**FOR APPRENTICES**

RIRWA Apprentices receive on-the-job training from an experienced drinking water or wastewater operator who serves as the apprentice’s mentor while receiving on the job training and job-related coursework and classes. Apprentices study for state certifications to become fully qualified drinking water or wastewater operators. Apprentices can be recent graduates, experienced workers, or military veterans.

What do drinking water and wastewater operators do? Click [here](https://rirwa.org/programs/what-do-drinking-water-and-wastewater-operators-do/) to find out.

**Benefits of Apprenticeship**

* Hands-on learning and job-related classroom or technical training provided
* Wage increases as new skills and certifications are earned
* Earn national and state certifications and licenses
* Build a career with advancement opportunities

**Minimum Qualifications**

* HS diploma or equivalent
* Valid DL (proof of age)
* Consent for background check and drug screen
* Physically able to perform physical labor

**RIRWA Apprentice Screening Process**

* Application is reviewed and must be completed, in full, with all documents uploaded with the application
* Interview with the RIRWA Workforce Development Coordinator

*Credit for prior experience and college credit will be considered*
*Direct Entry is granted to Veterans, Incumbent workers, Pre-apprenticeship completers. Must be documented and approved by RIRWA.*

Think the RIRWA Apprenticeship Program is a good fit for you? Apply [here](https://apprenticeship.nrwa.org/pub/index.htm).