

**Report to the North Carolina General Assembly's
Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure
Oversight Committee**



***North Carolina Water Treatment
Facility Operators Certification
Board***

***Annual Financial Report and
Annual Report of Licensure
Metrics***

October 31, 2023

**Division of Water Resources
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Pursuant to G.S. 93B-2

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**NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS
CERTIFICATION BOARD**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2023**

Purpose

This information is being submitted to satisfy annual reporting requirements specified in §93B-2(b), which pertain to occupational licensing boards.

Introduction

In 1969, G.S. 90A, Article 2 established the N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board (the board) in an effort to protect public health and to conserve and protect the water resources of the State. The board is tasked with protecting public investment in water treatment facilities and classifying public water treatment facilities. To accomplish this, the board requires examination of water treatment facility operators to certify their competency regarding the supervision and operation of the water treatment facilities. The board also establishes procedures for classification and certification. The board is authorized to adopt rules for the certification program, with the rules codified in 15A NCAC 18D, *Rules Governing Water Treatment Facility Operators*.

As per §90A-21(a), the board consists of eight members appointed by the governor. One member is currently employed as a water treatment facility operator; one is a manager of a municipality using a surface water supply; one is a manager of a municipality using a treated groundwater supply; one is employed as a director of utilities, water superintendent or equivalent position with a municipality; one is employed by a private water utility or private industry and responsible for the operation or supervision of a water supply and treatment facility; one is a faculty member of a four-year college or university whose major field is related to water supply; one is employed by the Department of Environmental Quality and working in the field of water supply; and one member who is not certified or regulated who shall represent the interest of the public at large. As of October 1, 2023, all seats on the board are full.

N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board Address:

1635 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1635

Members and Officers

Sam Call, Chairman
Jon Pons, First Vice-Chair
Rani Holland
Dr. Orlando Coronell

Ann Wall
Kim Greenwood
Dr. Rebecca Sadosky
La'Meshia Whittington

The board utilizes staff of the state Division of Water Resources' North Carolina Operator Certification Unit to achieve its objectives and carry out its directives. Unit staff that contribute to the board's objectives include an environmental program supervisor, two administrative specialists, and an extension education and training specialist. These staff are funded through the program fee receipts.

The environmental program supervisor manages the administrative positions, promotes training opportunities, and oversees the conductance of water treatment examinations. The administrative positions are responsible for reviewing and processing exam applications, issuing initial and renewal certifications, tracking operators-in-responsible-charge, establishing designations for water treatment facilities, and maintaining electronic records and data. The extension education and training specialist position provides educational outreach to operators and training providers, as well as administrative support to the existing functions of the board. Unspent fees reflect multiple vacancies within the program and were transferred per carryover request.

FY 2022-2023 Fees Collected and Disbursed

Description	Total in \$
Fees collected	342,815
Salaries/Fringes for Administration paid	215,189
Purchased Services/Travel	55,598
Supplies	3,258
Equipment	174
Other Expenses	190
Unspent fees transferred to FY23-24	196,605
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	471,614

**NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS
CERTIFICATION BOARD**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF LICENSURE METRICS
FOR PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2023**

Purpose

This information is being submitted to satisfy annual reporting requirements specified in §93B-2(a), which pertain to occupational licensing boards.

Introduction

In 1969, G.S. 90A, Article 2 established the N.C. Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board (the board) in an effort to protect public health and to conserve and protect the water resources of the State. The board is tasked with protecting public investment in water treatment facilities and classifying public water treatment facilities. To accomplish this, the board requires examination of water treatment facility operators to certify their competency regarding the supervision and operation of the water treatment facilities. The board also establishes procedures for classification and certification. The board is authorized to adopt rules for the certification program, with the rules codified in 15A NCAC 18D, *Rules Governing Water Treatment Facility Operators*.

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Rani Holland	Dr. Rebecca Sadosky
Dr. Orlando Coronell	La'Meshia Whittington

Program Metrics for FY2022-2023

Description:	Amount
Number of Licensees (1a)	5,626
Number of exam applications received (2)	1,775
Number of people not approved to take an exam (3)	12
Number of people who took an exam (4)	1,735
Number of initial licenses issued (5)	366
Number of exam failures (5a)	833
Number of applications by reciprocity or comity (6)	24
Number of licenses granted by reciprocity or comity (7)	36
Number of official complaints received (7a)	0
Number of disciplinary actions taken (7b)	0
Number of licenses suspended or revoked (8)	0
Number of terminated licenses for reasons other than failure to pay renewal (i.e., licenses expired for failure to meet annual continuing education requirements) (9)	42
Number of applicants for a license and of that number, the number granted a license (9a)	1,775 900
Number of applicants with a conviction record (9b)	42
The number granted a license	21
The number denied a license for any reason*	0
The number denied a license because of conviction	0
Number of applicants with military training (9c)	109
The number granted a license	77
The number denied a license for any reason*	0
Number of applicants that are military spouses (9d)	13
The number granted a license	6
The number denied a license for any reason*	0

*No applicants were “denied” a license based on their (9b), (9c), or (9d) status. If a license was not granted it was because the applicant failed the exam or did not show up for the exam itself.

This report contains new data categories established by S.L. 2020-87. Specifically, new statutory requirements include categories (9a), (9b), (9c) and (9d). Staff augmented the exam application form in 2022 to include questions pertaining to (9b), (9c), and (9d). It should be noted that not all applicants answered these voluntary questions when completing an exam application.

Request to Amend Statutes (10).

There are no anticipated requests by the board to the General Assembly to amend statutes related to the board.

Anticipated Rules Changes (11).

There are no anticipated requests by the board to amend rules related to the board.