15A NCAC 18D .0105 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0105 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply throughout this Subchapter:

(1) "Acceptable Experience"

(a) For all surface ~~grades~~ grade certifications, [~~'acceptable experience'~~]the term shall mean~~means~~ at least 50 percent of the duties ~~shall~~ consist of active on-site performance of operational duties, including on-site water facility laboratory duties, at a surface water treatment facility. This experience shall be based on the use of mathematics, equipment, materials, maintenance, installation and repair techniques, ~~cross-connection control~~ [~~cross-connection control,~~] cross-connection control, and other skills necessary for maintaining and operating a surface water treatment facility. The remaining duties shall be in related ~~fields~~fields, such[~~such,~~] as wastewater facility operation, ~~water/wastewater~~ a water or wastewater laboratory, water pumping stations, water system design and engineering, wells, distribution systems, or [~~cross-connection control.~~]cross-connection control. The experience of ~~Division of Environmental Health,~~ Public Water Supply Section personnel shall be acceptable if at least 50 percent of their job duties include inspection or on-site technical assistance of public water systems.

(b) For all well ~~grades~~ grade certifications, [~~'acceptable experience'~~]the term shall mean~~means~~ at least 50 percent of the duties ~~shall~~ consist of active on-site performance of operational duties for public water systems with chemical treatment having one or more wells. This experience shall be based on the use of mathematics, equipment, materials, maintenance, installation and repair techniques, ~~cross-connection control~~ [~~cross-connection control,~~] cross-connection control, and other skills necessary for maintaining and operating a treated well water system. The remaining duties shall be in related ~~fields~~ fields, such as wastewater facility operation, ~~water/wastewater~~ a water or wastewater laboratory, water pumping stations, water system design and engineering, surface facilities, distribution systems, or [~~cross-connection control.~~]cross-connection control. The experience of ~~Division of Environmental Health,~~ Public Water Supply Section personnel shall be acceptable if at least 50 percent of their job duties include inspection or on-site technical assistance of public water systems.

(c) For all distribution ~~grades~~ grade certifications, [~~'acceptable experience'~~]the term shall mean~~means~~ at least 50 percent of the duties ~~shall~~ consist of active on-site performance of operational duties for distribution systems within public water systems. This experience shall be based on the use of mathematics, equipment, materials, maintenance, installation and repair techniques, ~~cross-connection control~~ [~~cross-connection control,~~] cross-connection control, and other skills necessary for maintaining and operating a water

distribution system. The remaining duties shall be in related ~~fields~~ fields, such as wastewater facility operation, ~~water/wastewater~~ a water or wastewater laboratory, water pumping stations, water system design and engineering, surface facilities, wells, or [~~cross-connection control.~~]cross-connection control. The experience of ~~Division of Environmental Health,~~ Public Water Supply Section personnel shall be acceptable if at least 50 percent of their job duties include inspection or on-site technical assistance of public water systems.

(d) For all [~~cross-connection control.~~]cross-connection control grade certifications, [~~'acceptable experience'~~]the term shall mean~~means~~ the duties ~~shall~~ consist of on-site performance of cross-connection-control duties for a public water system. This experience shall be based on the use of mathematics, equipment, materials, maintenance, installation and repair techniques, back flow ~~prevention~~ prevention, and other skills necessary for maintaining and operating a [~~cross-connection control.~~]cross-connection control program for a public water system. The remaining duties shall be in related ~~fields~~ fields, such as wastewater facility operation, ~~water/wastewater~~ a water or wastewater laboratory, water pumping stations, water system design and engineering, surface facilities, or wells. The experience of ~~Division of Environmental Health,~~ Public Water Supply Section personnel shall be acceptable if at least 50 percent of their job duties include inspection or on-site technical assistance of public water systems.

(2) "Certified Operator" means any holder of a certificate issued by the Board in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 90A-25. ~~90A-20 to -29~~.

(3) "College Graduate" means a graduate of a ~~regionally accredited~~ [~~regionally accredited~~] four-year institution accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education and awarding degrees on the bachelor level.

(4) ~~"Licensee" means any person who holds a current certificate issued by the Water Treatment Facility Operators Board of Certification.~~ "Fire Protection System" means dry or wet sprinkler systems or fire hydrant connections to the water distribution system.

(5) "Owner" ~~shall mean~~ means the person, unit of local government,[~~government~~] ~~political subdivision~~, firm, corporation, association, ~~partnership~~ partnership, or non-profit corporation formed to operate a public water supply facility.

(6) ~~"Political Subdivision" means any city, town, county, sanitary district, or other governmental agency or privately owned public water supply operating a water treatment facility.~~ "Satisfactorily Completed" means the attendance of at least [~~70~~]80 percent of the training required for examination eligibility and 100 percent of the training required for professional growth hours.

(7) "Secretary" ~~shall mean~~ means the Secretary of the Department of ~~Environment and Natural Resources.~~ Environmental Quality.

(8) "Service Connection" means a water tap made to provide a water connection to ~~the~~ a water distribution system.

~~(9)~~ "~~Fire Protection System" means dry or wet sprinkler systems or fire hydrant connection to the water distribution system.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-21(c);*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. March 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2006; August 1, 2002; August 1, 1998; August 3, 1992; January 1, 1992; September 1, 1990; June 1, ~~1988.~~1988;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 18D .0201 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0201 GRADES OF CERTIFICATION

(a) Applicants for ~~the various grades of~~ certification shall be at least 18 years ~~years' old~~ old, possess a high school diploma or general educational development equivalent (GED), and meet the following educational and experience requirements:

(1) GRADE ~~A SURFACE~~ C-SURFACE applicants shall have ~~one year~~ six months of acceptable experience at a surface water facility ~~while holding a Grade B Surface certificate~~ and have satisfactorily completed ~~an~~ a ~~A Surface~~ C -Surface school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(2) GRADE B-SURFACE applicants shall:

(A) be ~~Be~~ a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two-year ~~two year~~ technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have six months of acceptable experience at a surface water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a B-Surface school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board; or

(B) have ~~Have~~ one year of acceptable experience at a surface water facility while holding a Grade C-Surface certificate and have satisfactorily completed a B-Surface school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(3) GRADE ~~C SURFACE shall:~~ A-SURFACE applicants shall have one year of acceptable experience at a surface water facility while holding a Grade B-Surface certificate and have satisfactorily completed an A-Surface school approved by the Board.

~~(A) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have six months of acceptable experience at a surface water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a C Surface school conducted by the Board; or~~

~~(B) Be a high school graduate or equivalent, have six months acceptable experience at a surface water facility and have satisfactorily completed a C Surface school conducted by the Board.~~

(4) GRADE ~~A WELL~~ D-WELL applicants shall have ~~one year~~ three months of acceptable experience at a well water facility ~~while holding Grade B Well certificate~~ and have satisfactorily completed ~~an A Well~~ a C-Well or D-Well school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(5) GRADE ~~B Well~~ C-WELL applicants shall:

(A) be ~~Be~~ a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two-year ~~two year~~ technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have ~~six~~ three months of acceptable experience at a well water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a ~~B~~ C -Well school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board; ~~or~~

(B) have ~~Have one year~~ six months of acceptable experience at a well water facility ~~while holding a Grade C-Well certificate~~ and have satisfactorily completed a ~~B-Well~~ C-WELL school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board; or

(C) hold either a Grade A-Surface certification or a Grade A-Distribution certificate and have satisfactorily completed a C-Well school approved by the Board.

(6) GRADE ~~C-WELL~~ B-WELL applicants shall:

(A) be ~~Be~~ a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two-year ~~two-year~~ technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have ~~three~~ six months of acceptable experience at a well water facility, and have satisfactorily completed a ~~C-Well~~ B-WELL school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board; or

(B) ~~Be a high school graduate or equivalent,~~ have ~~six months~~ one year of acceptable experience at a well water ~~facility,~~ facility while holding a Grade C-Well certificate and have satisfactorily completed a ~~C-WELL~~ B-WELL school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board. ~~Board; or~~

~~(C) Hold a Grade A-Surface certification and have satisfactorily completed a C-Well school conducted by the Board.~~

(7) GRADE ~~D-WELL~~ A-WELL applicants shall ~~be a high school graduate or equivalent,~~ have ~~three months~~ one year of acceptable experience at a well water ~~facility,~~ facility while holding a Grade B-Well certificate and have satisfactorily completed ~~a C-Well or~~ an ~~D-Well~~ A-WELL school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(8) GRADE ~~A-DISTRIBUTION shall:~~ D-DISTRIBUTION applicants shall have ~~one year~~ three months of acceptable experience at ~~Class B or higher~~ a distribution system ~~while holding a Grade B-Distribution certificate~~ and have satisfactorily completed ~~an~~ a ~~A-Distribution~~ C-Distribution or D-Distribution school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(9) GRADE ~~B-DISTRIBUTION shall:~~ C-DISTRIBUTION applicants shall hold a certificate of completion of trench shoring training from a school approved by the Board and shall:

(A) be ~~Be~~ a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a ~~two-year~~ two-year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have ~~six~~ three months of acceptable experience at a Class ~~B~~ C or higher distribution system, and have satisfactorily completed a ~~B-Distribution~~ C-Distribution school ~~conducted~~ approved by the ~~Board, and shall hold a certificate of completion of trench shoring training conducted by the Board;~~ Board; or

(B) have ~~Have one year~~ six months of acceptable experience at a Class ~~C~~ D or higher distribution system ~~while holding a Grade C-Distribution certificate~~ and have satisfactorily completed a ~~B-Distribution~~ C-Distribution school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(10) GRADE ~~C DISTRIBUTION~~ B-DISTRIBUTION applicants shall: ~~shall hold a certificate of completion of trench shoring training conducted by the Board and shall:~~

(A) be ~~Be~~ a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a ~~two-year~~ two-year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, have ~~three~~ six months of acceptable experience at a Class ~~C~~ B or higher distribution system, ~~and~~ have satisfactorily completed a ~~C Distribution~~ B-Distribution school ~~conducted~~ approved by the ~~Board;~~ Board, and shall hold a certificate of completion of trench shoring training from a school approved by the Board; or

(B) ~~Be a high school graduate or equivalent,~~ have ~~six months~~ one year of acceptable experience at a Class ~~D~~ C or higher distribution system while holding a Grade C-Distribution certificate and have satisfactorily completed a ~~C Distribution~~ B-Distribution school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(11) GRADE ~~D DISTRIBUTION~~ A-DISTRIBUTION applicants shall ~~be a high school graduate or equivalent,~~ have ~~three months~~ one year of acceptable experience at a Class B or higher distribution ~~system,~~ system while holding a Grade B-Distribution certificate and have satisfactorily completed ~~a~~ an ~~D Distribution~~ A-Distribution school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board.

(12) GRADE [~~CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL~~]CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL applicants shall:

(A) be ~~Be~~ a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two-year technical program with a degree in water and wastewater or civil engineering technology, and have satisfactorily completed a [~~cross-connection~~]cross-connection control school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board; ~~or~~

(B) ~~Be a high school graduate or equivalent,~~ have six months of acceptable experience at Class D-Distribution or higher system or have one year experience in the operations of cross connection control devices, and have satisfactorily completed a ~~cross-connection control~~ [~~cross-connection control~~]cross-connection control school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board; or

(C) ~~Be~~ be a plumbing contractor licensed by the State of North Carolina and have satisfactorily completed a ~~cross-connection control~~ [~~cross-connection control~~]cross-connection control school ~~conducted~~approved by the Board.

(13) APPRENTICE ~~shall be a high school graduate or equivalent. The apprentice~~ applicants shall have met the education requirement and satisfactorily completed a Grade B, Grade C, Grade D, or ~~CC~~ [~~Cross-Connection Control~~]cross-connection control school ~~conducted~~ approved by the Board and shall have correctly answered at least 70 percent of the questions on ~~successfully passed~~ an examination designed for the class of certification for which the applicant is applying. The apprentice certification may be renewed annually for a maximum of five years, pursuant to the continuing education and renewal requirements of this Subchapter. An apprentice shall not act as a

certified operator or an ~~ORC~~ Operator in Responsible Charge for a facility. An apprentice is eligible for Grade B, Grade C, Grade D, or ~~CC~~ [~~Cross-Connection Control~~]cross-connection control certification after meeting the applicable experience requirements as set forth in this Rule and making application to the Board.

(b) Applications for certification of an operator certified in a state other than North Carolina shall be submitted to the Board for review. ~~on the Board's form~~. The application for out-of-state, civilian applications includes information regarding the applicant's current employment, the type of licenses granted in the state of origin, the years of water treatment experience, and a listing of water treatment plant experience. The application for applicants with military experience includes a listing of water treatment plant experience and an attached copy of the applicant's Verification of Military Experience and Training (VMET). The information supplied shall ~~supply information to~~ assist the Board in determining whether ~~or not~~ the requirements under which the out-of-state certification was obtained are equivalent to those required by ~~the rules of~~ the Water Treatment Facility Operators Board of Certification.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-21(c); 90A-22; 90A-23; 90A-24; 90A-25(b);*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1977;
Readopted Eff. March 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2012; May 1, 2006; September 1, 2004; August 1, 2000; August 1, 1998; May 3, 1993; August 3, 1992; July 1, 1991; December 31, ~~1980.~~1988;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 18D .0203 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0203 RATING VALUES TO DETERMINE ~~DETERMINATION OF~~ VARIOUS CLASSES OF CERTIFICATION

~~(a) Determination of various classes of certification shall be based on the classification of water treatment facilities to be operated.~~

~~(b)~~ The designation of public water system treatment classifications ~~plant classification~~ shall be based on the following rating values: ~~point system:~~

			PARAMETER	RATING VALUE
(1)	Surface Water Source			
	(A)		flowing stream	5
	(B)		flowing stream with impoundment	7
	(C)		raw water treatment	3
(2)	Ground Water Source			
	(A)		first five wells	5
	(B)		add 1 point per 5 wells or fraction thereof over 5	1
(3)	Coagulation			
	(A)		aluminum sulfate, ferric chloride	10
	(B)		polymer	5
(4)	Mixing			
	(A)		baffle	2
	(B)		mechanical	4
	(C)		air	3
(5)	Oxidation (pre-treatment)			
	(A)		$C1_20_2$	5
	(B)		ozone	5
	(C)		$KMn0_4$	3
	(D)		$C1_2$	3
(6)	Carbon Treatment			2
(7)	Aeration			
	(A)		mechanical draft	3
	(B)		coke ~~tray/~~ tray or splash tray	2
	(C)		diffused	3
	(D)		packed tower (VOC reduction)	10
(8)	pH Adjustment (primary)			
	(A)		caustic (NaOH)	10
	(B)		~~lime/soda~~lime or soda ash	3

		(C)	acid	10
(9)	Sedimentation			
		(A)	standard rate	5
		(B)	tube settlers	3
		(C)	upflow	8
		(D)	pulsators and plates	5
(10)	Contact Tank			1
(11)	Filtration			
		(A)	pressure	
			(i) ~~sand/anthracite~~ sand or anthracite	8
			(ii) synthetic media (birm)	8
			(iii) granular activated carbon (GAC)	9 ~~10~~
		(B)	gravity	
			(i) sand	10
			(ii) anthracite ~~(mixed)/GAC~~ (mixed) or GAC	12
			(iii) with surface wash or air scour	2
		(C)	membrane	10
(12)	Ion Exchange			
		(A)	softener, Na cycle	5
		(B)	softener, H cycle	7
		(C)	Fe and Mn (greensand)	9 ~~10~~
		(D)	mixed bed or split stream	9 ~~12~~
(13)	Lime Softening			
		(A)	spiractors	10
		(B)	clarifier with coagulation	12
		(C)	fuel burner (recarbonation)	5
(14)	Phosphate (sequestering agent)			5
(15)	Stabilization			
		(A)	acid feed	10
		(B)	phosphate	2
		(C)	caustic (NaOH)	10
		(D)	~~lime/soda~~lime or soda ash	3
		(E)	contact units	5
(16)	Reverse Osmosis, Electrodialysis			15
(17)	Disinfection			
		(A)	gas $C1_2$	10
		(B)	hypochlorite solution	7

		(C)	$C1_20_2$(sodium chlorite and $C1_2$)	13
		(D)	ozone	13
		(E)	ammonia and $C1_2$	12
		(F)	ultraviolet light (uv)	5
	(18)	Fluoridation		
		(A)	saturator	8
		(B)	dry feed	8
		(C)	solution (acid)	10
	(19)	Pumping		
		(A)	raw	3
		(B)	intermediate	1
		(C)	finished	3
		(D)	system booster	2
	(20)	Storage		
		(A)	raw	1
		(B)	treated ground level tank	1
		(C)	elevated in system (each extra tank 1 ~~pt~~point)	2
		(D)	hydropneumatic	2
	(21)	Population Served 1 point per 1,000 persons served		50 ~~max.~~max
	(22)	Plant Capacity 1 point per 1 MGD capacity		25 ~~max.~~max
	(23)	On-Site Quality Control		
		(A)	bacteriological	
			(i) MPN/MF	5
			(ii) HPC	2
			(iii) MMO-MUG (Colilert)	2
		(B)	pH	
			(i) meter	2
			(ii) test kit	1
		(C)	fluoride	
			(i) meter	3
			(ii) colorimetric	3
		(D)	chlorine	
			(i) titrator	3
			(ii) colorimeter/spec.	2
			(iii) test kit	1
		(E)	iron	1
		(F)	hardness	1

(G)	alkalinity	1
(H)	turbidity	1
(I)	manganese	1
(J)	others (1 ~~pt.~~point each)	1
(K)	A.A. Spec, or G.C. Unit	5 each

~~(c) The designation of distribution system classifications shall be based on system characteristics as outlined in Rule .0205 of this Section.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-21(c); 90A-22;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. March 1, 1979;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2000; August 3, 1992; January 1, 1992; September 1, ~~1990.~~1990;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 18D .0205 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0205 PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM TREATMENT, DISTRIBUTION, AND [~~CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL~~]CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL CLASSIFICATIONS ~~CLASSIFICATION OF WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES~~

(a) Public water system treatment facilities, except for Class D-Well systems, shall be classified based on the sources of water and the number of points assigned to the facilities pursuant to Rule .0203[~~.0203(b)~~] of this Section, as follows: ~~With the exception of Class D-Well, the public water system treatment classification shall be based on the source of water and the number of points assigned to each facility as taken from the table in Rule .0203(b) of this Section. Classifications are as follows:~~

Class C	1-50 points
Class B	51-110 points
Class A	over 110 points

~~Class D-Well is any non~~ Non-community public water ~~system~~ systems with hypochlorite solution as the only treatment applied to the ~~water.~~ water shall be classified as Class D-Well.

(b) The classification of distribution systems shall apply to all community and non-transient non-community public water systems. The distribution system class level shall be the greater of the treatment plant class level from Paragraph (a) of this Rule or the following class level based on the number of service connections and existence of a fire protection system:

(1) Class D-DISTRIBUTION is any system with 100 or fewer service connections with no fire protection system;

(2) Class C-DISTRIBUTION is any system with more than 100 service connections but not exceeding 1,000 service connections ~~connections,~~ with no fire protection system;

(3) Class B-DISTRIBUTION is any system with more than 1,000 service connections but not exceeding 3,300 service connections or any system not exceeding 1,000 service connections with a fire protection system; and

(4) Class A-DISTRIBUTION is any system with more than 3,300 service connections.

(c) The classification [~~CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL~~]CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL ~~is~~shall be ~~also~~ applied to any distribution system that is required to have installed ~~with requirement for~~[~~the installation of~~] five or more testable backflow prevention assemblies ~~to be installed~~ in accordance with 15A NCAC 18C [~~.0406(b)~~].0406(b), which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions. ~~within the water distribution system.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-21(c); 90A-22;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1977;

Readopted Eff. March 1, 1979;

Amended Eff. November 1, 2006; August 1, 2002; August 1, 2000; August 3, 1992; September 1, 1990; December 31, 1980; January 1, ~~1980.~~1980;

Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 18D .0307 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0307 EXPIRATION AND REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATE

(a) If ~~the~~ an operator fails to pay the renewal fee or meet the continuing education requirements of Rule .0308(a) of this Section, the operator's certificate shall expire.

(b) If an operator in responsible charge fails to meet the requirements of 15A NCAC 18D .0701, ~~his/her~~ his or her operator's certificate may be ~~revoked.~~ revoked pursuant to G.S. 90A-26.

(c) An individual who has had certification revoked by the Board ~~shall~~ may petition the Board for any ~~new~~ certification sought if: ~~and may not petition the Board for such new certification sooner than two years after the effective date of the revocation.~~

(1) two years have elapsed since the effective date of the revocation; and

(2) the individual has completed a school approved by the Board and passed an exam corresponding to the certification being sought.

~~(d) An operator who has a certificate that has been expired less than two years shall pay any renewal fees in arrears and late fees before receiving an upgrade or a certificate in another area.~~

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-25.1; 90A-26;*
Eff. August 3, 1992;
Amended Eff. November 1, 2008; August 1, 2004; August 1, 2002; August 1, 2000; August 1, ~~1998.~~1998;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 18D .0308 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0308 PROFESSIONAL GROWTH HOURS

(a) All certified operators shall complete six professional growth~~contact~~ hours of ~~Board-approved~~ Board-approved training each year following the year of initial certification. ~~The Board shall approve training if it determines that the subject matter of the training is relevant to water treatment facility operation, and to the professional growth of operators. Training providers shall submit an attendance roster to the Board after completion of the training event. Ultimately proof~~ Board-approved training shall contain subject matter relevant to water treatment facility operators and includes the following categories: rules and regulations, equipment, operation and maintenance, record keeping, new treatment technologies, water treatment processes, courses taught as part of certification school curriculum, and management of water treatment facilities. Submitting proof[~~Proof~~] of professional growth [~~contact~~] hours ~~is~~ shall be the responsibility of the operator. Failure to complete the six professional growth[~~contact~~] hours shall result in expiration of the operator's certificates. ~~The roster shall contain the operator's certification ID number or the last four digits of the Social Security number.~~

(b) Training providers shall seek Board approval prior to offering events that provide professional growth [~~contact~~] hours. Training providers shall submit an attendance roster to the Board within ten business days after completion of the training event. The roster shall contain each attendee's full name and certification ID number. ~~or the last four digits of the Social Security number.~~ The organization providing the training shall give each participant a certificate or other proof of completion ~~which~~ that includes the name of the provider, the provider's address, and contact person with telephone number. The proof of completion shall identify the name of the participant, the number of professional growth~~contact~~ hours completed, the course name, the course number assigned by the Board, the instructor's name, and the date of the ~~training received~~ training. For in-house training, an instructor from outside of the organization shall provide the training.

(c) The Board shall mail renewal notices to operators prior to the renewal date and shall state whether the Board has a record of their professional growth hours for the preceding year. If the Board does not have a record of professional growth for an operator, the operator shall provide proof of the required six professional growth~~contact~~ hours of training prior to renewal ~~at~~ of any ~~the time of annual~~ certification issued by the Board. ~~renewal.~~ Failure to receive a renewal notice shall[~~does~~] not relieve a certified operator of the responsibility to renew the certificate by the renewal due date.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-25.1; 90A-26;*
Eff. August 1, 1998;
Amended Eff. December 1, 2008; August 1, 2004; August 1, ~~2000.~~2000;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 18D .0309 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0309 CERTIFICATION REINSTATEMENT

(a) An operator whose certification has expired may seek reinstatement within two years of expiration by paying any renewal fees in arrears, including late ~~fees~~ fees, and either providing proof of six contact hours of professional growth training~~continuing education~~ for each calendar year as required in Rule .0308 of this ~~Section,~~ Section or passing another examination of that grade.

(b) An operator whose certificate has been expired for less than two years must pay any renewal fees in arrears and late fees before seeking an upgrade from the certificate type that has expired. ~~Any person having a certification expired for more than two years or revoked shall apply to the Board for approval to be eligible for any further certification or reinstatement of certificate.~~

(c) Any person whose certification has been expired for more than two years may apply to the Board for reinstatement of the certificate type that was expired.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-25.1; 90A-26;*
Eff. August 1, 1998;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2006; August 1, 2004; August 1, ~~2000.~~2000;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.

15A NCAC 18D .0701 is readopted with changes as published in 32:18 NCR 1781 as follows:

15A NCAC 18D .0701 OPERATOR IN RESPONSIBLE CHARGE

(a) The owner shall ensure that the public water system facilities are managed by an operator in responsible charge who possesses a certificate equivalent to or exceeding the requirements in this Subchapter. ~~An operator in responsible charge shall possess a valid certificate issued by the Board equivalent to or exceeding the classification for which he or she is designated~~.

(b) The operator in responsible charge ~~is actually in charge of~~ shall manage the daily operation and maintenance of the facility. ~~facility and shall not reside more than 50 miles from the facility without written permission from the Board. The operator in responsible charge shall be readily available for consultation on the premises of the facility in case of an emergency, malfunction or breakdown of equipment or other needs.~~ No person shall be in responsible charge of more than ~~any~~any one of the following without written permission from the Board:

(1) ~~One~~ one surface water treatment facility;

(2) ~~Five~~ five community public water systems with well water facilities;

(3) ~~10~~ ten non-community public water systems with well water facilities;

(4) ~~One~~ one distribution system serving over 3,300 service connections;

(5) ~~Five~~ five distribution systems serving over 500 service connections and less than 3,300 service connections;

(6) ~~10~~ ten total distribution systems; ~~or~~

(7) ~~10~~ ten total cross-connection control ~~systems.~~ systems; or

(8) any facility located more than a 50-mile radius from where the operator resides.

No person shall be in responsible charge of any combination of a surface water treatment facility, a community public water system with well water facilities, a non-community public water system with well water facilities, a distribution system, and a cross-connection control facility without written permission from the Board.

(c) ~~When~~ A request for permission from the Board ~~is required, the request~~ shall include ~~sufficient~~ documentation demonstrating ~~to satisfy the Board~~ that the facilities in question ~~can~~ will be managed in compliance with the requirements of 15A NCAC ~~18C~~18C, which is hereby incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions.

(d) The operator in responsible charge shall ~~report~~ report, with annual certification ~~renewal~~ renewal, the names ~~name(s)~~ and public water system identification numbers ~~number(s)~~ for all systems for which the operator is the operator in responsible charge.

(e) If an operator in responsible charge takes responsibility for an additional system or relinquishes responsibility for any system, the operator shall notify the Board in writing within ~~30~~ 10 days of ~~this~~the change.

(f) The operator in responsible charge shall establish standard operating procedures for each facility for which he or she ~~he/she~~ is responsible. These procedures shall ~~provide sufficient instruction to~~ ensure that his or her ~~his/her~~ decisions about water quality or quantity that affect public health are carried out. ~~out properly.~~ The procedures shall

instruct persons lacking proper certification to refer all the ~~such~~ decisions affecting public health to the certified operator on duty or to the operator in responsible charge.

(g) The operator in responsible charge shall be available for consultation on the premises of the facility in case of an emergency, equipment malfunction, or breakdown of equipment. The operator in responsible charge may designate a temporary operator in responsible charge during times when it is impossible for the operator in responsible charge to be on the premises. The temporary operator in responsible charge shall be familiar with the water system and have access to the standard operating procedures developed under Paragraph (f) of this Rule. The temporary operator in responsible charge shall possess a certification equivalent to or exceeding that required by the water system treatment classification. The operator in responsible charge shall notify the Board [~~for~~]of any temporary operator in responsible charge designation lasting longer than 14 days.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 90A-21(c); 90A-31;*
Eff. August 1, 1998;
Amended Eff. May 1, 2006; August 1, 2002; August 1, ~~2000.~~2000;
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2018.