

**Report to the North Carolina General Assembly's
Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure
Oversight Committee**



***North Carolina Water Treatment
Facility Operators Certification
Board***

***Annual Financial Report and
Annual Report of Licensure
Metrics***

October 31, 2024

Division of Water Resources

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Pursuant to G.S. 93B-2

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**NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS
CERTIFICATION BOARD**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF LICENSURE METRICS
FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2024**

Purpose

This information is being submitted to satisfy annual reporting requirements specified in § 93B-2(a), which is specific to occupational licensing boards.

Introduction

In 1969, G.S. 90A, Article 2 established the N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators' Certification Board (NCWTFOCB or board in this document) in an effort to protect the public health, and to conserve and protect the water resources of the State. The board is tasked with protecting public investment in water treatment facilities and classifying public water treatment facilities. To accomplish this, the board requires examination of water treatment facility operators to certify their competency regarding the supervision and operation of the water treatment facilities. The board also establishes procedures for classification and certification. The board is authorized to adopt rules for the certification program, with the rules codified in 15A NCAC 18D, *Rules Governing Water Treatment Facility Operators*.

As per § 90A-21 (a), the board consists of eight members appointed by the governor. One member is currently employed as a water treatment facility operator; one is a manager of a municipality using a surface water supply; one is a manager of a municipality using a treated groundwater supply; one is employed as a director of utilities, water superintendent or equivalent position with a municipality; one is employed by a private water utility or private industry and responsible for the operation or supervision of a water supply and treatment facility; one is a faculty member of a four-year college or university whose major field is related to water supply; one is employed by the Department of Environmental Quality and working in the field of water supply; and one member who is not certified or regulated who shall represent the interest of the public at large. The board, as of October 1, 2024, has two vacancies. Those vacancies include:

- the board member who is a manager of a NC municipality using a surface water supply, and
- the board member who is a manager of a municipality using a treated groundwater supply.

N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators' Certification Board Address:
1635 Mail Service Center
Raleigh N.C. 27699-1635

Members and Officers

Sam Call, Chairman	Dr. Rebecca Sadosky
Jon Pons, First Vice-Chair	La'Meshia Whittington
Rani Holland	Dr. Orlando Coronell

Program Metrics for FY2023-2024

Description:	Amount
Number of Licensees (1a)	5,700
Number of exam applications received (2)	1,908
Number of people not approved to take an exam (3)	21
Number of people who took an exam (4)	1,908
Number of initial licenses issued (5)	467
Number of exam failures (5a)	912
Number of applications by reciprocity or comity (6)	31
Number of licenses granted by reciprocity or comity (7)	34
Number of official complaints received (7a)	0
Number of disciplinary actions taken (7b)	0
Number of licenses suspended or revoked (8)	0
Number of terminated licenses for reasons other than failure to pay renewal (i.e., licenses expired for failure to meet annual continuing education requirements) (9)	8
Number of applicants for a license and of that number, the number granted a license (9a)	1,908 996
Number of applicants with a conviction record (9b)	45
The number granted a license	22
The number denied a license for any reason*	3
The number denied a license because of conviction	0
Number of applicants with military training (9c)	113
The number granted a license	60
The number denied a license for any reason*	5
Number of applicants that are military spouses (9d)	10
The number granted a license	6
The number denied a license for any reason*	1

*No applicants were “denied” a license based on their 9b, 9c, or 9d status. If a license was not granted it was because the applicant failed the exam or otherwise did not show up for the exam itself.

This report contains new data categories established by S.L 2020-87. Specifically, new statutory requirements include categories (9a), (9b), (9c) and (9d). Prior to receiving notification of the

new requirements from the Legislative Analysis Division on February 16, 2022 this information was not tracked.

Request to Amend Statutes (10).

There are no anticipated requests by the NCWTFOCB to the General Assembly to amend statutes related to the board.

Anticipated Rules Changes (11).

There are no anticipated requests by the NCWTFOCB to amend rules related to the board.

**NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS
CERTIFICATION BOARD**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2024**

Purpose

This information is being submitted to satisfy annual reporting requirements specified in § 93B-2(b), which is specific to occupational licensing boards.

Introduction

In 1969, G.S. 90A, Article 2 established the N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators' Certification Board (NCWTFOCB or board in this document) in an effort to protect the public health, and to conserve and protect the water resources of the State. The board is tasked with protecting public investment in water treatment facilities and classifying public water treatment facilities. To accomplish this, the board requires examination of water treatment facility operators to certify their competency regarding the supervision and operation of the water treatment facilities. The board also establishes procedures for classification and certification. The board is authorized to adopt rules for the certification program, with the rules codified in 15A NCAC 18D, *Rules Governing Water Treatment Facility Operators*.

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The N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board utilizes staff of the state Division of Water Resources' North Carolina Operator Certification Program to achieve its objectives and carry out its directives. Program staff that contribute to the board's objectives include an environmental program supervisor, four administrative specialists, two extension education and training specialists, and an environmental program consultant all funded through the N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board fee receipts.

The environmental program supervisor manages the administrative positions, promotes training opportunities, and assists in conducting water treatment examinations with staff assistance. The administrative positions are responsible for reviewing and processing exam applications, issuing initial and renewal certifications, tracking operator in responsible charge (ORCs), designations for water treatment facilities, and maintaining electronic records and data. The extension education and training specialist position provides educational outreach to operators and training providers, as well as administrative support to the existing functions of the board. Unspent fees reflect multiple vacancies within the program and fees were transferred per carryover request.

FY 2023-2024 Fees Collected and Disbursed

Description	Total in \$
Fees collected	408,937.41
Salaries/Fringes for Administration paid	279,412.96
Purchased Services/Travel	66,312.35
Supplies	9,633.39
Equipment	0
Other Expenses	336.57
Unspent fees transferred to FY24-25	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	355,695.27