



## NR114 Code Revision Operator Certification Conversions

All subclasses will be converted as follows on July 1, 2015.

Current Subclass Name	Will be converted to:	New Subclass Name(s)
<i>Primary Treatment</i>	➔	<b>Solids Separation</b>
<i>Trickling Filters and RBCs<sup>1</sup></i>	➔	<b>Biological Treatment - Attached Growth</b>
	➔	<b>Solids Separation</b>
	➔	<b>Biological Solids/Sludge Handling, Processing and Reuse</b>
<i>Activated Sludge<sup>1</sup></i>	➔	<b>Biological Treatment - Suspended Growth</b>
	➔	<b>Solids Separation</b>
	➔	<b>Biological Solids/Sludge Handling, Processing and Reuse</b>
<i>Stabilization Ponds and Aerated Lagoons</i>	➔	<b>Ponds, Lagoons and Natural Systems</b>
<i>Disinfection</i>	➔	<b>Disinfection</b>
<i>Anaerobic Digestion</i>	➔	<b>Biological Solids/Sludge Handling, Processing and Reuse</b>
<i>Mechanical Sludge Dewatering</i>	➔	<b>Biological Solids/Sludge Handling, Processing and Reuse</b>
<i>Filtration</i>	➔	<b>Solids Separation</b>
<i>Phosphorus Removal</i>	➔	<b>Nutrient Removal – Total Phosphorus</b>
<i>Laboratory</i>	➔	<b>Laboratory</b>
<i>Special K<sup>2</sup></i>	➔	<b>Unique Treatment Process</b>
<i>Electroplating/Metal Finishing</i>	➔	<b>Unique Treatment Process</b>

1. Trickling Filters/RBCs and Activated Sludge will convert to three of the new subclasses.

2. Operators who took the Special K exam for a facility with recirculating media filters will receive the new Recirculating Media Filters subclass in place of the Unique Treatment Process subclass.

## **Grade levels will be converted as follows on July 1, 2015**

**Grade T subclasses** will convert to **Operator-in-Training (OIT)**. One year of subclass specific experience will still be required to move above Operator-in-Training.

**Grade 1 and Grade 2 subclasses** will convert to the **Basic Level**, except if one or more other subclasses are at Grade 3 or Grade 4.

**Grade 3 and Grade 4 subclasses:** If an operator has Grade 3 or Grade 4 in any subclass (except Special K and Electroplating/Metal Finishing), all subclasses Grade 1 and higher will convert to the **Advanced Level**. The operator will receive their “10 points” towards Advanced Certification.

### How to prepare for the changes:

All operator certifications will be converted into the new system based on the grade level and subclasses of the certification at the time the new code takes effect (July 1, 2015). If the operator has passed advanced level exams and has enough experience to be at Grade 3 or Grade 4 in at least one subclass, but has not submitted their experience form, they must submit that form before the code goes into effect to ensure transfer to the Advanced level.

If an operator’s certification does not convert to the advanced level, they can apply for advanced certification at a later date by obtaining 10 points.

### Reminder of how to obtain Grade 3 or 4 with the current system:

- **Grade T** - Pass introductory or advanced general exam and introductory or advanced subclass exam(s).
- **Grade 1** - Pass introductory or advanced general exam and introductory or advanced subclass exam(s), plus have one year of satisfactory subclass specific experience.
- **Grade 2** - Have met the requirements of Grade 1, plus have 2 years of general experience in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant.
- **Grade 3** - Pass advanced general exam and advanced subclass exam(s), plus have one year of satisfactory subclass specific experience and 3 years of general experience in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant.
- **Grade 4** - Have met the requirements of Grade 3, plus have 4 years of general experience in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant.

For more information, visit the DNR website at <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search keywords “Operator Certification”.