



Distribution Certification for Drinking Water Operators

There are five different levels of treatment certification, and each level involves passing a written exam and meeting education and work experience requirements. **Full certification** is available to anyone who meets all education and experience requirements for the grade type. **Operator-in-training (OIT) certification** is available for anyone who meets the education requirements but not the work experience requirement(s). (OIT certification is not available for D4). More information on obtaining and maintaining your certification is available at <http://www.health.ri.gov/wateroperator>

VSSD	D1	D2	D3	D4
Very Small System applicants must have:	Distribution 1 applicants must have:	Distribution 2 applicants must have:	Distribution 3 applicants must have:	Distribution 4 applicants must have:
High school diploma/GED and three months of experience at a Class VSS or higher facility	High school diploma/GED and six months experience at a Class D1 or higher facility	High school diploma/GED and two years of experience at a Class D1 or higher facility OR Full D1 Certification with one year of experience after certification at a Class D1 facility	High school diploma/GED and four years of experience at a Class D2 or higher facility OR Full D2 Certification with two years of experience after certification at a Class D2 or higher facility OR Associate's degree* and two years of experience at a Class D2 facility OR Bachelor's degree* and one year of experience at a Class D2 or higher facility	Full D3 Certification with five years of continuous employment at a Class D3 or higher facility OR Associate's degree* and four years of experience at a class D3 or higher facility OR Bachelor's degree* and two years of experience at a class D3 or higher facility



* Associate's or bachelor's degree in the areas of engineering (sanitary, civil, chemical, or environmental), public health, biology, chemistry, or other discipline acceptable to the Board of Certification Operators of Public Water Supply Treatment and Distribution Facilities.