



Recertification FAQ

As a Certified Water Technologist (CWT), you are part of an elite group that recognizes the importance and effectiveness of this professional certification. Your CWT designation categorically confirms, to clients and peers alike, that you are experienced, knowledgeable, and educated in all aspects of water treatment.

Q: Why is recertification important?

The CWT certification requires that individuals embrace continuing education. Given the pace of social, technological, professional, and disciplinary change, permanent certification is an insufficient guarantee of career-long competence. Recertification is a means to sustain proficiency, motivation, and public trust; it verifies that your commitment to learning doesn't end once you become certified.

Q: How often do I need to recertify?

CWTs must recertify every five years to assure clients and peers that they are staying current on emerging technologies and best practices.

Q: How much does it cost to recertify?

AWT Member: \$125.00 (once every five years)

Nonmember: \$250.00 (once every five years)

Q: How can I recertify?

CWTs can recertify by:

- Taking and passing the CWT exam (exam fee applies)—details at <http://awt.org/Certification/index.cfm>

OR

- Accruing Continuing Education Units (CEUs). For recertification purposes, a CEU is defined as a unit awarded for participation in a professionally recognized continuing education program, workshop, seminar, tutorial, or self-study course.

Q: How many CEUs are required for recertification?

During each five-year CWT certification period, you must accrue 25 CEUs from professional development education.

Q: How do I accrue CEUs?

There are many ways to accrue the required credits. CEU options and their unit allocations can be found on pages 7–10 of the [CWT Recertification Handbook](#).

Q: How do I track my CEUs?

AWT maintains a record of all CEUs accrued from attendance at AWT-sponsored events or programs; when recertifying, no further proof of this attendance is required. CEUs from said events are recorded in the AWT database shortly after they conclude. AWT members can view their event activity from the *Members Only* portion of the website at www.awt.org/login/; these must be listed on the CWT Recertification Application.

All CEUs claimed from non-AWT events must be supported by documented proof (e.g., Certificate/Letter of Attendance, signed participation letter, copy of transcript/certificate/diploma); failure to provide documented proof of these CEUs will render them invalid.

Q: Who evaluates and approves course content for CEUs?

The Certification Committee evaluates and approves course content submitted for CEU approval. All non-AWT sponsored courses, workshops, seminars, etc. attended or personally created and/or presented by a CWT will need to be evaluated for content before credit is approved.

Q: If the course is to be presented at several locations and/or dates throughout the year, are CEUs awarded for all locations/dates?

CEUs are awarded for continuing education, not repeated education. CEUs can only be claimed once per year for any event in a calendar year (e.g., if you attend the same event, or present the same seminar, three times in one year, credit can only be claimed once). If an event runs over a number of weeks or months, credits can be claimed for each portion you complete, or for the completed course.

Q: What forms do I need to submit for recertification purposes?

CWTs need to submit a Recertification Application found in the [Recertification Handbook](#). The Recertification Application should be submitted three months in advance of the recertification due date.

Q: What happens if I let my CWT expire?

A three-month grace period for application and completion of the recertification process is granted following the day that the current certification period lapses. After that, failure to complete the recertification process within said three-month grace period will render the certification *Inactive* until successful completion of the recertification process and receipt of the recertification fee at AWT Headquarters. An individual who shows an *Inactive* status will have the CWT designation removed from their record and the AWT website listing until the designation becomes current again.

Recertification is allowed during the *Inactive* status if the recertification process is finalized within one year from the day the three-month grace period lapses. Individuals who successfully apply for recertification within the *Inactive* period and meet all of the

recertification requirements, will be reissued their original certification number upon approval.

Please be advised that CEUs accrued during the three-month grace period are not viable for current recertification purposes but will be applied to the subsequent recertification period. CEUs accrued during the *Inactive* period are not viable for current or subsequent recertification purposes.

Failure to recertify during the *Inactive* period will render said individual *Invalid* for recertification. In this instance, said individual must begin the certification process anew by taking, and passing, the CWT exam and meeting the current certification criteria at the time of submission of the latest application, including payment of all fees in effect. No exceptions will be made.

An individual with an *Invalid* certification status will forfeit their original certificate number and be issued a new certificate number upon completion of the certification process. Anyone inquiring about the certification status of an individual whose certification has become *Inactive* or *Invalid* will be informed that the individual is not currently certified; no further information or explanation will be supplied.

Q: Who should I call if I have questions?

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please contact Angela Pike, Certification Program Manager at apike@awt.org or (240) 404-6477.