



SCOTT A. THOMPSON
Executive Director

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

KEVIN STITT
Governor

To: Oklahoma Operator Certifications instructors, coordinators, and students

Date: March 17, 2020

Re: Operator Certification License Renewal Requirements

Due to the unprecedented threat of the Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has suspended the deadline for the requirement of having four (4) hours of training in order to renewal operator certification licenses by July 1, 2020 (the upcoming renewal period).

Late fees will not be assessed for applying for license renewal after July 1, 2020. The grace period that normally exists July 1-31 will be extended through September 30, 2020. We will be monitoring the situation for further adjustments as needed.

We understand and promote the need for social distancing during this period of uncertainty. Therefore, we are taking additional precautions including suspending the review or approval for any training sessions scheduled between today and May 31, 2020. Classes already approved can be conducted at the discretion of the instructor, venue and if it can be conducted within the requirements established by the State of Oklahoma, county and city of the location. The DEQ recommends the postponement of all classes through April 15 or until the declared State of Emergency has been lifted.

Students that have already been approved for testing can choose to attend their designated class if it is conducted (contact the instructor in advance to verify status of testing), or students can reschedule with no penalty for up to 180 days following the originally scheduled class/test.

These measures will contribute to slow the spread of COVID-19. As the situation evolves additional adjustments may be needed. If you have questions, please contact the DEQ Operator Certification program at 405-702-8100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Shellie R. Chard'.

Shellie R. Chard, Director
Water Quality Division

