



# **Water Operator Workforce Ready**

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**



# Program Overview



The five-week Water Operator Workforce Ready Certificate Program was developed by WaterWorkforce in collaboration with Cal Poly Pomona College of Professional and Global Education (CPGE). The Program — taught onsite at the Cal Poly CPGE campus in Pomona — prepares students for entry-level water/wastewater operator positions and WaterWorkforce apprenticeship program. Dedicated students will attain comprehensive water systems knowledge, work-ready skills, and industry-recognized certifications. Additionally, students will have job placement opportunities in the water and wastewater industries. Entry-level wage is \$22.50-\$27.00 per hour and the average entry-level wage in California is \$57,669 per year.

## **Participants will gain a thorough understanding of essential industry skills including:**

- System operations
- Tools and equipment
- Safety procedures
- Installation and repairs
- Utility fundamentals
- Water math
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) principles
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) operations
- Work readiness and professional skills (soft skills)

## Certifications

Students who successfully complete the program will be issued Certificates of Completion by Cal Poly Pomona CPGE and WaterWorkforce (80 contract hours). Additionally, during the program, students will submit their application to State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) to take the Water Distribution Operator 1 or 2 Exam and/or Water Treatment Operator 1 or 2 Exam. Students should receive an accepted application letter and a testing date issued from the state at the completion of the 5-week course.



# Curriculum Overview

## Utility Core Functions (Entry Level) - 80 hrs

#	MODULE	CLASS	LAB	PRACTICAL	TOTAL
1	Introduction to Cal Poly Facility	1	1	0	2
2	Soft Skills: Conflict Resolution, problem solving, professionalism	2	0	2	4
3	Water/Wastewater Systems Operations	8	0	0	8
4	Tools and Equipment	2	2	0	4
5	Safety Protocols and Regulations	8	4	4	16
6	Installation/Leaks Repair: Service Line, Meters, Valves	2	6	0	8
7	USA (Underground Service Alert)	1	0	2	3
8	Chemical Feed and Applications	1	3	2	6
9	Utility Employee Fundamentals	3	0	0	3
10	Water Quality Sampling	2	2	2	6
11	Water Math	4	0	0	4
12	Analytical Equipment	1	3	2	6
13	SCADA Operations	1	0	1	2
14	NIMS Training	4	0	4	8
TOTAL		40	21	19	80

### Who should apply?

The ideal program candidates will meet the basic eligibility requirements and any of the follow criteria:

- Those who have water quality or plumbing experience.
- Those who have taken a water and/or wastewater course.
- Those who have worked, volunteered or interned in the water industry.
- Military personnel who have worked in water/wastewater or hydraulics.

### Basic eligibility requirements for the certificate program

- High School Diploma
- 1-2 water or wastewater courses and/or any experience in water/wastewater operations.
- Pass background check and drug test.

### Tuition

This comprehensive five-week training program is being fully funded by Water Workforce Academy and Transition U, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting veterans.



# Take the First Step!

- STEP 1** Attend Mandatory Information Session
- STEP 2** Submit Application - *sent via email after signing up for an info session*
- STEP 3** Submit resume and high school or college transcripts (*unofficial transcripts accepted*)
- STEP 4** Interview with WaterWorkforce Staff Member
- STEP 5** Submit Right to Work Documentation & Selective Service Letter (*males, if applicable*)
- STEP 6** Receive Acceptance Letter (*sent via email*)  
**Mandatory Cal Poly Pomona Tour: January 5, 2024**
- STEP 7** Begin the Training Program!  
**Program start date: January 12, 2024**



## Sign Up for a Free Info Session Today!

Take a photo on your cellphone of the QR code and select a date to register for an online info session.

### UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS

- November 27, 2023: 5:30 pm
- December 1, 2023 : 9:00 am
- December 5, 2023: 6:00 pm
- December 9, 2023: 9:00 am
- December 13, 2023: 12:00 pm

***“As stewards of public health and the environment, water professionals understand the importance of protecting water supplies, securing physical and cyber systems, and planning for routine and extreme events.”***

American Water Works Association's State of The Water Industry 2023 report



**WATERWORKFORCE  
ACADEMY**  
APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING

### Questions? Please contact:

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