

**REQUIREMENTS**  
**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR EXAMINATION**

Please refer to the Operator Certification regulations (Cal. Code of Regs., title 23, div. 3, ch. 26, § 3670, et seq.), sections 3683 - 3686.

Please contact the Office of Operator Certification at (916) 341-5819 or [OpCertProgram@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:OpCertProgram@waterboards.ca.gov) if you have any questions.

<b>You must meet the minimum educational requirements or qualifying time-in-grade to qualify for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Operator Examination.</b>	
<b>GRADE I</b>	
<b>Path 1</b>	6 educational points.
<b>GRADE II</b>	
<b>Path 1</b>	High School graduation or equivalent and 6 educational points.
<b>Path 2 (Time-in-Grade)</b>	<b>1 ½ years</b> working in operations while holding a <b>Grade I</b> WWTP operator certificate.
<b>GRADE III</b>	
<b>Path 1</b>	Associate degree or 60 college semester units including 15 semester units of basic science courses.
<b>Path 2</b>	High School graduation or equivalent and 16 educational points.
<b>Path 3 (Time-in-Grade)</b>	<b>3 years</b> working in operations while holding a <b>Grade II</b> WWTP operator certificate.
<b>GRADE IV</b>	
<b>Path 1</b>	Bachelor's degree with a major related to wastewater treatment including 30 semester units of basic science courses.
<b>Path 2</b>	Associate degree or 60 college semester units including 15 semester units of basic science courses.
<b>Path 3</b>	High School graduation or equivalent and 32 educational points.
<b>Path 4 (Time-in-Grade)</b>	<b>4 years</b> working in operations while holding a <b>Grade III</b> WWTP operator certificate.
<b>GRADE V</b>	
<b>Path 1</b>	Valid license as a civil or chemical engineer issued by the California Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.
<b>Path 2</b>	Bachelor's degree with a major related to wastewater treatment including 30 semester units of basic science courses.
<b>Path 3</b>	Associate degree or 60 college semester units including 15 semester units of basic science courses.
<b>Path 4</b>	High School graduation or equivalent and 48 educational points.
<b>Path 5 (Time-in-Grade)</b>	<b>6 years</b> working in operations while holding a <b>Grade IV</b> WWTP operator certificate.