

Dear Operators:

Due to the public health emergency related to COVID-19, some certified operators may require additional time to renew their operator certificates.

In conformance with Governor Ducey's Executive Order (2020-17), Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) will defer requirements to renew operator certificates that have an expiration date between March 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020 by six months from the expiration date.

Additionally, ADEQ will defer requirements for operators to complete their professional development hours (PDHs) by six months.

For example, if your operator certificate states that it expires on April 30, 2020, it will now expire on October 30, 2020. You also have until October 30, 2020 to obtain your 30 PDHs. Similarly, if your operator certificate states that it expires on July 30, 2020, it will now expire on January 30, 2021. You also have until January 30, 2021 to obtain your 30 PDHs.

Furthermore, ADEQ will waive its certified operator fees for any operator certificates originally expiring between March 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020. Testing fees still apply. Contact the Operator Certification Program for testing locations. See more information about certification at <http://azdeq.gov/OperatorCertification>.

As a reminder, ADEQ offers the ability to obtain PDHs on its website at <http://azdeq.gov/professional-development-hours>.

Also, to accommodate this situation, the planned launch of ADEQ's online operator certification portal is postponed until at least October 1, 2020.

As always, the ADEQ is here to assist you. If you have any questions, please contact Noah Adams at adams.noah@azdeq.gov or Jason Bobko at bobko.jason@azdeq.gov

Together, we can meet our obligation under the Safe Drinking Water Act to protect public health by providing healthy drinking water to the customers of public water systems.

Sincerely,

Trevor Baggione, Director
Water Quality Division