

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

Board/Commission Members:

- Dr. Joan M Cloonan, PhD, JD, Garden City – Chair – Public Member
- The Honorable Brad D Andersen, Iona
- Daniel J Messier, Rathdrum
- Director John H Tippets, Boise / Barry N Burnell, Boise – Department of Environmental Quality
- Michael S Parker, Moscow
- Michael W Shepherd, Weiser
- Paul D Sifford, Worley

Board/Commission Composition: The Board consists of seven (7) members: two (2) drinking water system operators, two (2) wastewater system operators, one (1) backflow assembly tester, one (1) public member, and one (1) director of the Idaho department of environmental quality or the director's designated agent. Idaho Code [§ 54-2404](#).

Operating costs per license: \$47.32. This number represents the dollar amount required annually to serve each applicant or licensee based on the average number of licensees and the average expenditures since Fiscal Year 2014. This includes all administrative, fiscal, legal, and investigative services.

Total number of current licensees on May 19, 2018 Idaho: **3,743**.

For the Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals, the **shortest time** from complete application to issuing a license is **same day**. The **longest time** from complete application to issuing a license is **94 days**. Of all licenses, **67.4 percent** were completed the **same day**. The **average time** from complete application to issuing a license was **9.8 days**. The Board issued **384 licenses** from May 19, 2017 to May 19, 2018.

Note: All Board meetings are subject to Idaho's Open Meeting Law. The law requires a minimum of five (5) calendar days' notice for regular meetings, and a forty-eight (48) hour notice for the agenda. Special meetings require twenty-four (24) hour meeting and agenda notice. Idaho Code [§ 74-204](#).

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

A. Index of Statute, Rule, and Policy Requirements for Licensure and Renewal

		Statute Title 54, Chapter 24	Rule IDAPA 24.05.01	*Policy	Application	Basis to Deny Issuance or Renewal	Fees
Backflow Assembly Tester	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.02.01.355	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2409 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2411 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Drinking Water Distribution Operator Class I	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.328	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2409 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2411 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

**All of the Board's requirements for licensure and renewal are in statute or rule. The Board does not have any requirements in policy.*

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

		Statute Title 54, Chapter 24	Rule IDAPA 24.05.01	*Policy	Application	Basis to Deny Issuance or Renewal	Fees
Drinking Water Distribution Operator Class II	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.330	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Drinking Water Distribution Operator Class III	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.02.01.355	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Drinking Water Distribution Operator Class IV	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.340	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2409 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

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		Statute Title 54, Chapter 24	Rule IDAPA 24.05.01	*Policy	Application	Basis to Deny Issuance or Renewal	Fees
DWD Operator in Training	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.310	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	N/A	N/A	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	N/A
Drinking Water Distribution Operator – Very Small System	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.315	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Drinking Water Treatment Operator Class I	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.328	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

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	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Drinking Water Treatment Operator Class III	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.335	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Drinking Water Treatment Operator Class IV	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.340	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

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DWT Operator in Training	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.310	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	N/A	N/A	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	N/A
Wastewater Collection Operator Class I	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.328	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Collection Operator Class II	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.330	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

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Wastewater Collection Operator Class III	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.335	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Collection Operator Class IV	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.340	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
WWC Operator in Training	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.310	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	N/A	N/A	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	N/A

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		Statute Title 54, Chapter 24	Rule IDAPA 24.05.01	*Policy	Application	Basis to Deny Issuance or Renewal	Fees
Wastewater Laboratory Operator Class I	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.328	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Laboratory Operator Class II	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.330	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Laboratory Operator Class III	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.335	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
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	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Treatment Operator Class I	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.328	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Treatment Operator Class II	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.330	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

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	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Treatment Operator Class IV	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.340	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
Wastewater Treatment Operator – Lagoon	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.345	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

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Wastewater Treatment Operator – Land Operator – Application	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.350	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal
WWT Operator in Training	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.310	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	N/A	N/A	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	N/A
Wastewater Operator – Very Small System	Issuance for Initial License	I.C. § 54-2409	24.05.01.300 24.05.01.315	*	Application	I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$25 Application \$30 License
	Renewal Requirements	I.C. § 54-2411	24.05.01.600 24.05.01.500	*		I.C. § 54-2412 I.C. § 67-2614	\$30 Renewal

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B. Applications and Renewals Denied, May 19, 2017-May 19, 2018

Refusal to Issue Initial License [Total Number: 8]

	Basis in Statute and/or Rule	Summary of Factual Basis
1	IDAPA 24.05.01.375.02.b	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.
2	IDAPA 24.05.01.328.02	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.
3	IDAPA 24.05.01.330.02 and 010.08	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.
4	IDAPA 24.05.01.330.02 and 010.08	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.
5	IDAPA 24.05.01.340.02 and 010.08	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.
6	IDAPA 24.05.01.335.02 and 010.08	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.
7	IDAPA 24.05.01.330.02 and 010.08	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.
8	IDAPA 24.05.01.330.02 and 010.08	Applicant did not meet the experience requirement for licensure.

Refusal to Renew License [Total Number: 0]

	Basis in Statute and/or Rule	Summary of Factual Basis
	None	

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

C. Disciplinary Actions for the Past Five (5) Years**

The Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals received **74 complaints** from Fiscal Year 2013 through May 19, 2018. During this time frame, **34 complaints were closed** by the Board with no disciplinary action; **35 resulted in disciplinary action****; **2 remained under investigation**; **2 awaited Board determination**; and **1 was pending legal review**.

***The detail provided below is only for disciplinary action closed between May 19, 2017 and May 19, 2018. Cases are not always closed within the same fiscal year they are opened, and sometimes multiple complaints are included in one disciplinary action. The Board's full [disciplinary action information](#) is available online.*

Case No.	Date of Final Action	Action Taken	Statutory Basis	Summary of Factual Basis
WWP-2018-8	2/7/2018	Final Board Order	I.C. §§ 54-2411 and 54-2412(a)(d) ; IDAPA 24.05.01.500.01 and .05	Respondent failed to document continuing education required for renewal.
WWP-2018-6	2/7/2018	Consent Order	I.C. §§ 54-2411 and 54-2412(a)(d) ; IDAPA 24.05.01.500.01 and .05	Respondent failed to document continuing education required for renewal.
WWP-2018-5	2/7/2018	Final Board Order	I.C. §§ 54-2411 and 54-2412(a)(d) ; IDAPA 24.05.01.500.01 and .05	Respondent failed to document continuing education required for renewal.
WWP-2018-2	2/7/2018	Consent Order	I.C. §§ 54-2411 and 54-2412(a)(d) ; IDAPA 24.05.01.500.01 and .05	Respondent failed to document continuing education required for renewal.
WWP-2017-1	2/7/2018	Final Board Order	I.C. § 54-2412(1)(b)	Respondent failed to respond to the Board regarding felony conviction.

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

D. Changes or Attempted Changes in the Last Five (5) Years to Eliminate Barriers to Entry

Law and Rule

Session	Legislation or Rule	Summary
2013	House Bill 185	<p>The Board submitted legislation which would allow the Board to collect an examination fee not greater than that charged by the provider. The current law required that the fee be equal to the amount charged by the exam provider. The examination fee varied by \$2.00 between the online and written examinations.</p> <p>Impact: This change allows applicants to switch between online and written exams, without having to pay the additional \$2.00 fee. The Board now charges the same fee (lower fee of the two) for all individuals taking the examination. This change provided flexibility to applicants in exam choice (written or online), reduced the administrative burden on the Board's staff, and reduced expenses to licensees/employers.</p>
2014	Docket No. 24.0501.1302	<p>These rules accomplished the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Implemented House Bill 185, which allowed the Board to collect an examination fee not greater than the fee charged by the provider.2. The Board reduced its fees in an effort to reduce its dedicated fund balance and to convey a benefit to licensees and applicants. The rule reduced the endorsement fee, original license fee, and annual renewal fee from \$35 to \$30 for each.3. Expanded education opportunities for applicants to qualify for very small water and very small wastewater licenses.

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

Law and Rule (continued)

Session	Legislation or Rule	Summary
2014	House Bill 405	<p>This bill extended the period of time in which a drinking water operator licensee has to reinstate their license, if they allow their license to lapse, from two years to five years. Such a person was required to make a new application to the Board using the same forms, furnishing the same information, paying the same fees, and successfully completing the same examination as a person originally applying for the license of the same classification.</p> <p>Impact: This bill reduced regulation and provided a benefit to licensed drinking water operators by extending, from two years to five years, the timeframe in which they could reinstate. This change made the reinstatement period for drinking water operators consistent with all other licensees.</p>
2015	Docket No. 24.0501.1501	<p>This rule clarified experience requirements for Class III and Class IV operator licenses to eliminate confusion on acceptable experience. The Board established a Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct for Back Flow Assembly Testers. The Board updated portions of the Renewal/Reinstatement Rules to comply with I.C. §67-2614.</p> <p>Impact: This rule accomplished two things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarified experience necessary for Class III and Class IV operators. 2. The Board's charge is to protect the public health, safety and welfare and it does this through the licensing of competent operators and backflow assembly testers, and enforcing the act and rules approved by the legislature. Backflow assembly testers are responsible for testing backflow assembly devices to ensure they are operating appropriately. Backflow assembly devices are commonly found at residences and they are associated with irrigation systems and prevent potentially contaminated water from back flowing into a drinking water system. The Board worked with interested parties for two years to establish a Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct to help ensure public protection.

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

Additional Barriers Eliminated/Opportunities Provided

Date	Barriers/Opportunities	Summary
2017	Implemented Idaho Code for military service and added it to the Board's website	<p>The Board added to its website the following laws for military/veterans/spouses:</p> <p>I.C. § 67-2620 The Board may accept military training and experience toward qualification for licensure. The law states that professional and occupational licensing boards may accept military education, training, and experience toward meeting the qualifications for a license, certification or registration. Boards may also expedite applications, including military spouse applications.</p> <p>I.C. § 67-2602A If a licensee already holds an active Idaho license and is on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, that license will remain in good standing without the necessity of renewal up to six (6) months following discharge from active duty. The license will not be cancelled, suspended or revoked.</p>
2015	I.C. § 67-2614	<p>Set the reinstatement fee to \$35 and eliminated the requirement that, in addition to the reinstatement fee, the licensee had to include payment of the license fees for all of the years the license had been expired. It also clarified the continuing education required to reinstate.</p> <p>Impact: Those whose licenses expired within the last five (5) years had to pay licensure fees for each year they were expired. Anyone whose license had been expired for more than five (5) years would have to apply as a new applicant. This law change reduced barriers to reentry in two ways. For those whose licenses have been expired for less than five (5) years, it eliminated the requirement to pay licensure fees for each year the license was expired. For those whose licenses have been expired for more than five (5) years, it allows the Board to consider education, supervised practice, examination or practice in another jurisdiction in determining the person's competency.</p>

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

Additional Barriers Eliminated/Opportunities Provided Continued

Date	Barriers/Opportunities	Summary
2012	Docket No. 24-0501-1101	<p>The Board proposed rule changes in order to address confusion by operators and to reduce the amount of time to qualify for a Class III or Class IV license. The revised rule separated out each license type and listed the education, experience and examination required. Previously the rule batched education, experience and examination into their own sections, so an operator had to go to three-rule sections and dissect out the requirements for the license they were seeking. The pre-2011 rule was confusing. The post-2011 rule lists out the requirements by license type. Operators now go to one section in the rule to find the requirements for the license they would like to have. The rule clarified the definition of “on-site operating experience” as well as “responsible charge operator.”</p> <p><u>Impact:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduced the number of years (from 10 to 4) to obtain a Class IV license. 2. Reduced the number of years (from 6 to 4) to obtain a Class III license. 3. Reduced confusion for the public and applicants by clarifying rules.
2010	Docket No. 24-0501-0901	<p>This rule accomplished the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduced Endorsement Fee from \$40 to \$35. 2. Reduced Original License Fee from \$40 to \$35. 3. Reduced Annual Renewal Fee from \$40 to \$35.
2010	House Bill 428	<p>This bill will remove members of the state board of drinking water and wastewater professionals from the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) by changing the payment they receive from compensation to an honorarium under I.C. § 59-509.</p>

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

Additional Barriers Eliminated/Opportunities Provided (continued)

Date	Barriers/Opportunities	Summary
2008	Testing Opportunities	<p>Historically, the test for licensure was a written exam, offered twice per year in Boise. Around 2008, the Board worked with the Department of Labor to offer the exam at the Department of Labor offices around the state. The exam was then offered in written or online form at five locations around the state and four times per year. In 2016, the Board worked with Career Technical Education to reach out to testing centers at the community colleges and Idaho State University to set up testing at each institution’s testing center. Today, once an applicant is approved for the exam, he or she directly contacts the testing center to arrange a time to take the exam.</p> <p>Impact: The exam changes the Board has put into place have accomplished the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The exam is offered around the state and is available when it is convenient for the examinee. 2. Water systems are no longer faced with the need to figure out a solution for covering their facilities due to having multiple (or possibly all) operators needing to take an exam that was only offered on a limited basis. 3. Operators are able to get to work sooner as they no longer have to wait for specified exam dates. 4. Employers/applicants save time and money by not having to travel to Boise to take the exam.

Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals

E. Assessment of Public Interest

Clean, safe drinking water, as well as proper treatment of wastewater and assembly of backflow system operations, create a standard of water quality which allows Idahoans to live without fear of access to clean, safe water.

The Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals Board is charged with licensing individuals to operate drinking water treatment plants and drinking water distribution systems in order to ensure that the drinking water served to public water system users is safe for consumption. The Board is also charged with licensing individuals to operate wastewater collection systems and wastewater treatment plants in a manner that is protective of public health and protective of the environment. The Board licenses backflow assembly testers to ensure non-potable water systems, (such as irrigation, hospital, fire protection) do not contaminate public water systems.

The Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals was established in 2004. The Board's charter included an amendment to Idaho Code, which allowed for a transfer of licensure responsibilities for drinking water and wastewater professionals from the Department of Environmental Quality to the Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals. The Board has offered the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) exam for licensure since the legislature created the Board in 2004. The ABC exam allows licensees to meet minimum national standards for qualification, and allows for ease of portability. Whereas the DEQ protects the public by licensing facilities, the Board licenses operators. This separation helps ensure safe drinking water and proper treatment of wastewater.

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F. Recommendations for Improvement, Modification, or Elimination of Requirements

1. The Board is working on a review process for applications between meetings.
2. Review Continuing Education Units (CEU) recommendations according to public comments:
 - a. Look at expanding continuing education course options to ensure they are not repetitive.
 - b. Give instructor flexibility to expand material if repetitive.
3. Propose a rule change to allow renewal of a course rather than requiring submission of a new application every two years for the same course, or create a longer period for course approval.
4. Apprenticeship Program Background:

A few years ago, the Board identified an alarming number of potential retirees. At that time, it reached out to the Idaho Rural Water Association regarding the issue. The Idaho Rural Water Association has been working with the Workforce Development Council, Career Technical Education, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Board to look at an apprenticeship training program. Some of the issues the committee worked on include:

 - a. Identify ways to recruit and facilitate individuals to become licensed.
 - b. Ensuring expertise while allowing another avenue to entry.
 - c. Studying and developing a program to bring in Class I and Class II operators.
 - d. Modifying education requirements to get to a Class III license without a college degree (through the apprenticeship program).
 - e. Development of an apprenticeship program that allows the Workforce Development Council to promote the program to high school students interested in the field.
5. Based on the work of the committee, the Board will be proposing the following rules for the 2019 Legislative Session:
 - a. Allow for an apprenticeship program which provides an opportunity for individuals to obtain experience and education to qualify for a license.
 - b. Provide the opportunity to obtain a Class II or Class III license in less time through the apprenticeship program.
 - c. Lowering from 35 to 30 the number of semester credit hours that are equivalent to a year. (Rule 375.04.b)

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Summary of Objectives

The Licensing Freedom Act asked that all of Idaho's professional licensing entities critically look at their processes, laws and rules. The goal is to document the elimination of barriers and make recommendations for future changes that improve, modify or eliminate laws and rules governing professional licensure. In response, the Drinking Water and Wastewater Board respectfully submits the above report and summarizes with a checklist to ensure all of the objectives were met:

Objectives of Executive Order

- ✓ Protect the public: (I.C. [§54-2401](#)).
- ✓ Portability of licensure: (I.C. [§54-2410](#)); *the Board has approved the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) exam for licensure. Using a national exam helps with portability*
- ✓ Eliminate barriers to entry to work: *see Section F for proposed rule (2019) apprenticeship program.*
- ✓ Do away with unnecessary regulation: ([24-0501-1101](#)) *clarified requirements and licensure classes.*
- ✓ Modernize licensure and regulatory requirements: ([24-0501-1101](#)) *aligned with industry standard.*

Comprehensive Review - consider some of the issues raised in the background material, such as,

- ✓ Telework – Idaho has recently passed laws related to telehealth but other occupations may be facing similar issues regarding telework. *There are no restrictions for operators to utilize technological means to operate and monitor facilities.*
- ✓ Distance/Online Learning/Testing – distance/online education and testing are increasingly available and may influence the resources that applicants or licensees can access to obtain education, continuing education or to test. *(The Board allows operators to substitute continuing education units (CEU) in addition to the number required annually by the Board as a substitute for responsible charge time or post high school education. These CEUs may be acquired by taking online courses which have been approved by the Board. ([IDAPA 24.0501.500](#)))*
- ✓ Criminal History – What barriers or additional obstacles do applicants/licensees face who have a criminal conviction? Do our laws consider the relevance or proximity in time of a conviction to the individuals applying for licensure or for those currently in practice? (I.C. [§ 54-2412](#)).
- ✓ Early Examination – What can be addressed in the timing of processes to eliminate unnecessary delays? *The Board worked with career colleges and universities across the state to offer the exams upon request as opposed to two times per year, and at one of six testing sites across the state as opposed to requiring applicants and operators to travel to Boise to take the exam.*
- ✓ CE Hardship – Is there an allowance for extenuating circumstances? ([IDAPA 24.0501.500.08](#)).

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- ✓ Temporary Permits – Are there opportunities to work while minimum requirements are being met? *See Section F for proposed rules for an apprenticeship program for entry into the field.*