RULE REVISION EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2012

The NC Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board has revised “Rules Governing Water Treatment Facility Operators” 15A NCAC 18D.0201 and .0304

Summary of Changes:

These changes affect 15A NCAC 18D .0201, and .0304,

The revisions to 15A NCAC 18D .0201 and .0304 are necessary to add an apprentice certification for water treatment facility operators. The apprentice certification will allow applicants to take the certification exams prior to obtaining the experience which is required for other certifications. Applicants who pass the examination will become certified as “apprentice” until the required experience is obtained.

The .0201 was amended to add an “Apprentice Certification”. Applicants for the “Apprentice Certification” will be allowed to take the certification examination without obtaining the experience presently required. Applicants who pass the examination will become certified as “apprentice” until the required experience is obtained. .0304 is being changed to add the cost of upgrading from apprentice to Grade C, Grade D, or CC certification

SECTION .0100 - GENERAL POLICIES

Rules .0101 - .0105 of Title 15A Subchapter 18D of the North Carolina Administrative Code (T15A.18D .0101 - .0105); has been transferred and recodified from Rules .0101 - .0105 Title 10 Subchapter 10E of the North Carolina Administrative Code (T10.10E .0101 - .0105), effective April 4, 1990.

15A NCAC 18D .0201 GRADES OF CERTIFICATION

(a) Applicants for the various grades of certification shall be at least 18 years' old and meet the following educational and experience requirements:

- (1) GRADE A-SURFACE shall have one year of acceptable experience at a surface water facility while holding a Grade B-Surface certificate and have satisfactorily completed an A-Surface school conducted by the Board.
- (2) GRADE B-SURFACE shall:
 - (A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have six months of acceptable experience at a surface water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a B-Surface school conducted by the Board; or
 - (B) Have one year of acceptable experience at a surface water facility while holding a Grade C-Surface certificate and have satisfactorily completed a B-Surface school conducted by the Board.
- (3) GRADE C-SURFACE shall:
 - (A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have six months of acceptable experience at a surface water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a C-Surface school conducted by the Board; or
 - (B) Be a high school graduate or equivalent, have six months acceptable experience at a surface water facility and have satisfactorily completed a C-Surface school conducted by the Board.
- (4) GRADE A-WELL shall have one year of acceptable experience at a well water facility while holding a Grade B-Well certificate and have satisfactorily completed an A-Well school conducted by the Board.
- (5) GRADE B-WELL shall:
 - (A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have six months of acceptable experience at a well water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a B-Well school conducted by the Board; or
 - (B) Have one year of acceptable experience at a well water facility while holding a Grade C-Well certificate and have satisfactorily completed a B-Well school conducted by the Board.
- (6) GRADE C-WELL shall:
 - (A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have three months of acceptable experience at a well water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a C-Well school conducted by the Board; or
 - (B) Be a high school graduate or equivalent, have six months of acceptable experience at a well water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a C-Well school conducted by the Board; or
 - (C) Hold a Grade A-Surface certification and have satisfactorily completed a C-Well school conducted by the Board.
- (7) GRADE D-WELL shall be a high school graduate or equivalent, have three months of acceptable experience at a well water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a C-Well or D-Well school conducted by the Board.
- (8) GRADE A-DISTRIBUTION shall have one year of acceptable experience at Class B or higher distribution system while holding a Grade B-Distribution certificate and have satisfactorily completed an A-Distribution school conducted by the Board.

- (9) GRADE B-DISTRIBUTION shall:
- (A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have six months of acceptable experience at a Class B or higher distribution system, have satisfactorily completed a B-Distribution school conducted by the Board, and shall hold a certificate of completion of trench shoring training conducted by the Board; or
 - (B) Have one year of acceptable experience at a Class C or higher distribution system while holding a Grade C-Distribution certificate and have satisfactorily completed a B-Distribution school conducted by the Board.
- (10) GRADE C-DISTRIBUTION shall hold a certificate of completion of trench shoring training conducted by the Board and shall:
- (A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences, or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have three months of acceptable experience at a Class C or higher distribution system, and have satisfactorily completed a C-Distribution school conducted by the Board; or
 - (B) Be a high school graduate or equivalent, have six months of acceptable experience at a Class D or higher distribution system and have satisfactorily completed a C-Distribution school conducted by the Board.
- (11) GRADE D-DISTRIBUTION shall be a high school graduate or equivalent, have three months of acceptable experience at a distribution system, and have satisfactorily completed a D-Distribution school conducted by the Board.
- (12) GRADE CROSS-CONNECTION-CONTROL shall:
- (A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two-year technical program with a degree in water and wastewater or civil engineering technology, and have satisfactorily completed a cross connection control school conducted by the Board; or
 - (B) Be a high school graduate or equivalent, have six months of acceptable experience at Class D -Distribution or higher system or have one year experience in the operations of cross connection control devices, and have satisfactorily completed a cross connection control school conducted by the Board; or
 - (C) Be a plumbing contractor licensed by the State of North Carolina and have satisfactorily completed a cross connection control school conducted by the Board.
- (13) APPRENTICE shall be a high school graduate or equivalent. The apprentice shall have satisfactorily completed a Grade C, Grade D, or CC school conducted by the Board and shall have successfully passed an examination designed for the class of certification for which the applicant is applying. The apprentice certification may be renewed annually for a maximum of five years, pursuant to the continuing education and renewal requirements of this Subchapter. An apprentice shall not act as a certified operator or an ORC for a facility. An apprentice is eligible for Grade C, D, or CC certification after meeting the applicable experience requirements as set forth in this Rule and making application to the Board.
- (b) Applications for certification of an operator certified in a state other than North Carolina shall be submitted on the Board's form. The application shall supply information to assist the Board in determining whether or not the requirements under which the out-of-state certification was obtained are equivalent to those required by the rules of the Water Treatment Facility Operators Board of Certification

History Note: Authority G.S. 90A-21(c); 90A-22; 90A-23; 90A-24; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. September 1, 1977; Readopted Eff. March 1, 1979; Amended Eff. February 1, 2012; May 1, 2006; September 1, 2004; August 1, 2000; August 1, 1998; May 3, 1993; August 3, 1992; July 1, 1991; December 31, 1980.

15A NCAC 18D .0304 FEE SCHEDULE

- (a) The cost of examination and certification shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00). The cost of upgrading an apprentice to Grade C, D, or CC certification shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).
- (b) The cost of a temporary certificate shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).
- (c) The examination and certification fee must be paid to the Board when the application is submitted.
- (d) The cost of the annual certification renewal shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00). Renewal fees shall be due December 31 of each calendar year and shall be delinquent on the first day of February. Delinquent certifications shall be charged an additional fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00).
- (e) The operator shall notify the Board, in writing, within 30 days of any change in his or her address.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90A-27;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1977;
Readopted Eff. March 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2012; September 22, 2004; August 1, 2000; August 3, 1992; December 1, 1990; December 1, 1989; June 30, 1981.*