



# National Tribal Operator Certification Program

## TRAINING AND EXAMINATION CALENDAR

# 2019

Mt. Brynteson near Nome, Alaska

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3	4	5						1	2		25	26	27	28	1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18 <i>President's Day</i>	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	1	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
							General Module & Very Small Water System Phoenix, AZ							31			SDWA 101 - Phoenix, AZ			

  

APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27 <i>Memorial Day</i>	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30						

  

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6		29	30	31	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

  

OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i>	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	29 <i>NCA Office Closed</i>	30	29	30	31				

# National Tribal Water And Wastewater Operator Certification Program

## 2019 Training And Examination Schedule

### General Module Training & Very Small Water System Certification Exam

This curriculum covers the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) General Module training course with the addition of water treatment and distribution for very small drinking water systems (VSWs). The General Module is designed for tribal personnel entering into the career path of water and wastewater system operations for the first time, providing a solid foundation of the principles of electricity, hydraulics, water and wastewater systems, basic math, and federal regulations. ITCA Level 1 water and wastewater operator training courses are designed with the expectation that students have already taken introductory training on the topics that are covered in the General Module. The VSWs operator certification exam is offered following each course.

**February 25-March 1, 2019** ..... Phoenix, Arizona (Hosted by: *Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.*) – Instructor: Mary Howell, Backflow Management, Inc.  
**October 21-25, 2019** ..... Cass Lake, Minnesota (Hosted by: *Leech Lake Gaming Division-Employee Development*) – Instructor: Michael Alvidrez, Alvidrez Water Operations, LLC

### Water Distribution Training and Certification Exam

**LEVEL 1:** This course covers Level 1 Water Distribution (WD1) system operations. Course topics include drinking water disinfection, hydraulics, pumps, water storage, fire hydrants, meters and valves, math, and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The WD1 operator certification exam will follow each course.

**March 11-15, 2019** ..... Parker, Arizona (Hosted by: *Big River Development*) – Instructor: Melissa Durbin, Technical Learning Consultant, LLC  
**April 8-12, 2019** ..... Reserve, Kansas (Hosted by: *Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska*) – Instructor: Michael Alvidrez, Alvidrez Water Operations, LLC  
**June 17-21, 2019** ..... Flagstaff, Arizona (Hosted by: *United States Geological Survey Flagstaff Science Campus*) – Instructor: TBA  
**July 29-August 2, 2019** ..... Portland, Oregon (Hosted by: *Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission*) – Instructor: Mary Howell, Backflow Management, Inc.

**LEVEL 2:** This course trains qualified Level 1 certified operators in Level 2 Water Distribution (WD2) system operations. All course work is designed around the processes that will be required of a Level 2 drinking water distribution system operator. This course has significant content and advanced concepts requiring students to study outside of the classroom. The WD2 operator certification exam will follow the course.  
**July 22-26, 2019** ..... Alpine, California (Hosted by: *Viejas Public Works*) – Instructor: Michael Alvidrez, Alvidrez Water Operations, LLC

### Water Treatment Training and Certification Exam

**LEVEL 1:** This course covers Level 1 Water Treatment (WT1) facility operations. Course topics include water sources and quality, treatment processes, disinfection, laboratory analysis, worker safety, math, and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The WT1 operator certification exam will follow each course.

**April 15-18, 2019** ..... Flagstaff, Arizona (Hosted by: *United States Geological Survey Flagstaff Science Campus*) – Instructor: TBA  
**May 13-17, 2019** ..... Billings, Montana (Hosted by: *Bartlett & West, Inc.*) – Instructor: Melissa Durbin, Technical Learning Consultant, LLC  
**August 12-16, 2019** ..... Tahlequah, Oklahoma (Hosted by: *Inter-Tribal Environmental Council*) – Instructor: Melissa Durbin, Technical Learning College

**LEVEL 2:** This course trains qualified Level 1 certified operators in Level 2 Water Treatment (WT2) facility operations. All course work is designed around the processes that will be required of a Level 2 drinking water treatment facility operator. This course has significant content and advanced concepts requiring students to study outside the classroom. The WT2 operator certification exam will follow each course.

**June 3-7, 2019** ..... Hon-Dah, Arizona (Hosted by: *White Mountain Apache Tribe Utility Authority*) – Instructor: TBA  
**August 5-9, 2019** ..... Ft. Pierre, South Dakota (Hosted by: *Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, Mni Wiconi Water Treatment Plant*) – Instructor: Nicole Mangin, MEC TECH Services, Inc

### Wastewater Collection Training and Certification Exam

**LEVEL 1:** This course covers Level 1 Wastewater Collection (WWC1) system operations. Course topics include wastewater collection, pipeline inspection, operations & maintenance, lift stations, and math. The WWC1 operator certification exam will follow the course.

**April 2-4, 2019** ..... Shelbyville, Michigan (Hosted by: *Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians, Gun Lake Casino*) – Instructor: Mario Gonzales, PureOps, LLC  
**May 14-16, 2019** ..... Laughlin, Nevada (Hosted by: *Fort Mojave Tribal Utilities Authority*) – Instructor: Michael Alvidrez, Alvidrez Water Operations, LLC

**LEVEL 2:** This course trains qualified Level 1 certified operators in Level 2 Wastewater Collection (WWC2) system operations. All course work is designed around the processes that will be required of a Level 2 wastewater collection system operator. This course has significant content and advanced concepts requiring students to study outside of the classroom. The WWC2 operator certification exam will follow each course.

**April 22-26, 2019** ..... Belcourt, North Dakota (Hosted by: *Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians*) – Instructor: Nicole Mangin, MEC Tech Services, Inc.  
**September 9-13, 2019** ..... Hopland, California (Hosted by: *Hopland Band of Pomo Indians*) – Instructor: Nicole Mangin, MEC Tech Services, Inc

### Wastewater Treatment Training and Certification Exam

**LEVEL 1:** This course covers Level 1 Wastewater Treatment (WWT1) facility operations. Course topics include an overview of activated sludge wastewater treatment with review of process components, biological principles of process control using laboratory sampling and testing as well as observations and appearances of treated wastewater sludge, and math. The WWT1 operator certification exam will follow each course.

**May 6-10, 2019** ..... Maricopa, Arizona (Hosted by: *Ak-Chin Indian Community*) – Instructor: Mario Gonzalez, PureOps, LLC  
**July 15-19, 2019** ..... Lemoore, CA (Hosted by: *Tachi-Yokut Tribe*) – Instructor: TBA  
**July 29-August 2, 2019** ..... Sloan, Iowa (Hosted by: *Winnavegas Casino Resort*) – Instructor: TBA

**LEVEL 2:** This course trains qualified Level 1 certified operators in Level 2 Wastewater Treatment (WWT2) facility operations. All course work is designed around the processes that will be required of a Level 2 wastewater treatment facility operator. This course has significant content and advanced concepts requiring students to study outside of the classroom. The WWT2 operator certification exam will follow the course.  
**June 24-28, 2019** ..... Banning, California (Hosted by: *Morongo Band of Mission Indians Water Department*) – Instructor: Nicole Mangin, MEC TECH Services, Inc.

### Computer-Based and Paper-Booklet Testing

Computer-Based Testing (CBT) provides a year-round (January 7, 2019, to December 28, 2019) opportunity for eligible tribal water and wastewater personnel to achieve professional certification. Preparatory training is not included. Certification exams are available through CBT at over 300 testing locations nationwide. Pre-registration and approval required for each CBT appointment.

Paper-Booklet Testing (PBT) exam sessions provide an opportunity for eligible tribal water and wastewater personnel to achieve professional certification. Preparatory training is not provided by ITCA. The PBT Sessions will be announced throughout the year via email and published on the ITCA TWS website

### Continue Education Training

**Tribal Utility Tune-up Workshops:** This one-day retreat is conducted for individual Tribal drinking water and wastewater utilities for optimized performance. The workshop explores the ten attributes of effective utility management and then facilitates the utility self-assessment. The utility's strengths and weaknesses are identified and an improvement plan is created to strengthen your utility. Twelve Tribal utility programs will be selected for individual Tune-Up Workshops.

**Contact ITCA if you would like to schedule a tune-up for your tribal utility program.**

**Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) 101:** Basics and Consumer Confidence Reporting Training: This course provides a comprehensive overview of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the associated regulatory rules and monitoring, reporting, and public notice requirements. In addition, it provides assistance in completing Consumer Confidence Reports.

**March 26-29, 2019** ..... Phoenix, Arizona (Hosted by: *City of Phoenix Water Services Department*) – Instructor: TBA

**Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) 202:** Compliance Monitoring & Lab Awareness Training: This course addresses compliance monitoring requirements, an intensive look at the Standard Monitoring Framework, sampling procedures, Site Sampling Plans, principles of Chain-of-Custody and sample integrity, dealing with contracted laboratories, monitoring waivers, public notice requirements and other compliance issues. The course includes hands-on exercises and a tour of a licensed drinking water laboratory.

**August 6-8, 2019** ..... Phoenix, Arizona (Hosted by: *TestAmerica Laboratories, Inc.*) – Instructor: TBA

**Advisory Committee & Workgroup Meetings:** The Advisory Committee is established to advise the ITCA in implementing and administering the National Tribal Water & Wastewater Operator Certification Program. The Advisory Committee Meeting provides a forum for the discussion of the ITCA Program's certification, training, and technical assistance services. The members of the committee participate on a voluntary basis.

**National Tribal Water & Wastewater Operator Workgroup Meeting:**  
**August 27-30, 2019** ..... Portland, OR (Hosted by: *Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission*)

**National Advisory Committee Meeting:**  
**September 24, 2019** ..... Temecula, California (Hosted by: *Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians*)

**Tribal Water Operator Summit:** The Tribal Operator Summit provides a forum for Tribal water and wastewater personnel to attend short training seminars, exchange ideas, learn from their peers, and contribute directly to the continuing development and planning of the ITCA Tribal Water Department Programs. Operators are encouraged to participate in the roundtable sharing and networking sessions.

**June 18-20, 2019** ..... Santa Ana Pueblo, NM (Hosted by: *Santa Ana Pueblo*)

**Utility Asset Management & CUPSS Workshop:** This workshop will instruct system operators and utility managers how to implement asset management using the Check-Up Program for Small Systems (CUPSS) software. This course will cover the CUPSS program, including instructions on installation, asset management, scheduling operation and maintenance tasks, and utility financial planning.

**May 1-2, 2019** ..... Phoenix, Arizona (Hosted by: *Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.*) – Instructor: Tom Shoemaker, Operations Innovation International, LLC  
**September 24-25, 2019** ..... Albuquerque, New Mexico (Hosted by: *Pueblo of Sandia Public Works Department*) – Instructor: Tom Shoemaker, Operations Innovation International, LLC

**Tribal Utility Management Training:** This course trains Tribal water and wastewater utility personnel on the principles of Effective Utility Management. Course topics will focus on utility management, financial capacity, managerial capacity, regulatory compliance and planning, operations and maintenance (O&M) responsibilities, and workforce management including worker succession planning and public relations strategies. The ITCA Tribal Utility Management - Level 1 certification exam will follow the course.

**August 12-16, 2019** ..... Scottsdale, Arizona (Hosted by: *Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community*) – Instructor: Michael Alvidrez, Alvidrez Water Operations, LLC

**Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Training and Certification Examination:** This course will provide intensive, hands-on training and will provide attendees the opportunity to earn backflow assembly tester certification.  
**September 16-20, 2019** ..... Portland, Oregon (Hosted by: *Backflow Management, Inc.*) – Instructor: Backflow Management, Inc.

**Small Wastewater Treatment Lagoons Training:** This training will provide attendees with in-depth instructions on operation and maintenance of wastewater lagoons.

**September 4-5, 2019** ..... Acoma, New Mexico (Hosted by: *Pueblo of Acoma Utility Authority*) – Instructor: Steven Harris, H&S Environmental, LLC

**Water & Wastewater Operator Workplace Safety Trainings:** These trainings will cover many of the worker safety topics that are common to the water/wastewater utilities industry and provide attendees with an awareness of workplace safety.

**40 Hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Training:**  
**June 10-14, 2019** ..... Chandler, Arizona (Hosted by: *Gila River Indian Community Public Works Department*) – Instructor: Perry Hoskins, Spectra Training

**Water & Wastewater Operator Workplace Safety Awareness Training Workshop:**  
**July 9-11, 2019** ..... New Town, North Dakota (Hosted by: *Three-Affiliated Tribe*)

Locations and dates are subject to change. Please check published announcements for final locations and dates. ITCA reserves the right to cancel or reschedule any training/meeting event. In the event of a training/meeting change, all registrants for that event will be notified in advance as early as possible.

The National Tribal Water & Wastewater Operator Certification Program housed at ITCA provides training and professional operator certification for water and wastewater personnel working on tribal lands. At each training or meeting event listed above, attendees will earn training contact hours that may be accepted towards pre-certification training for new certification or professional development hour (PDH) / continuing education credit for renewal of existing professional certification.

ITCA is dedicated to providing Technical Assistance (TA) to tribes in order to develop technical, managerial, and financial capacity (TMF), as well as water & wastewater utility sustainability through education, access to resources, and training. These TA services are provided FREE of charge while funding is available.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.itcaonline.com/tws](http://www.itcaonline.com/tws)  
OR CALL THE ITCA TWS PROGRAM AT (602) 258-4822

