**Summary of new 2018 Drinking Water Operator Certification Requirements**

1. **New Drinking Water Operator Certification Regulation changes:**

(**Effective** **July 1st, 2018**)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1.                NAC 445A.6285 | clarifies NDEP language to approve certified operator for temporary relief of person in responsible charge; |
| 2.                  NAC 445A.629 | clarifies that any public water must be classified for distribution and treatment using the classification point system; |
| 3.                  NAC 445A.632 | revises language to be consistent with the passing score set by the testing organization; |
| 4.                  NAC 445A.633 | revises requirements for education and experience for applicants to be certified by the program; |
| 5.                  NAC 445A.639 | increases the number of hours of continuing education for an operator of certain certificates; |
| 6.                  NAC 445A.640 | revises the requirements of continuing education for operators who hold multiple certificates; |
| 7.                  NAC445A.651 | increases the fees charged by the Division for issuing and renewing certifications; |

1. **New Continuing Education (Contact Hours) Requirements:**

* An operator will only need to obtain continuing education requirements for their highest grade (effective **July 1st, 2018**)
* An operator who holds certificates for both distribution and treatment must comply with the respective requirements for continuing education for each type of certificate (effective **July 1st, 2018**)
* Increased contact hour requirements:

The current contact hour requirements for renewals will apply to certifications that **expire on** **12/31/2018** as follows:

* Op 1 – 5 contact hours
* Op 2 – 5 contact hours
* Op 3 – 10 contact hours
* Op 4 – 10 contact hours

The new increased contact hour requirements for renewals will apply to certifications that **expire on 12/31/2019** as follows:

* Op 1 – 7 contact hours
* Op 2 – 7 contact hours
* Op 3 – 14 contact hours
* Op 4 – 14 contact hours

**III. New Work Experience Requirements for a Full Certification:**

**Classification                                     Years of Experience**

* + - * Grade-1.................................................. 6 months
      * Grade-2.................................................. 1 year
      * Grade-3................................................. 2 years with **1 year certified as a Grade 2 Full**
      * Grade-4.................................................. 4 years with **1 year certified as a Grade 3 Full**

1. **New Fee Requirements Implementation Schedule:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | July 1st 2017-June 30th 2018 | **July 1st 2018-June 30th 2019** | July 1st 2019-June 30th 2020 | July 1st 2020-June 30th 2021 |
| For the issuance of a full certificate | $84 | **$100** | $110 | $120 |
| For a certificate issued pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of NAC 445A.634 (Reciprocity) | 57 | **125** | 140 | 150 |
| For the issuance of a certificate as an operator-in-training (OIT) | 57 | **90** | 100 | 110 |
| For conversion of a certificate as an OIT to a full certificate | 30 | **30** | 35 | 40 |
| For the renewal of a full , provisional or OIT certificate | 30 | **40** | 45 | 50 |
| For the reinstatement and renewal of a full certificate | 100 | **140** | 145 | 150 |

* Please note that all the new application fees for the Drinking Water Operator Certification program will go into effect **July 1, 2018**.

1. **Transitioning to the New 2017 ABC Standardized Exams:**

* The Drinking Water Operator Certification program will continue using the 2012 ABC exams until at least **December 31, 2018.**