

# Water Quality Technology

## Contact Info.

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Casper College



Designed to meet the needs of working operators, Casper College's Water Quality Technology Degree program is structured so that core classes, designated ENVT, are delivered in one-two- and three-day time blocks offered throughout the semester. Many are also offered online so that working operators can easily pursue this degree program.

All core classes can be used for Wyoming operator license/certification renewals. Other required courses can be taken at a local community college. For those who do not wish to pursue a two year degree, a certificate in water quality technology is also available.

## Job Outlook

Water and wastewater treatment plant and system operator jobs are expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations. Job opportunities should be excellent for qualified workers. Employment of water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators is expected to grow by 14 percent between 2006 and 2016, which is faster than the average for all occupations. An increasing population and the growth of the economy are expected to boost demand for water and wastewater treatment services. As new plants are constructed to meet this demand, new water and wastewater treatment plant and system operator jobs will arise.



## Points of Pride

- Small class sizes
- Experienced, award winning instructors
- Classes are excellent for Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Exam preparation/review
- Designed for the working operator
- College credits awarded for current operator licenses
- Excellent advising
- Internship opportunities
- Many scholarships available

Trades and Technology • Fact Sheet

# Water Quality Technology

Local governments are the largest employers of water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators. Employment in privately owned facilities will grow faster as federal certification requirements have increased utilities reliance on private firms specializing in the operation and management of water and wastewater treatment facilities. Workers who have training in all aspects of water and wastewater treatment and who can handle multiple duties will have the best opportunities.

The increasing population and the growth of the economy are expected to boost demand for essential water and wastewater treatment services. As new plants are constructed to meet this demand, employment of water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators will increase. In addition, many job openings will occur as experienced operators leave the labor force or transfer to other occupations.



## Job Prospects/ Potential Earnings

Median annual earnings of water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators were \$36,070 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$28,120 and \$45,190. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$21,860, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$55,120.

In addition to their annual salaries, water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators usually receive benefits that may include health and life insurance, a retirement plan, and educational reimbursement for job-related courses.\*

\*Bureau of Labor Statistics



## Curriculum: Water Quality Technology

### Major Requirements:

- o Public Speaking
- o Computer Information Systems
- o Applied Math for Operators
- o Distribution Systems
- o Collection System Operation/Maintenance
- o Trenching and Shoring
- o Confined Spaces
- o Safety in Water Quality
- o System Operations
- o Water Treatment Plant Operation I
- o Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation I
- o Applied Math for Water Plant Operators
- o Applied Math for Wastewater Plant Operators
- o Water Treatment Plant Operation II
- o Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation II
- o Introduction to Supervision
- o Principles of Management