



RE: 2017 - 2018 Water / Wastewater Management Candidate School

Dear Superintendent or Manager:

JETCC is pleased to announce the 9th year of an exciting training program aimed at mid-level operators who have the potential to rise into a management position in your organization. We call the program Management Candidate School (MCS) because it will provide intensive training, networking and skill development coursework to help prepare the next generation of industry managers and leaders.

There are no guarantees that program participants will someday become superintendents, however, they do gain insight into how management works and factors that might impact the decision process. The purpose of the MCS is to help prepare individuals to be available to continue the critical work of managing the state's water and wastewater infrastructure as Maine's water and wastewater professionals age and our current managers retire.

The JETCC Board of Directors, Maine DEP, and the Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA) Executive Committee first led the effort to create this training program in 2009 for Maine's wastewater operators. Since then, financial support and endorsements from MEWEA, Maine DEP, Maine Water Utilities Association (MWUA) and Maine Department of Health and Human Services (Maine DHHS) have ensured that the curriculum also meets the needs of drinking water operators. The current class of 19 water and wastewater treatment plant operators will graduate on September 20, 2017, bringing the program alumni total to 152. Trainers and staff support for the MCS are provided by MEWEA, MWUA, the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), Maine DEP, Maine DHHS, and other industry supporters.

The 11-month program includes management courses, technical courses (such as blueprint reading and construction planning), as well as skill training in the areas of personnel management, media relations, dealing with regulatory agencies, budget preparation, etc. Participation in all sessions will involve more than 65 training contact hours.

The cost of the MCS program is \$850.00 for each participant. The student must commit to attend all monthly trainings which will usually be all-day events and the Operator Exchange. If the participants paid for the equivalent hours of training and special programs offered during the MCS program, the cost would be well over \$1,500.00.

Recognition for completing the Management Candidate School is given to all students. A certificate of completion will be awarded during a graduation ceremony to be held during the 2018 Maine Water Environment Association fall convention. JETCC also provides the course book and enrolls all students who desire to participate in the California State University at Sacramento "Manage for Success" Self-Study program. A diploma will be awarded to all students who complete the program assignments, Operator Exchange, and the CSUS "Manage for Success" self-study program.



Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee
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We are seeking recommendations for participants. The next MCS class will begin with a full-day introduction to Utility Management on Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at the Portland Water District, Portland, ME. The draft schedule of the 11-month agenda is attached.

Supervisors should either submit candidates for this program, or allow staff to recommend themselves. Please submit the attached recommendation form for each individual, **before October 18, 2017**. Please use the form to describe all pertinent job-history information, with a special emphasis on why you believe the nominated individual has the potential to become a manager or superintendent in the future. Tell us about the skills your candidate brings to the field. Does your candidate enthusiastically express an interest to take part in and learn all aspects of water or wastewater operation? Does he/she exhibit a sense of pride with their profession?

Please send the recommendation form to JETCC, 584 Main Street, South Portland, ME 04106. Should the number of candidates exceed the ideal class size of 20, the recommendation forms may be used to select the best qualified candidates for this year's program.


If you have any questions, please call Leeann Hanson - JETCC (253-8020).

For more information as to how this training works with your drinking water or wastewater operator license please call Jim Jacobsen– Maine DHHS (287-5695), or Judy Bruenjes – Maine DEP (287-7806). We look forward to working with you and the profession as a whole in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,



Matthew Timberlake, President
Maine Water Environment Association



Paul Mercer, Commissioner
Maine Department of Environmental Protection



Bruce Berger, Executive Director
Maine Water Utilities Association



Leonard Blanchette, Chairperson
Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee