



ITCA National Tribal Water Systems Training & Certification Program

*ITCA is a USEPA-approved provider of
operator certification services for personnel
of Tribal water utilities*



WASTEWATER LAGOONS **Operator Training Course (Event ID #26008-blended)**

Entire Course (Parts 1 & 2), June 15 - 26, 2026

**In-Person Part 2 at Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, in
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

Includes:

- ✓ Comprehensive training for personnel of Tribal wastewater utilities
- ✓ Travel Expense Reimbursement Stipends Available



Student comments from past offerings of this course.

*"He [the instructor] made the class very fun
and easy to interact and understand."*

"Awesome Training!"

[I learned:] *"How to detect problems in
Lagoons and fix the problems."*



NATIONAL TRIBAL WATER SYSTEMS OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
TRAINING EVENT BROCHURE

WASTEWATER LAGOONS
OPERATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING COURSE (Event ID #26008-blended)
Parts 1 & 2

PART 1, live On-Line
June 15 - 18, 2026
Mon. - Thurs.

AND

PART 2, In-Person
June 22 - 26, 2026
Mon. – Fri.
Albuquerque, New Mexico

THE TRAINING COURSE:

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) is pleased to offer the **Wastewater Lagoons Operator Training Course**. The course offers over 36 hours of training and is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of personnel that operate and maintain lagoon systems on Tribal lands. Subjects covered in this training course will include: wastewater lagoon system operations and diagnostics, collection and testing of wastewater samples, diagnosing and maintaining the disinfection and dechlorination process, wastewater treatment fundamentals, lagoon microbiology, troubleshooting BOD problems, TSS control, sludge removal, wastewater math, wastewater lagoon design and construction, and more. Training reference materials will be mailed to registrants that are accepted into this course.

ITCA does NOT “teach to the certification exams.” Students intending to take operator certification exam during this training course are encouraged to study the need-to-know criteria and recommended study guide references associated with the certification exam. An optional certification exam will be offered for free during the second part of this training course. Attendees that are only interested in the training may choose not to take the certification exam.

COST:

Personnel of Tribal water utilities may attend this training course for **free**.

INSTRUCTOR:

ITCA has contracted with subject-matter expert Mr. Pete Boettcher, of Wastewater Ops Assistance, to instruct this training course. Mr. Boettcher has extensive experience in the operation and maintenance of wastewater systems in Indian Country.

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Cocopah Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Tribe
Gila River Indian Community
Havasupai Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Hualapai Tribe
Kaibab-Paiute Tribe
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Pueblo of Zuni
Quechan Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe
Tohono O’odham Nation
Tonto Apache Tribe
White Mountain Apache Tribe
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe

BLENDED LEARNING FORMAT:

This training course covers a comprehensive curriculum that is provided in two sequential parts.

(Part 1 uses a live on-line virtual format) and (part 2 uses an in-person classroom format).

The in-person Part 2 picks up where the virtual Part 1 ends. The in-person Part 2 will not review curriculum content covered during the virtual Part 1.

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer

LOCATION OF PART 2:

Part 2 of the training course will take place at the **Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute**, which is located at 9169 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120. The contact phone number for the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute is (505) 792-2976.

DATES & TIMES:

The training course will follow the tentative schedule shown in the below table. A course syllabus with full agenda will be provided to individuals that are accepted into the course.

<u>PART 1: Live On-Line Class Sessions</u>			
Class Session 1	Class Session 2	Class Session 3	Class Session 4
Monday, June 15, 2026	Tuesday, June 16, 2026	Wednesday, June 17, 2026	Thursday, June 18, 2026
8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time			

Computer Microphone & Camera. Part 1 of this course requires that students use a computer **microphone** (headset is preferred) and a **web camera** to enable interaction and participation in group activities. It is important to have these items for the start of class. ITCA offers both a headset and web camera for free to registrants that are accepted into this course. During registration, please specify if any of these items are needed.

<u>PART 2: In-Person Class Sessions</u> at the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico			
Date	Activities	Local Time	
		Start	End
Monday, June 22, 2026	Class Session 5	8:30 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
	Lunch Break (on your own)	12:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
	Class Session 6	1:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m. or earlier
Tuesday, June 23, 2026	Class Session 7	8:30 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
	Lunch Break (on your own)	12:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
	Class Session 8	1:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m. or earlier
Wednesday, June 24, 2026	Class Session 9	8:30 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
	Lunch Break (on your own)	12:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
	Class Session 10	1:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m. or earlier

Thursday, June 25, 2026	Class Session 11 Lunch Break (on your own) Class Session 12	8:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. or earlier
Friday, June 26, 2026	Operator Certification Exam Session	8:30 a.m.	12:00 p.m. or earlier

The following certification exam session will take place during the in-person Part 2 of the training event for those interested in earning the Wastewater Lagoons Operator Certification through the ITCA National Tribal Water & Wastewater Operator Certification Program. *Please be advised that prior approval from ITCA is required for admission into the exam session. There will be no late admission into the exam session.*

On Friday, June 26, 2026, starting promptly at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at or before 12:00 p.m., the Wastewater Lagoons Operator Certification Exam will be administered to interested and eligible Tribal water utilities personnel. This will be a closed-book exam.

ATTENDANCE & CONTACT HOURS:

Attendees that complete the course requirements will receive written recognition of earned training contact hours based on class participation, homework assignments, and attendance. Training contact hours may be accepted towards the training requirements for new certification or as Professional Development Hour (PDH) / continuing education credit towards the renewal of existing certification. Confirmed registrants that are interested in only earning training contact hours may attend as many of the class sessions as needed.

ITCA PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:

The National Tribal Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Program at ITCA serves to meet the needs of system operators working on Tribal lands and to provide a jurisdictionally correct alternative to state certification programs. The ITCA is a U.S. EPA-approved provider of certification services under the U.S. EPA Tribal Drinking Water Operator Certification Program Guidelines and makes its services available to all Tribal water and wastewater utilities personnel working in Indian Country. ITCA-issued certification in drinking water or wastewater is deemed equivalent and accepted through reciprocity (exam waiver) by numerous states. Tribal operator certification is an additional way by which Tribal governments can exercise their sovereignty and promote their self-determination goals.

REGISTRATION: Course Registration Deadline is June 10, 2026

Training course size is limited. To register, click on this event’s active link on the ITCA National Tribal Water Systems (TWS) Program webpage (<http://www.itcaonline.com/tws>) to visit the on-line registration platform or manually complete and return the attached registration form. Registration for this event is scheduled to close at the end of the day on **June 10, 2026**. Registration is subject to close before this deadline if all class seats are reserved. Registrants that are accepted into the training course will receive written confirmation of a reserved seat. Please Note: a reserved seat does not apply to the exam sessions. Separate written approval is required to be admitted into the certification exam sessions (see Exam & Certification section below).

LODGING:

You are responsible for making your own travel and lodging arrangements. For your convenience, a few hotels within the area are listed below. This is a non-inclusive, non-endorsement listing.

- Spark by Hilton Albuquerque North I-25, 4630 Pan American Fwy NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109, phone: (505) 830-0900
- TownePlace Suites by Marriott Albuquerque North, 5511 Office Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109, phone: (505) 345-3131
- Holiday Inn & Suites Albuquerque North I-25 by IHG, 5050 Jefferson St NE, Albuquerque, NM, 87109, phone: (505) 944-2222

TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT STIPENDS:

Limited travel expense reimbursement stipends (partial reimbursement) may be available for individuals who are working on Tribal lands and who attend the entire training event. Travel expense cost will be considered for reimbursement on a case-by-case basis and may be subject to funding restrictions. Travel expenses are reimbursed at the federal government GSA rates. The maximum per diem rate for zip code 87120 in Albuquerque, New Mexico for the time period of this event is \$144 for lodging and \$80 for meals and incidentals. According to federal guidelines, local residents traveling less than fifty miles one-way are eligible only for mileage reimbursement costs for use of privately-owned automobiles at the rate of \$0.725 per mile. Per GSA guidelines, participation in provided meals are to be deducted from reimbursement calculations.

To request a travel expense reimbursement, please submit an ***ITCA Travel Expense Reimbursement Claim Form*** within fifteen (15) days following the training event. This form is available upon request. The travel expense claim form must include the signature of the attendee's supervisor. ITCA will verify an applicant's eligibility based on event attendance records maintained by ITCA.

A registrant that has received seat confirmation from ITCA may request written verification of ITCA reimbursement funds prior to travel. To do so, please submit a completed *Preliminary Application for Travel Reimbursement Stipend Form* to ITCA before your travel to the event. This form is available upon request. The form must include the signature of the confirmed registrant's supervisor. Preliminary applications received five business days prior to the start of the in-person Part 2 of the course will be considered on a first-come first-served basis and will be subject to funding availability. Preliminary applications that are approved by ITCA will receive written notice stating the level of funding available for their travel reimbursement.

PUBLIC HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS:

Protection of public health is a top priority and ITCA intends for the in-person Part 2 of this event to align with federal and local guidelines and recommendations. This training event is available for personnel working on Tribal lands located throughout the country. Therefore, some of the attendees, the instructor / speakers, and facilitators will travel from various other locations to attend the in-person Part 2 of the event, which will take place indoors within meeting rooms. Attendees will be encouraged to sit in an every-other seat pattern for social distancing and for exam proctoring best practices. Individuals are free to choose whether to wear a facemask, including during the exam sessions.

Please Note: Photographs taken by ITCA staff at training/meeting events may be used in ITCA publications including, but not limited to, ITCA's website, publications and social media. If you do not consent to have your photograph published, please notify ITCA staff at the training/meeting event.

For additional information, please contact the ITCA Tribal Water Systems Department at (602) 258-4822.

