

OWWCO Steps to Obtaining a Higher Level Certificate or License

Class 1	
Education or CEUs	For Drinking Water certificates, completion of the Entry Level Drinking Water Operator Course (ELC).
Operating Experience	1 year operational experience (no substitutions are allowed).
Class 2	
Operating Experience	3 years operational experience
Experience Substitutions	Up to 50% of the operational experience requirements (1 year 6 months) can be substituted by using CEUs
Class 3	
Education or CEUs	2 years of relevant post-secondary education (90 CEUs)
Operating Experience	4 years operational experience
OIC Experience	2 years in a Class 2, 3, or 4 system
Experience Substitutions	Up to 50% of the operational experience requirements (2 years) can be substituted by using CEUs above the minimum 90 required OR using experience gained in a different type of system at a ratio
CEU Substitutions	Up to 50% of the CEU requirement (45 CEUs) can be substituted by using OIC experience above the minimum 2 years required
Class 4	
Education or CEUs	4 years of relevant post-secondary education (180 CEUs)
Operating Experience	4 years operational experience
OIC Experience	2 years in a Class 3, or 4 system
Experience Substitutions	Up to 50% of the operational experience requirements (2 years) can be substituted by using CEUs above the minimum 180 required OR using experience gained in a different type of system at a ratio
CEU Substitutions	Up to 50% of the CEU requirement (90 CEUs) can be substituted by using OIC experience above the minimum 2 years required
Water Quality Analyst	
Education or CEUs	1 year of experience performing tests in a drinking water system OR completion of Director approved training

All classes of certification, regardless of the level, require the following:

1. proof of grade 12 or equivalent (if not previously submitted);
2. successful completion (70% or higher) of the relevant exam; and
3. operational experience gained under a valid certificate/licence.

Post-secondary education or Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are required for Class 3 and 4. For specific requirements of each class of certificate or licence, click on the appropriate tab below.