

**MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES
PROFESSIONAL CODE OF ETHICS FOR WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS**

In order to establish and maintain a high standard of integrity, skills and practice in the profession of water system operations and to safeguard the life, health, property, and welfare of the public, the following rules of professional conduct are adopted by every person holding a license as a water system operator in Massachusetts. All persons licensed in Massachusetts are required to have knowledge of the existence of these rules of professional conduct and understand them.

1. The water systems operator shall, at all times, recognize his or her primary obligation is to protect the safety, health, and welfare of the public in the performance of his or her duties. If his or her judgement is overruled under circumstances where the safety, health, and welfare of the public are endangered, he or she shall inform his or her employer of the possible consequences and notify such other proper authority of the situation, as may be appropriate.
2. The water systems operator shall accept and perform water operations assignments only when qualified by education, or experience, in the specific technical area and levels of water operations involved. The water systems operator may accept an assignment requiring education, or experience outside of his or her own field of competence, but only under the direct supervision of licensed, qualified co-workers, consultants, or employees.
3. The water systems operator shall be completely objective and truthful in all professional reports, statements, or testimony. He or she shall include all relevant and pertinent information in such reports, statements, or testimony.
4. The water systems operator shall avoid conflicts of interest with his or her employer, or customer, but, when unavoidable, the water system operator shall promptly disclose the circumstances to his or her employer, or customer, of any business association, interest, or circumstances which could influence his or her judgment, or the quality of his or her work. The water system operator shall not review, or influence the decision of his or her employees' work for any public body on which he or she may serve.
5. The water system operator shall not solicit, or accept financial or other valuable items from material, or equipment suppliers for specifying their product.
6. The water system operator shall not solicit, or accept gratuities from contractors, or other parties dealing with his or her customers, or employer, in connection with work for which he, or she is responsible.
7. The water system operator shall not falsify his or her academic or professional qualifications. He or she shall not misrepresent or exaggerate his or her degree of responsibility in prior assignments, duties, or accomplishments to enhance his or her qualifications and work.
8. The water system operator shall not knowingly associate with or permit the use of his or her name or employer's name in the operation of a public water system which he or she knows or has reason to believe is engaging in business or professional practices of fraudulent or dishonest nature.
9. If the water system operator has knowledge or reason to believe that another person, or water purveyor, may be in violation of any of these rules, he or she shall present such information to the Massachusetts Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection in writing and shall cooperate with the regulatory agency in furnishing information, or assistance as may be required by the agency.

I have read and understood the above Professional Code of Ethics for Water System Operators and hereby agree to adhere to said code in performance of my duties. I further understand that failure to adhere to said code may result in disciplinary action and/or suspension or revocation of the license(s).

Name of Applicant (Print)

Signature of Applicant

Date