

TO: NEWWA Certified Backflow Prevention Device Testers  
FROM: Nelson Cabral, Program Coordinator – Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention  
DATE: June 3, 2015  
SUBJECT: New Renewal Requirements for Backflow Prevention Device Tester Certification

Effective **January 1, 2017**, there are new requirements for renewal of the Backflow Prevention Device Inspector/Tester Certification.

NEWWA's Board of Certification of Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control met on May 8, 2015, and voted to require Certified Backflow Testers to obtain 0.6 CEUs in the areas of backflow prevention and cross connection control, as well as pass a practical, performance-based recertification examination for recertification.

Renewal requirements for Backflow Prevention Device Tester Certification, as stated in "**New England Water Works Association Rules Governing Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control**" **Section 5.7, Sub-Section (a)**, now read:

5.7 The renewal requirements for certification are as follows:

(a) Backflow Prevention Device Inspector /Tester

1. Obtain 0.6 CEUs in the areas of backflow prevention device testing or cross-connection control as approved by the Board and pass a performance recertification examination; or,
2. Demonstrate competency to the board's satisfaction in the proper inspection/testing techniques of backflow prevention devices.

**This language replaces the previous, which read:**

5.7 The renewal requirements for certification are as follows:

(a) Backflow Prevention Device Inspector /Tester

1. Test 50 devices in a three year period and obtain .6 CEUs in the areas of backflow prevention device testing or cross-connection control as approved by the Board; or
2. Pass a performance examination; or demonstrate competency to the board's satisfaction in the proper inspection/testing techniques of backflow prevention devices by passing a Board approved written performance based recertification examination.

The NEWWA Board of Certification of Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control determined that this change was necessary in order to better align NEWWA's Backflow Prevention Device Inspector/Tester Certification program with industry standards and practices, and to measure and ensure competency of inspectors/testers.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the new requirements please feel free to contact me via phone at (508) 893-7979 ext. 229 or via e-mail at [ncabral@newwa.org](mailto:ncabral@newwa.org).