

Manisha Juthani, MD Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

## Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch

## EHDW Circular Letter #2022-25

TO: Certified Water System Operators

Community and Non-Transient Non-Community Public Water Systems

Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief Jai Mathieu '22 Environmental Health and Drinking Water Branch **FROM:** 

**DATE:** June 17, 2022

**SUBJECT:** CT DPH Commissioner's Order 5-5-2022 - Reinstatement of Licensure Renewal Requirements

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic Governor Lamont on March 10, 2020 issued a Declaration of Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergencies (Declaration). The Commissioner of Public Health issued an order on March 30, 2020 suspending the requirements for license renewal which continued through the Governor's declaration of a public health emergency. The Governor's declaration ended on February 15, 2022.

This letter is to inform you that the Commissioner has ordered the resumption of the renewal requirements effective May 10, 2022. The Order specifies that any license/certification, which was not renewed during the period of suspension of license renewal requirements, that is not renewed by November 10, 2022 shall expire. Licensees who wish to renew their licenses/certifications will have until November 10, 2022, to renew the license by completing the renewal requirements for their license.

During the declaration, the Department of Public Health extended Certified Water Operator certificates' expiration dates to keep certifications in an active status. No additional extension or modification of the renewal deadline is expected. Certified Operators should not wait and should prepare to submit their renewal application in advance of the November 10, 2022, date. The filing of an application will not extend the renewal deadline. If you file an application without leaving sufficient time for the Department to process the application, your certificate will expire November 10, 2022.

The Operator Certification Program has emailed out renewal applications to each operator whose certification renewal requirement was suspended. For any Operator who has not yet received their renewal application, it may be requested by sending an email to dph.opcert@ct.gov. Operators are to print and fill out their renewal application and mail it to the below mailing address along with the required application fee (payee "Treasurer, State of Connecticut", bank check, personnel check or money order) and where applicable copies of training course certificates and/or transcripts.



Phone: (860) 509-7101 • Fax: (860) 509-7111 Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1 410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308 www.ct.gov/dph Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



While the renewal cycle of a "Suspended Renewal" has been extended, the next renewal cycle will be shortened by an equivalent amount. This means that operators will have less time to accumulate the require training contact hours or completed required device tests in their next renewal cycle and it is therefore advantageous to renew sooner than later in this renewal cycle.

Certified Water Operators who let their certification expire will have to meet all initial certification requirements (initial application, application fee, passage of examination, etc.) to regain their certification. Any Certified Water Operator who does not wish to renew the certification can disregard this notice. No action or notification to DPH is needed.

Water Treatment Plant, Distribution System and Small Water System Operators are to note the following web links to lists of CT DPH Approved Training Courses:

CT DPH Approved Water Operator Internet or Correspondence Training Courses
CT DPH Approved Water Operator Classroom Training Courses

Operators are reminded that they may view the status of their certification and expiration date, <u>without password</u>, on the <u>eLicense</u> website (click on "Online Services", click on "Lookup a License", enter in First Name and Last Name, click "Submit").

C: Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, Deputy Commissioner, DPH