

Preparing for the Level 5 Certified Drinking Water Operator Exam:

1. The exam is 25 multiple choice questions regarding basic public drinking water information and regulations from the Safe Drinking Water Act, which is the law governing noncommunity public water supply facilities.
2. The following subjects are typically covered on the S-5 certification examination (subjects and questions change on a regular basis):

Basic Math, Cross Connection Control, Compliance & Safe Drinking Water Act (general), Distribution/Storage/Pumps (general), Emergency Response, Lead & Copper (action levels), Maximum Contaminant Level's (bacteriological & chemical), Monitoring & Reporting/Public Notice, Operation & Maintenance, Public Health, Recordkeeping, Safety, Water Quality, Well Construction, Wellhead Protection.

3. A person must obtain a score of at least 70% to pass the exam and become a certified drinking water operator.
4. The "S" class exam (S-5) is for distribution systems and no treatment at all or treatment that does not require public health related oversight. (Small facilities with a well and distribution piping, possibly with a water softener for hard water).
5. The "D" class exam (D-5) is for systems with *limited* treatment used to meet drinking water standards or that through use, may impact public health if there is a failure to function or improper operation/maintenance.
6. The "F" class exam is for surface water or ground water under the direct influence of surface water.
7. The examination application & operator information can be found on the website: www.michigan.gov/deqoperatortraining.
8. Information on the Noncommunity Water Supply program can be found at www.michigan.gov/deqnoncommunitywatersupply.
9. Exam questions are designed to be clear, not misleading or tricky and to cover basic information important to the operation & maintenance of a small noncommunity system.
10. Review of the document - [Michigan Noncommunity Program Level 5 Drinking Water Operator Guide](#) may be helpful for preparing for the exam.