



Operations Specialist Training Assistance Scholarship Official Rules

The Operations Specialist Training Assistance Scholarship was founded by MetroQuip, Inc. in 2016 on behalf of Idaho's Operations Specialists and Backflow Assembly Testers.

The scholarship funds are available to help current and future Operations Specialists obtain and/or maintain drinking water and wastewater professional licensing. This scholarship is also available for Backflow Assembly Tester applicants for licensure and/or needing to obtain the required education to maintain licensure. The scholarship funds may be used to offset the cost of training or licensing requirements.

Any individual currently working in, or pursuing a license in, the drinking water or wastewater industry is eligible to apply for these funds. Idaho Rural Water Association employees, Board Members, and their immediate families are not eligible. Scholarship funds are limited up to \$250 per individual per calendar year (January 1 through December 31) as long as funds remain available.

Scholarship funds may be used for the following:

- formal classroom training tuition or online training tuition
- books and study material for operator licensure exams
- conference attendance fees
- application fees for examination, testing fees, or re-testing fees

Payments will be made from the scholarship fund directly to the training provider. Scholarships are valid for up to twelve months from the date awarded. Complete the attached application and provide a short essay (limited to 400 words) explaining how the funds will be used to assist the applicant in their operations specialist career. Letters of reference from your utility leadership or industry professionals are encouraged but not required (no more than 3 letters allowed).

Applications may be submitted anytime; there is no specific due date. Each annual scholarship cycle runs from January 1st through December 31st. Applicants may apply no more than one time annually. Applications will be evaluated on a comparative basis at the discretion of the IRWA Scholarship Committee. The Scholarship Committee will rank each applicant based on a pre-determined point system. Notifications will be made within thirty (30) days of receipt of application at the IRWA office via an acceptance or rejection letter in the mail. The letter will be sent to the address provided in the application. Scholarship application materials and decisions of the Scholarship Committee are confidential. All decisions are final.

Applications may be submitted electronically to office@idahoruralwater.com or by mail to:

Idaho Rural Water Association
Attn: Scholarship Committee
6395 W Gowen Rd
Boise, ID 83709