

Nova Scotia Water and Wastewater Operator-in-Training Certification Exam

Introduction:

In September 2005, the *Water and Wastewater Facilities and Public Drinking Water Supplies Regulations* were enacted. These Regulations introduced the new category called Operator-in-Training (OIT). The purpose of the OIT category is to bridge the gap until an operator has the necessary operating experience to be eligible for Class I certification.

Eligibility:

To be eligible to write the OIT certification exam you must have completed Grade 12 or equivalent.

Applying for the OIT Exam:

To apply for the OIT exam, complete the first two pages of the Operator Certification application form, which can be found at:

www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water/certification.asp

Documentation of completing Grade 12 or equivalent **must** be included with your application. Please indicate the Nova Scotia Environment district office where you would like to write the exam.

Upon confirming your eligibility, you will be mailed instructions to arrange a time to write your exam.

OIT Exam:

The Operator-in-Training Certification exam is a generic water and wastewater exam that has been designed to test an operator's general knowledge of core competencies required for the industry.

The exam consists of 30 multiple choice questions divided into six subject areas, with five questions on each subject.

- Basic Science
- Mathematical Calculations
- Due Diligence
- Health and Safety
- Operation and Maintenance
- Water and Wastewater

All the necessary formulas are provided with the exam.

Pass Mark:

The pass mark is 70%. You will be notified by mail of your exam result.

Exam Fee:

The cost to write the OIT exam is \$25.

Rewriting the OIT Exam:

You are required to wait a minimum of 30 days before writing the exam again if you do not pass.

Certificate Expiry:

Your OIT certificate will expire four years after the date of issue. OIT certificates cannot be renewed. It is intended that an operator will have received Class I certification within the four year period.

OIT Restrictions:

As an OIT you are deemed to be certified under the Regulations and thus capable of performing operational duties at a water or wastewater facility. However, the facility owner cannot place you in overall direct responsible charge of a facility.