



JERSEY WATERWORKS **CONFERENCE** 2025

DECEMBER 11, 2025 | THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY, EWING

OUR COMMITMENT TO FUTURE GENERATIONS

Jersey Water Works Collaborative brings together people with diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and expertise to address the challenges within New Jersey's water sector.

www.jerseywaterworks.org
info@jerseywaterworks.org

Thank you for joining us!

#njwater25

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Our Commitment to Future Generations



NEW JERSEY
AMERICAN WATER



LISC NEW JERSEY



NJDEP OPERATOR'S LICENSE UPDATES AND INSPIRING JOURNEYS FROM EMERGING WATER LEADERS

The future of the water workforce relies on dedicated individuals across various experience levels and skill sets. This session will highlight the latest updates from the **New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Operator Licensing process**. Then we'll hear from emerging professionals in the field who participated in the **Emerging Water Leaders of Color Leadership Circle**. We will emphasize the critical role of mentorship and how connections with seasoned professionals offer valuable guidance. Attendees will discover strategies for overcoming challenges, expanding their skills, and building professional networks. This discussion will underscore the importance of mentorship and cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset as essential drivers of career growth in the water sector.

NJDEP OPERATOR'S LICENSE UPDATES AND INSPIRING JOURNEYS FROM EMERGING WATER LEADERS

Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to identify the critical role of water operators in municipal water resource management and will be able to articulate the latest NJDEP Operator's License requirements and updates.
2. Cultivate an entrepreneurial mindset to identify and seize opportunities in the water sector and public service.
3. Enhance your skills in perseverance and commitment to overcome professional challenges often encountered in the water sector and planning profession.

NJDEP OPERATOR'S LICENSE UPDATES AND INSPIRING JOURNEYS FROM EMERGING WATER LEADERS

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**Maggie
Rwakazina**

Ripples to Rise



**Charles
Walker**

NJ American Water



**Marina
Shenoda**

City of Newark Water
& Sewer Utilities



**Christian
Haviland**

New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection

Thursday, December 11, 2025 | The College of New Jersey
Session Time: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CREDITS 1.0 AICP CM



Jersey Water Works Conference Licensed Operator Information





Types Of Licenses

- Water Treatment (T)
- Water Distribution (W)
- Wastewater Treatment (S)
- Wastewater Collections (C)
- Industrial Wastewater Treatment (N)
- Very Small Water Systems (VSWS)
- All License types have levels 1-4, 1 being the Lowest and 4 Being the Highest (Except VSWS)



NJ Operator Workforce Development

Type of PWS	Total for NJ	Small Systems under 10k
Community	651	485
Non-Transient Non-Community (NTNC)	1004	1003

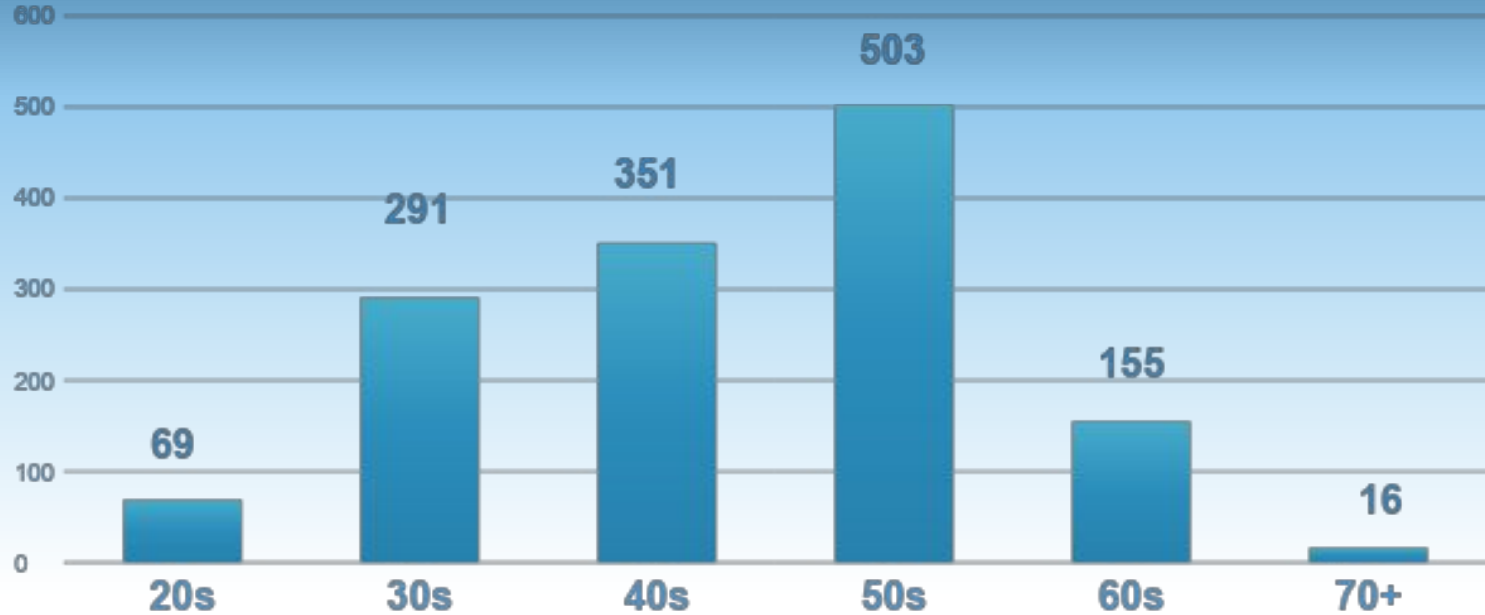
There are 1,911 licensed individuals that possess active drinking water operator licenses.

ACTIVE LICENSES	
VSWS = 84	
T-1 = 514	W-1 = 486
T-2 = 608	W-2 = 584
T-3 = 250	W-3 = 229
T-4 = 160	W-4 = 146
Total = 1,532	Total = 1,445



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NJ Licenses by Age



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Application Process

- Fill Out Application
- Application Reviewed by the Board of Examiners
- Upon Approval, take Licensing Exam
- Receive License!

ADM035
2/2021

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WATER SYSTEM ENGINEERING

EXAMINATION APPLICATION FOR LICENSE TO OPERATE

SECTION I: APPLICANT INFORMATION

•Place an "X" in one of the boxes indicating the type and classification of the license for which you qualify to take an examination

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Public Water Distribution System – Lic. Class W-1 | ☐ Industrial Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class N-1 |
| ☐ Public Water Distribution System – Lic. Class W-2 | ☐ Industrial Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class N-2 |
| ☐ Public Water Distribution System – Lic. Class W-3 | ☐ Industrial Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class N-3 |
| ☐ Public Water Distribution System – Lic. Class W-4 | ☐ Industrial Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class N-4 |
| ☐ Public Water Treatment System – Lic. Class T-1 | ☐ Public Wastewater Collection System – Lic. Class C-1 |
| ☐ Public Water Treatment System – Lic. Class T-2 | ☐ Public Wastewater Collection System – Lic. Class C-2 |
| ☐ Public Water Treatment System – Lic. Class T-3 | ☐ Public Wastewater Collection System – Lic. Class C-3 |
| ☐ Public Water Treatment System – Lic. Class T-4 | ☐ Public Wastewater Collection System – Lic. Class C-4 |
| ☐ Very Small Water System – Lic. Class VSWS | ☐ Public Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class S-1 |
| | ☐ Public Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class S-2 |
| | ☐ Public Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class S-3 |
| | ☐ Public Wastewater Treatment System – Lic. Class S-4 |

All statements made in this application, as well as any documents submitted as supporting evidence of qualification for this examination, are subject to investigation and verification. Falsification or misstatement of any material fact will be cause for rejection. Failure of the applicant to furnish all information and records requested may result in rejection of the application.

Name			
	<i>First</i>	<i>MI</i>	<i>Last</i>
Address			
	<i>No. & Street</i>		
	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>
			<i>Zip Code</i>
Home Phone No. ()		Work Phone No. ()	Mobile Phone No. ()
*CHECK NO.: *CHECK DATE: *EMAIL ADDRESS <i>* required field</i>			



Education

- Minimum Requirement is a High School Diploma or Equivalent
- Higher Education may provide additional benefits
- Include Diplomas/Certificates/Transcripts in application package



Required Experience

VSWS, T, W, S, C

CLASSIFICATION	EDUCATION	EXPERIENCE (yrs)	DRC (yrs)	Total (yrs)
VSWS	HS Diploma/GED	6 mo.	-	6 mo.
	Associates	6 mo.	-	6 mo.
	Bachelors	6 mo.	-	6 mo.
CLASS 1	HS Diploma/GED	1	-	1
	Associates	1	-	1
	Bachelors	1	-	1
CLASS 2	HS Diploma/GED	3	-	3
	Associates	2	-	2
	Bachelors	1.5	-	1.5
CLASS 3	HS Diploma/GED	3+	3	6
	Associates	2+	2	4
	Bachelors	1.5+	1.5	3
CLASS 4	HS Diploma/GED	6+	4	10
	Associates	4+	3	7
	Bachelors	3+	2	5

CLASSIFICATION	EDUCATION	EXPERIENCE (yrs)
N-1	HS Diploma/GED	1
	Associates	1
	Bachelors	1
N-2	HS Diploma/GED	3
	Associates	2
	Bachelors	1.5
N-3	HS Diploma/GED	6
	Associates	4
	Bachelors	3
N-4	HS Diploma/GED	10
	Associates	7
	Bachelors	5

The operating experience waiver requires an engineering or related science degree. If the degree is in an unrelated field, it counts as one education level lower. (e.g. a BS in History is weighted as an Associates degree)

For N licenses, manufacturing and process experience may be acceptable in lieu of operating experience.



ONLINE EXAM APPLICATION

IT PROJECTS



- Registered service portal
 - MyNJ.com account
- Faster processing of applications
 - Est. 4-6 weeks, down from 6-8 weeks
- Automated email status updates
- Secure, encrypted transmittal of information
- Application fees payable by credit card or e-check
- Step-by-step instructional document will be posted on NJDEP's website
 - YouTube instructional video
- **ACCEPTING ONLINE SUBMISSIONS NOW!**

NOTE: Emailed applications will still be accepted through 2025

ONLINE DEP-065 FORM

IT PROJECTS

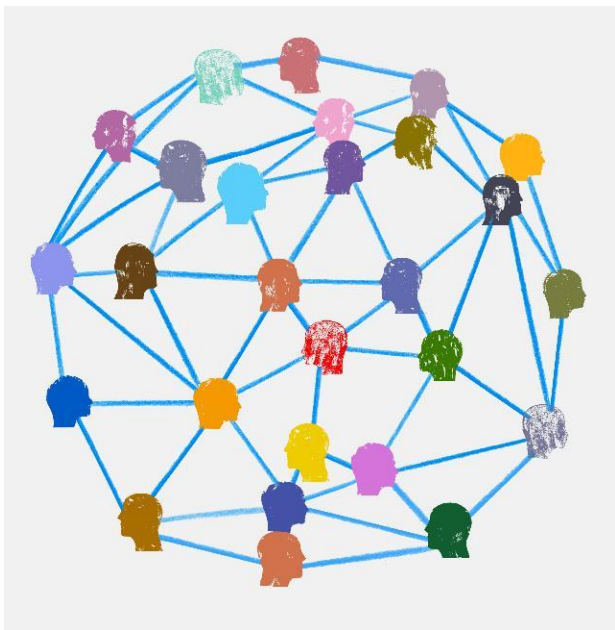


- Licensed Operator in Charge Employment Notification
 - LOR sign-on & sign-off
 - Backup Operator sign-on & sign-off
- Registered Service Portal
 - myNJ account
- Step-by-step instructions will be posted on website
- **ACCEPTING ONLINE SUBMISSIONS NOW!**

NOTE: Emailed forms will still be accepted through 2025

TRAINING CATALOG

IT PROJECTS



- An online tool for TCH training availability
- TCH training providers can post upcoming courses
 - Links to register for courses
- Search TCHs by category:
 - Water/Wastewater, Safety/Technical credits
 - Course provider
 - Date & location (county)
 - In-person/online
- TCH course providers to receive instructions on how to access app to post courses
- Coming soon



Challenges:

- Succession Planning
- Getting New and Interested Individuals Into The Career Path
- Exam Pass Rates & Refresher Courses



Resources

LO Questions

- [www@dep.nj.gov](http://www.dep.nj.gov)
- Christian.Haviland@dep.nj.gov

LO Application Submission

- operatorexams@dep.nj.gov



Like & follow us!



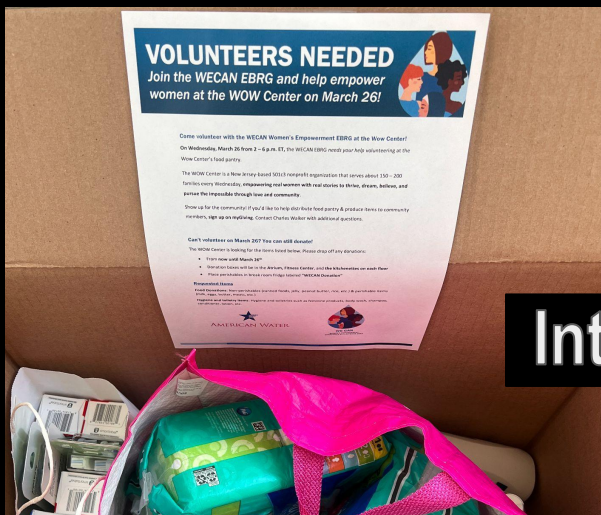
Thank you!

Bureau of Water System Engineering

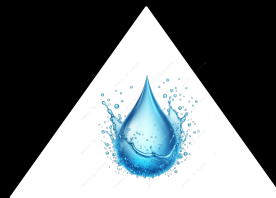
LO Unit

Christian.Haviland@dep.nj.gov
609-940-4989

NJ.GOV/DEP/watersupply/



Intentionality & Goal Setting



Perseverance

Preparation



JERSEY WATERWORKS CONFERENCE 2025

Marina Shenoga



NJDEP OPERATOR'S LICENSE UPDATES AND INSPIRING JOURNEYS FROM EMERGING WATER LEADERS

Questions/Answers



JERSEY WATER WORKS

Smart infrastructure. Strong communities.

THANK YOU! STAY INVOLVED!



www.jerseywaterworks.org
info@jerseywaterworks.org



#njwater25