



SCOTT A. THOMPSON
Executive Director

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

KEVIN STITT
Governor

Date: September 30, 2020

To: Oklahoma Operator Certifications instructors, coordinators, and students

Re: Operator Certification License Renewal Requirements

Due to the unprecedented threat of the Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 and in accordance with Governor Stitt's Executive Order, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has extended the deadline for the requirement of having four (4) hours of training in order to renew operator certification licenses by July 1, 2020 (the current renewal period) to fourteen (14) days after the Executive Order is withdrawn or terminated.

The Executive Order reads:

All occupational licenses issued by any agency, board, or commission of the State of Oklahoma that expire during this emergency shall be extended. All occupational licenses extended during this Order will expire fourteen (14) days following the withdrawal or termination of this Order.

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 until fourteen (14) days following the withdrawal or termination of the Order.

The DEQ strongly recommends utilizing either online or in person classes to meet the requirement of having four (4) hours of training as soon as possible. It is not known when the Order will be withdrawn or terminated. Any non-renewed license will expire and late fees will begin to be assessed fourteen (14) days after the Order is withdrawn or terminated.

We understand and promote the need for social distancing during this period of uncertainty. The DEQ recommends all in person training sessions meet all social distancing requirements and the requirements established by the State of Oklahoma, county, and city of the training session location.

Thank you for continuing to take measures to slow the spread of COVID-19. More importantly, thank you for all you do to protect public health and the environment every day by providing safe drinking water and keeping our recreational waters safe. As the situation evolves, DEQ will continue to make adjustments as needed. If you have questions, please contact Andy Callaway at (405) 702-8114 or Andy.Callaway@deq.ok.gov.

Sincerely,

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

Shellie R. Chard, Director

Water Quality Division

