

# STATE OF COLORADO

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*Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado*

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Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

## **Do you qualify for a \$100 reimbursement of operator certification expenses?**

Section 1419(d) of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments includes provisions for the reimbursement of the costs associated with the certification of persons operating community and non-transient non-community public water systems serving 3,300 persons or less.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) has received approval of its Expense Reimbursement Grant Workplan, which includes the direct reimbursement of the certification expenses of operators who have successfully obtained new water treatment or water distribution certifications. **The Division will provide up to one hundred dollars (\$100) reimbursement to operators or water systems to offset the costs of such new certifications.** There will be no reimbursements for the costs of certification renewals or for certifications obtained by reciprocity. The reimbursements will cover costs (not to exceed \$100 per certification) incurred by operators who have attained **certification in water treatment or water distribution** after May 18, 2001 and before May 18, 2004. The closing date may be extended if funds are available.

Public water systems are eligible for the reimbursement if they paid, either directly or by reimbursement, for the certification expenses of their operators. Individual operators are eligible for the reimbursement if they paid their own certification costs and were not reimbursed.

Attached to this document are the reimbursement request form and an IRS W-9 form. The reimbursement request form and W-9 form must be completely filled out and the water system manager or owner must sign the reimbursement form to certify: (1) that the water system serves 3,300 persons or less, (2) that the operator was employed by the water system when certification expenses were incurred, and (3) the name of the person to whom the payment should be made - either the certified operator or the public water system. Payment will not be made to a third party.

The notification of this reimbursement program is being mailed in stages to limit the number of reimbursement requests received by the Division. Individuals requesting reimbursement for operator certification expenses should allow minimum of 60 days for processing the application.

Any questions concerning this reimbursement project should be directed to Kent Kuster at (303) 692-3515 or by mail to Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Bldg. B-2, Denver, CO 80246-1530.