Wastewater Operator Certification
Associated Industries: Architecture and Construction | Life, Physical, and Social Science (STEM) | Manufacturing

Description and Labor Market Information
The Wastewater Operator Certification is a required certification in the State of Hawai‘i for Wastewater plant operators. It provides wastewater training to increase the knowledge and skills of plant operators and maintenance personnel, to improve plant compliance and to optimize treatment effectiveness, efficiency, and reliability.

This credential was associated with 6 occupations that were identified as well-paying and in demand. Overall, those occupations represent 12,033 positions with 1,311 annual openings within the state and median hourly earnings of $30.40.

Sample Occupations

Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant and System Operators
- Median Hourly Earnings: $25.90
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
- Total Positions: 459
- Annual Job Openings: 45

Maintenance and Repair Workers
- Median Hourly Earnings: $21.95
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
- Total Positions: 7,669
- Annual Job Openings: 801

First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers
- Median Hourly Earnings: $28.75
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
- Total Positions: 1,402
- Annual Job Openings: 149

Certifying Entity Information
- Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Website: www.wrcc.Hawai‘i.edu
- Phone: (808) 956-7298
- Local Availability: Water Resources Research Center, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

Exam Details
- Age Requirement: N/A
- Coursework/Hours to Complete:
- Minimum 1 year work experience
- Length of Certification Validity: Expires October 15 of every even-numbered year
- Exam Cost: $25 registration fee, $100 exam fee
- Exam Time: N/A
- Number of Questions: N/A
- Pass Rate: N/A
PROMISING CREDENTIALS IN HAWAIʻI

This project has been a joint effort between Kamehameha Schools, the Chamber of Commerce Hawai‘i, University of Hawai‘i P-20, and the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation.

Students in Hawai‘i can earn hundreds of industry-recognized credentials right now. Thousands of students are investing time and resources to achieve these credentials with the hope they will lead to a career that enables them to live and thrive in Hawai‘i. But how effective are these programs at preparing Hawai‘i students for future careers and long-term success?

Promising Credentials in Hawai‘i, a first-of-its-kind analysis for our state, looks at whether the credentials students can earn actually matter in the real world to local employers.

Through intensive labor market analysis and outreach to local Hawai‘i businesses, this project has identified 137 Promising Credentials that are associated with in-demand, living wage occupations throughout the state. The process began with identifying 274 Promising Occupations that met wage and demand thresholds. A list of corresponding credentials for the 274 occupations was then compiled using job postings data. Finally, Hawai‘i employers from across the state completed surveys and participated in focus groups to narrow the list of nearly 2,000 credentials down to the 137 credentials they say matter most when making hiring and promotion decisions.

The resulting Promising Credentials were identified as relevant in hiring and promotional decisions for multiple in demand and well-paying occupations within the state. A detailed one-page summary of each of these Promising Credentials has been organized for student, school, and community use.

The comprehensive report and associated data can be found at www.HawaiiCareerPathways.org.