



SaskOCB
Operator Certification Board

Operator Certification

September 2021

Saskatchewan Operator Certification Board

The OCB is responsible for:

- ▶ Reviewing applications for water and wastewater operator certification
- ▶ Issuing certificates to qualified applicants
- ▶ Setting the application / renewal fees; currently \$150.00
- ▶ Applying conditions to certification; as required
- ▶ Reviewing application appeals
- ▶ Continuing Education course evaluations and approvals

The OCB:

- ▶ Works with the Water Security Agency (WSA) and makes its decisions based on the regulations and standards put in place by the WSA
- ▶ Has the authority to cancel / suspend / amend certification (i.e. fraud, negligence, incompetence, environmental / public health)

Application Requirements

- ▶ A complete application indicating certification levels applying for.
- ▶ New/Upgrade applications must be signed by the applicant and verified by a supervisor.
- ▶ High school transcript or GED equivalent for Class 1.
 - ▶ Higher education transcripts for higher levels of certification.
 - ▶ Sometimes higher level education can be substituted with experience, case specific
- ▶ Detailed explanation of all relevant experience.
 - ▶ Partial credit may be given for related fields such as trades or other categories of certification.
 - ▶ Sometimes part of the experience can be substituted with higher level education, case specific
- ▶ Water certification exam marks
 - ▶ Minimum 70% passing grade.
- ▶ \$150.00 new or renewal application fee. There is no fee for upgrades.
- ▶ Application forms can be downloaded from the website - www.saskocb.ca

Certificates

- ▶ The Operator Certification Board issues certificates within the four areas of treatment (water and wastewater), distribution and collection. Each area consists of four levels of certification. These areas are:
 - ▶ Water Treatment Level 1 to Level 4
 - ▶ Water Distribution Level 1 to Level 4
 - ▶ Wastewater Treatment Level 1 to Level 4
 - ▶ Wastewater Collection Level 1 to Level 4
 - ▶ Small Water System and Small Wastewater System
- ▶ Level 4 is the highest certification level
- ▶ Level of operator certification required is equal to facility classification issued by WSA.
- ▶ Certificates are issued with an expiry date (typically 2 years)
- ▶ Operators must renew to remain certified (CEU requirement)

Certification Courses and Exams

Saskatchewan Polytechnic, in cooperation with external agencies offer exam sittings for individuals seeking certification as water and wastewater operators.

Contacts:

- ▶ Saskatchewan Polytechnic - www.saskpolytech.ca
- ▶ Parkland Regional College - www.parklandcollege.sk.ca
- ▶ ATAP Infrastructure - www.atap.ca/courses

Education Requirements

Small Systems	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Grade 10 or GED equivalent	Grade 12 or GED equivalent	Grade 12 or GED equivalent	Grade 12 or GED equivalent 2 years post-secondary education in a water/wastewater related field	Grade 12 or GED equivalent 4 years post-secondary education in a water/wastewater related field

Substitution of experience may be used for missing education.
Additional information can be found in the Operator Certification Standards 2016.

Experience Requirements

Small Systems	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
6 months operating experience	1 year operating experience in a Class 1 or higher facility *time is not permitted for substitution	3 years operating experience in a Class 1 or higher facility	4 years operating experience in a Class 2 or higher facility 2 of the 4 years shall be DRC time	4 years of operating experience at a Class 3 or higher facility 2 of the 4 years shall be DRC time

Additional information on substitution for experience can be found in the Operator Certification Standards 2016.

Summary of Requirements

Classification	Education	Experience	Exams
Small System	Gr 10 / GED	6 months	SWS, SWWS
Class 1	Gr 12 / GED	1 year	WT, WD, WWT, WWC
Class 2	GR 12 / GED	3 years	WT, WD, WWT, WWC
Class 3	GR 12 / GED 2 years post-secondary	4 years (2 years will be DRC time)	WT, WD, WWT, WWC
Class 4	GR 12 / GED 4 years post-secondary	4 years (2 years will be DRC time)	WT, WD, WWT, WWC

CEU Evaluations

- ▶ A CEU Evaluation Request form can be downloaded from our website.
- ▶ Completed forms must include a detailed agenda and timeline for the course being evaluated.
- ▶ CEU Evaluations are reviewed at the board meeting after they are received.
- ▶ Approved evaluations are added to the CEU Accepted Courses & Workshops list and can be found on our website.

Why Operator Certification?

- ▶ Public health is paramount. Environmental protection is law.
- ▶ Verification and validation of operator knowledge and experience.
- ▶ Skilled water and wastewater operators make all the difference.

Contact Information

Phone: 306 789 3430

Fax: 306 789 3429

Email: info@saskocb.ca

Website: www.saskocb.ca

Address: Mail Room - 3211 Albert St. Regina, SK S4S 5W6

Administrator:

- ▶ Sheila Kampman

Board Members:

- ▶ Andy Busse
- ▶ Dale Heshka
- ▶ Wade Hoffman
- ▶ Brad Hvidston
- ▶ Ben Lichtenwald
- ▶ Jeff Sutherland
- ▶ Brett Watson

QUESTIONS?

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The overall composition is clean and modern, with the text 'QUESTIONS?' centered in the upper left quadrant.