

WSR 21-08-027

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

[Filed March 30, 2021, 2:50 p.m.]

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Reissuance of the Wastewater Operator Certification Program Draft Fee Schedule

The Washington state department of ecology (ecology) certifies wastewater treatment plant operators to ensure they are knowledgeable to properly operate and maintain wastewater treatment plants.

By law, ecology must fund the wastewater operator certification (OpCert) program with fees. These fees are subject to change, dependent upon a budget and workload analysis completed every biennium. March 31, 2021, is the first year ecology is publishing a draft fee schedule for comment. The current fee schedule was published in WAC 173-230-240.

Based on the estimated administrative costs of the OpCert program and the projected account balance, ecology proposes to maintain wastewater operator certification fees at their current level. The draft fee schedule is detailed in Table 1, as required by WAC 173-230-240.

Table 1
Draft Fee Schedule for
Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023

Category	Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022)	Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)
Group I and Group I OIT Applications	\$50.00	\$50.00
Groups II through IV Applications and Groups II through IV OIT Applications	\$67.00	\$67.00
Renewals	\$98.00	\$98.00

Ecology will review all comments received by the deadline, and plans to publish the final fee schedule prior to June 30, 2021.

Public Notice Process and Comments: Ecology is accepting public comments on the draft fee schedule from March 31, 2021, **through** 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2021. Ecology prefers to receive comments on the draft fee schedule through the e-Comment form. However, we will accept written comments via email and by mail.

Submit comments: Online via the e-Comment form <https://wq.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=jWMkE>, by email opcert@ecy.wa.gov, by mail Poppy Carre, Washington State Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696.

Copies of the Draft Fee Schedule: The draft fee schedule is available online at <https://ecology.wa.gov/opcert>. You may request hard copies from Torrie Shaul at opcert@ecy.wa.gov.

Ecology Contact: Poppy Carre, Washington State Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696, email opcert@ecy.wa.gov.

Assistance for Persons with Disabilities: To request an Americans with Disabilities Act accommodation, contact ecology by phone 360-407-6600, email opcert@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For relay service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

En Español: Para información en español, por favor comuníquese con Gustavo Ordóñez al 360-407-6619.