

WATER OPERATOR CLASSIFICATION AND SUBCLASSIFICATION DEFINITIONS FOR LEVEL 2 ASSESSMENTS

Water operators must be appropriately certified to conduct a Level 2 Assessment at a system. Operators may assess a system with the same class of certification as the size for which they are certified AND any lower system classification. In addition, their certificate must contain all of the subclasses for the system.

For example, a class WB operator could assess a B size system or a C, D, Dc, or Dn size system as long as their certificate also holds all of the subclasses for the system.

Class WE is required for any water system with a distribution OR any consecutive water system. However, class WE is not required for an operator that holds a Dc or Dn certificate who is conducting an assessment at a system that meets the Dc or Dn definition.

WATER OPERATOR CLASSIFICATION “CLASS” DEFINITIONS

Class WA – May assess a system serving an average of greater than 5 million gallons per day (gpd).

Class WB – May assess a system serving an average of greater than 1 million gpd but less than or equal to 5 million gpd.

Class WC – May assess a system serving an average of greater than 100,000 gpd but less than or equal to 1 million gpd.

Class WD – May assess a system serving an average of less than or equal to 100,000 gpd.

Class Dc - May assess a system serving no more than 500 individuals or having no more than 150 connections, where the source of water for the system is exclusively groundwater and requires only disinfection (chlorine or ultraviolet light).

Class Dn - May assess a system that meets the same definition as a Dc system except that the water requires no treatment.

Class WE – Required for any water system with a distribution system or for a consecutive water system.

- Distribution system – Pipelines, appurtenances, devices and facilities that convey potable water under pressure to customers. *If treatment is provided, an operator must also hold the appropriate subclass for the type of treatment utilized.*
- Consecutive water system – A public water system that obtains all of its water from another public water system and resells the water to a person, provides treatment to meet a primary maximum contaminant level or provides drinking water to an interstate carrier. The term does not include bottled water and bulk water systems. *If treatment is provided, an operator must also hold the appropriate subclass for the type of treatment utilized.*

WATER OPERATOR SUBCLASSIFICATION “SUBCLASS” DEFINITIONS

Subclassification 1 - Conventional Filtration

Subclassification 2 - Direct Filtration

Subclassification 3 - Diatomaceous Earth Filtration

Subclassification 4 - Slow Sand Filtration

Subclassification 5 - Cartridge or Bag Filtration

Subclassification 6 - Membrane Filtration

Subclassification 7 - Corrosion Control & Sequestering

Subclassification 8 - Chemical Addition

Subclassification 9 - Ion Exchange & Green Sand

Subclassification 10 - Aeration & Activated Carbon Adsorption

Subclassification 11 - Gaseous Chlorine Disinfection

Subclassification 12 - Nongaseous Chemical Disinfection

Subclassification 13 - Ultraviolet Disinfection

Subclassification 14 - Ozonation

EXAMPLE TRANSIENT NONCOMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS AND REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS

Example 1: A transient noncommunity water system (such as a restaurant) that serves less than 500 individuals per day and has no treatment other than a water softener (no distribution system) must hire a certified operator that holds any of the following classifications:

WA
WB
WC
WD
WDc
WDn

**In this example, there are no applicable subclasses because the system does not have treatment.*

Example 2: A transient noncommunity water system (such as a restaurant) that serves less than 500 individuals per day and has a UV light for disinfection (no distribution system) must hire a certified operator that holds any of the following combinations of classifications:

WA and W13
WB and W13
WC and W13
WD and W13
WDc

Example 3: A transient noncommunity water system that is a campground with 200 campsites and has chlorine disinfection (with a distribution system) must hire a certified operator that holds any of the following combinations of classifications:

WA, WE, and W12
WB, WE, and W12
WC, WE, and W12
WD, WE, and W12

Example 4: A transient noncommunity water system (such as a restaurant) that uses less than or equal to 100,000 gallons per day of water, has chlorine for disinfection and ion exchange for iron and manganese removal must hire a certified operator that holds any of the following combinations of classifications:

WA, W9 and W12
WB, W9 and W12
WC, W9 and W12
WD, W9 and W12

Note: If you are unsure of what certification an operator would be required to hold to assess your water system, contact your local district office for additional guidance.