



**American Water Works  
Association**

The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water™

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## ***Statement of Policy on Public Water Supply Matters***

### **Operator Certification**

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) fully supports mandatory certification of the persons in responsible charge of water treatment and distribution facilities. Further, all operators of water treatment and distribution facilities should be encouraged to gain certification. AWWA believes the model certification program and training coordination procedures such as those developed by the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) should be followed to ensure the efficient use of state, provincial, and local resources.

Thoroughly trained and qualified operators are essential for the protection of public health and the maintenance of safe and reliable operations of water treatment and distribution facilities. Mandatory certification is critical to ensure qualified operators.

AWWA supports and firmly believes that mandatory continuing education measured by recognized units such as contact hours or continuing education units (CEUs) is essential to the development and sustained competence of all operators. Therefore, the accumulation of these units of education and training should be a requirement of certification renewal.

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