

# OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM UPDATE

JUNE 2025

## NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

### REVISED EXAMS AND NEED TO KNOW CRITERIA

WPI has revised the Operator Certification exams. **ADEM hopes to adopt the revised exams by September 2025.** About 6 weeks before the revised exams go live at PSI test centers, **we will send emails to** addresses we have on file for **operators, utility contacts, and trainers.** The email will give the date the revised exams will be available as well as the revised Need to Know criteria.

### OPCERT ONLINE DEMO AT AWPCA IN AUGUST

Development of the **new digital platform** is going well. Our vendor will **demonstrate** ADEM's "**OpCert Online**" at the **AWPCA conference** in August.

**Hands-on training for the new platform will be rolled out through our training partners and through workshops throughout the state in 2026.**

### SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

The Water II course and a new course for Onsite Water Treatment are still under development. For more information on Skills for Success, go to [www.trainforalabama.com](http://www.trainforalabama.com).

## Meet the Staff

### Abigail Smith

Hello all,

I am the new operator certification clerk.

I graduated from Faulkner University with a bachelor's degree in English and am currently going back for a master's in business administration. I have a three-year background in banking.

On a personal level, I am an optimist who loves little creatures (especially otters). I have a little Terrier-Chihuahua fur baby, Phineas, and he brightens the days of everyone he meets.

In my free time I enjoy reading fiction, writing novels, puppy snuggles, playing piano or practicing the ukulele, and going on outdoor adventures such as kayaking or scuba diving.

My husband is my forever adventure buddy who supports my wild escapades.

I am happy to be here serving as part of the ADEM operator certification team!

## ASSOCIATION UPDATES (CLICK HEADERS BELOW TO GO DIRECTLY TO THEIR WEBSITES)

### ARWA (ALABAMA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION)

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
July 15	Grade III/IV Water	Alabaster	30	Water
July 29	Grade I/II Water	Online	30	Water

### AWEA (ALABAMA'S WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION)

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
July 11	11a-1noon; Wastewater 101	Birmingham	1	Wastewater
Aug 20-Nov 12	Wastewater Certification Training; \$250; traditional lecture and hands-on training, supplies included; email: Jeremy Creel <a href="mailto:creelj@jccal.org">creelj@jccal.org</a>	Hoover	60	Wastewater
Sep 17	7:15-3:45; General Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Training; email: Virgil White <a href="mailto:vwhite@athens-utilities.com">vwhite@athens-utilities.com</a>	Athens	7	Wastewater

### AWPCA (ALABAMA WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION)

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
August 11-13	79 <sup>th</sup> Annual AWPCA Short Course and Conference	Orange Beach	12	W/WW

Find previous updates here: <https://adem.alabama.gov/water/opcert/newsletters>

