

Weather Modification Association

QUALIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR CERTIFICATION

PURPOSE OF CERTIFICATION

One of the stated purposes of the WMA is to encourage and promote the highest standards of conduct. In order to further this goal and to protect the public interest, the WMA has established a certification program for individuals qualified to manage and/or operate weather modification field programs of a research or operational nature.

Two types of certification have been established: (1) a Certified Weather Modification Manager who has the character, knowledge, and experience necessary to design, manage, evaluate, and have overall responsibility for a weather modification program; (2) a certified Weather Modification Operator who has the character, knowledge, and experience necessary to provide the day to day, on-site supervision of a weather modification field program.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION

Weather Modification Manager- Certification shall be based on character, knowledge, and experience. Certification shall be granted at the discretion of the Certification Board, but the following shall be considered minimum requirements:

Category A: Eight years (96 active months) experience in weather modification research and/or operations.

Category B: A Bachelor's Degree with at least 25 semester hours of meteorology plus five years (60 active months) experience in weather modification research and/or operations.

Category C: A Master's Degree or Doctorate in Atmospheric Science and three years (36 active months) experience in weather modification research and/or operations.

The experience requirement may be fulfilled by either fulfilled by either field work or office or laboratory studies.

In addition to the above requirements, the applicant must pass a written examination (open book type) and an oral examination by the Certification Board. The applicant must also submit a report authored or co-authored by the applicant demonstrating the extent of his or her involvement in weather modification. The report must also be more than an operations report and must exhibit skills in research or the theory and practice of weather modification.

The applicant must also agree to accept and abide by the current WMA Code of Ethics and any Statement of Standards and Practices that the WMA has adopted at the time of application.

Weather Modification Operator- Certification shall be based on character, knowledge, and experience. Certification shall be granted at the discretion of the Certification Board, but the following shall be considered minimum requirements:

Category A: Twenty months actual "in the field" experience in weather modification research and/or operations.

Category B: A degree with at least 25 semester hours of meteorology and eight months actual "in the field" experience in weather modification research and/or operations.

The field experience must be in a project or projects designed to effect a change in the weather. Actual manipulation to produce a desired change in implied. The experience needs to be in a "responsible charge" position involving making treatment decisions and project management.

An oral examination may be required of the applicant. The applicant must agree to accept and abide by the WMA Code of Ethics and any Standard and Practices that the WMA has adopted at the time of application.

References are required from the employer, sponsor, or project manager for any field experience claimed. No experience credit will be given for any claimed time which is not supported by a favorable reference.

PROCEDURE AND FEES FOR CERTIFICATION

Persons desiring certification as individuals qualified for managing or conducting field experiments or operations in weather modification shall write to the Secretary of the Weather Modification Association requesting an application forms and instructions. The completed application form shall be returned to the Secretary and must be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$150.00 for a Certified Manager application and \$75.00 for a Certified Operator application made payable to the Weather Modification Association. This fee will be retained by the Weather Modification Association whether the application is accepted or denied.

The Certification Board shall review the application form and all other information required and will determine whether the applicant has satisfied the requirements for certification. The Certification Board may request additional information from the applicant prior to making a final decision as to whether or not the applicant meets the criteria for certification.

After review of the application, the Chairman of the Certification Board shall notify the applicant of the decision of the Board. If the applicant is approved, the Chairman of the Certification Board shall give the applicant a certificate to verify that the individual has met the qualification for certification.

Unsuccessful applicants may reapply for certification not earlier than one calendar year after notification of disapproval. Each subsequent application for certification shall be accompanied by a payment of the normal fee.

PERIOD OF CERTIFICATION AND RENEWAL

Certification of a member shall be effective for a period of three years from the date of issuance. Application for renewal of certification shall be submitted prior to expiration date in writing and accompanied by a fee of \$150.00 for a Certified Manager or \$75.00 for a Certified Operator. The same fees apply for those seeking reinstatement after a lapsed certification. Issuance of renewal or reinstatement shall be granted by the Board if there has been no indication of violations of the WMA Code of Ethics, or the current statement on Standards and Practices, and the applicant provides evidence of a continuing involvement in weather modification during the preceding amounting to at least 20% of his or her professional working hours, or the applicant is deemed knowledgeable on the current status of weather modification technology as determined by the Certification Board. If the Board does not recommend renewal or reinstatement, the case may be presented for the consideration of the certified members at any regular meeting if the applicant requests. Renewal or reinstatement shall be denied only if a majority of the certified members in attendance at the meeting indicate by secret written ballot that renewal shall be denied. The fee will be retained whether renewal or reinstatement is granted or not.