



## Reciprocity - Transferring Drinking Water and Wastewater Operator Certification to Arizona

### Arizona Administrative Code Title 18, Chapter 5, 110. Reciprocity

The Department shall issue a certificate to an applicant who holds a valid certificate from another jurisdiction, if the applicant:

1. Passes a written, validated examination in Arizona or in another jurisdiction that administers an examination that is substantially equivalent to the examination in Arizona and validated by the Department, and
2. Submits written evidence of the experience and education required under [R18-5-112](#).

### Accepted Certifications for Reciprocity

- Water Treatment
- Water Distribution
- Wastewater Treatment
- Wastewater Collection

Arizona offers certifications from Grade 1 to Grade 4, Grade 4 being the highest certification an individual can earn. If your state has a higher Grade and their criteria for certification matches or exceeds that of Arizona, you will be granted a Grade 4.

### Criteria For Reciprocity Approval

- Certification(s) have to be active. Expired/Inactive/Suspended/Revoked certifications will not be accepted by ADEQ.
  - If the certification(s) are within 3 months of expiration, you will be required to upload a minimum of 30 PDHs/CEUs earned during the term of your certification.
- All documents and payment must be submitted through the [Certification Portal](#).
  - If you are an existing operator, you can apply for reciprocity through your current Portal.

### Application Process

- Submit application through the Certification Portal
- ADEQ's Operator Certification Program will contact your issuing agency to verify the certification(s) was earned through examination and is in good standing.
- If approved, applicants will receive an approval email with a link to certify through the Certification Portal.

For additional questions, please contact the Operator Certification Program  
602.771.0100 | [azopcert@azdeq.gov](mailto:azopcert@azdeq.gov)

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