

Water Resources Board Occupational Licenses

Application License Name	Required Education Level	Required Experience/Qualifications	Statutory Citation	Fees
Groundwater Well Drilling	There are no specific educational requirements; however a working knowledge of the occupation is necessary. Knowledge areas include basic math, physics, science and safety.	A 90-day residency unless reciprocity applies. Qualifications include two years of experience in water well drilling for the responsible person for the firm and one-year experience for each licensed operator.	82 O.S., § 1020.16 and 1085.2	\$550.00 In state or \$750.00 out of state
Geotechnical Drilling	There are no specific educational requirements; however a working knowledge of the occupation is necessary. Knowledge areas include basic math, physics, science and safety.	A 90-day residency unless reciprocity applies. Qualifications include two years of experience in geotechnical drilling for the responsible person for the firm and one year experience for each licensed operator.	82 O.S., § 1020.16 and 1085.2	\$550.00 In state or \$750.00 out of state
Groundwater Well Pump Installation	There are no specific educational requirements; however a working knowledge of the occupation is necessary. Knowledge areas include basic math, physics, science and safety.	A 90-day residency is required unless reciprocity applies. Qualifications include two years of experience in pump installation for the responsible person for the firm and one year for each licensed operator. Related education can substitute for one year of experience.	82 O.S., § 1020.16 and 1085.2	\$550.00 In state or \$750.00 out of state

Heat Echange Well Drilling	There are no specific educational requirements; however a working knowledge of the occupation is necessary. Knowledge areas include basic math, physics, science and safety.	A 90-day residency unless reciprocity applies. Qualifications include two years of experience in heat exchange drilling for the responsible person for the firm and one-year experience for each licensed operator.	82 O.S., § 1020.16 and 1085.2	\$550.00 In state or \$750.00 out of state
----------------------------	--	---	-------------------------------	--

License Breakdown:

Currently - 368 active contractor licenses - includes all 4 drilling activities licensed (Water Well Drilling, Geotechnical Drilling, Water Well Pump Installation, and Geothermal Drilling). Under these contractors, there are 620 active operators.

In FY2018 alone, 17 new contractor licenses and 52 operator certificates were issued, and 141 contractor licenses renewed.

Occupational Regulation Blueprint

License Details

What is the license?

Groundwater Well Drilling

What does the license cover?

Commercial drilling and plugging of groundwater wells, observation wells, and groundwater well test holes

What Board regulates the license?

Oklahoma Water Resources Board ("Board")

Compelling Public Interest

What is the compelling public interest?

Public health and safety; specifically to protect the groundwater many Oklahomans use for drinking water from pollution.

Is this public interest a demonstrated, real, significant, and probable harm?

Demonstrated

Least Restrictive Means

What means is used to protect the public interest?

Occupational license issued to those who have met the educational and training requirements.

Is it the least restrictive means, which sufficiently protects the interest?

Yes

Controlling Number or Market Participants

How many members are on the regulatory board?

9 Board Members; and 8 members of the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Advisory Council ("Advisory Council")

How many are active market participants?

1 on the Board, 8 on the Advisory Council

Is the board controlled by these active market participants?

Board – No; Advisory Council - Yes

Active Supervision of the Board

Is there state supervision of the board?

Pursuant to 82 O.S. § 1085.1, 9 Board members are appointed by the Governor to serve on the Board. Under Oklahoma Administrative Code ("OAC") 785:35-1-6, 8 Advisory Council members are appointed by the Board.

Fees

Please expand on the fees collected by your Agency/Board; what those fees fund at your Agency/Board; and the annual, fiscal impact of said fees to your Agency/Board.

Licensees pay application and renewal fees and an Indemnity Fund fee for their licenses as authorized by 82 O.S. § 1085.2 and § 1020.16. The application and renewal fees go back to the division to help fund water planning and management. The Indemnity Fund fees go into the “Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial Action Indemnity Fund” to fund emergency remedial actions to protect groundwater from pollution or potential pollution when a well has been improperly constructed. This fund exists as an alternative to requiring licensees to be bonded and/or Insured. Once the Indemnity Fund reaches \$50,000, additional money goes to the “Well Drillers and Pump Installers Regulation Account.” This account funds training for licensees (CEUs), routine well inspections, enforcement activities, and reimbursing per-diem and travel costs for the Well Driller and Pump Installers Advisory Council.

Policies Regarding Military Service and Reciprocity

Please explain how your Agency/Board plans to implement new laws relating to felony convictions and military member/spouse reciprocity found in HB 1373 (if signed by Governor Stitt) and SB 670:

Pursuant to OAC 785:35-3-2, licensees or operators fulfilling a military obligation are granted an indefinite grace period to renew any lapsed license or certification. Pursuant to OAC 785:3-1, the 90-day residency requirement for licensees or operators who are nonresident is licensed and in good standing in a state which also extends similar privileges to licensees and operators licensed in Oklahoma. Continuing education instruction pre-approved in another state qualifies towards a licensee’s or operator’s in-state requirement under OAC 785:35-3-2 so long as that state similarly accepts continuing education instruction pre-approved under Oklahoma’s regulations. The Board intends to enact and/or revise its regulations to issue licenses for licensees to transfer into the state as required by SB 670.

No licensee or operator is subject to a criminal background check or prohibited from receiving a license or certificate due to a felony conviction; therefore no regulatory update is needed.

One-Time, One-Year Waiver

Please explain how your Agency/Board has, or will, implement provisions in last session’s HB 2933, codified at 59 O.S. § 4003, which requires a one-time, one-year, fee waiver for low-income individuals:

The Board intends to enact new regulations or revise existing regulations to meet the requirements of 59 O.S. § 4003.

Occupational Regulation Blueprint

License Details

What is the license?

Geotechnical Drilling

What does the license cover?

Commercial drilling and plugging of monitoring wells, site-assessment wells, and geotechnical borings

What Board regulates the license?

Oklahoma Water Resources Board ("Board")

Compelling Public Interest

What is the compelling public interest?

Public health and safety; specifically to protect the groundwater many Oklahomans use for drinking water from pollution.

Is this public interest a demonstrated, real, significant, and probable harm?

Demonstrated

Least Restrictive Means

What means is used to protect the public interest?

Occupational license issued to those who have met the educational and training requirements.

Is it the least restrictive means, which sufficiently protects the interest?

Yes

Controlling Number or Market Participants

How many members are on the regulatory board?

9 Board Members; and 8 members of the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Advisory Council ("Advisory Council")

How many are active market participants?

1 on the Board; 8 on the Advisory Council

Is the board controlled by these active market participants?

Board – No; Advisory Council - Yes

Active Supervision of the Board

Is there state supervision of the board?

Pursuant to 82 O.S. § 1085.1, 9 Board members are appointed by the Governor to serve on the Board. Under Oklahoma Administrative Code ("OAC") 785:35-1-6, 8 Advisory Council members are appointed by the Board

Fees

Please expand on the fees collected by your Agency/Board; what those fees fund at your Agency/Board; and the annual, fiscal impact of said fees to your Agency/Board.

Licensees pay application and renewal fees and an Indemnity Fund fee for their licenses as authorized by 82 O.S. § 1085.2 and § 1020.16. The application and renewal fees go back to the division to help fund water planning and management. The Indemnity Fund fees go into the “Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial Action Indemnity Fund” to fund emergency remedial actions to protect groundwater from pollution or potential pollution when a well has been improperly constructed. This fund exists as an alternative to requiring licensees to be bonded and/or Insured. Once the Indemnity Fund reaches \$50,000, additional money goes to the “Well Drillers and Pump Installers Regulation Account.” This account funds training for licensees (CEUs), routine well inspections, enforcement activities, and reimbursing per-diem and travel costs for the Well Driller and Pump Installers Advisory Council.

Policies Regarding Military Service and Reciprocity

Please explain how your Agency/Board plans to implement new laws relating to felony convictions and military member/spouse reciprocity found in HB 1373 (if signed by Governor Stitt) and SB 670:

Pursuant to OAC 785:35-3-2, licensees or operators fulfilling a military obligation are granted an indefinite grace period to renew any lapsed license or certification. Pursuant to OAC 785:3-1, the 90-day residency requirement for licensees or operators who are nonresident is licensed and in good standing in a state which also extends similar privileges to licensees and operators licensed in Oklahoma. Continuing education instruction pre-approved in another state qualifies towards a licensee’s or operator’s in-state requirement under OAC 785:35-3-2 so long as that state similarly accepts continuing education instruction pre-approved under Oklahoma’s regulations. The Board intends to enact and/or revise its regulations to issue licenses for licensees to transfer into the state as required by SB 670.

No licensee or operator is subject to a criminal background check or prohibited from receiving a license or certificate due to a felony conviction; therefore no regulatory update is needed.

One-Time, One-Year Waiver

Please explain how your Agency/Board has, or will, implement provisions in last session’s HB 2933, codified at 59 O.S. § 4003, which requires a one-time, one-year, fee waiver for low-income individuals:

The Board intends to enact new regulations or revise existing regulations to meet the requirements of 59 O.S. § 4003.

Occupational Regulation Blueprint

License Details

What is the license?

Groundwater Well Pump Installation

What does the license cover?

Commercial installation of water well pumps

What Board regulates the license?

Oklahoma Water Resources Board ("Board")

Compelling Public Interest

What is the compelling public interest?

Public health and safety; specifically to protect the groundwater many Oklahomans use for drinking water from pollution.

Is this public interest a demonstrated, real, significant, and probable harm?

Demonstrated

Least Restrictive Means

What means is used to protect the public interest?

Occupational license issued to those who have met the educational and training requirements.

Is it the least restrictive means, which sufficiently protects the interest?

Yes

Controlling Number or Market Participants

How many members are on the regulatory board?

9 Board Members; and 8 members of the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Advisory Council ("Advisory Council")

How many are active market participants?

1 on the Board; 8 on the Advisory Council

Is the board controlled by these active market participants?

Board – No; Advisory Council - Yes

Active Supervision of the Board

Is there state supervision of the board?

Pursuant to 82 O.S. § 1085.1, 9 Board members are appointed by the Governor to serve on the Board. Under Oklahoma Administrative Code ("OAC") 785:35-1-6, 8 Advisory Council members are appointed by the Board

Fees

Please expand on the fees collected by your Agency/Board; what those fees fund at your Agency/Board; and the annual, fiscal impact of said fees to your Agency/Board.

Licensees pay application and renewal fees and an Indemnity Fund fee for their licenses as authorized by 82 O.S. § 1085.2 and § 1020.16. The application and renewal fees go back to the division to help fund water planning and management. The Indemnity Fund fees go into the "Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial Action Indemnity Fund" to fund emergency remedial actions to protect groundwater from pollution or potential pollution when a well has been improperly constructed. This fund exists as an alternative to requiring licensees to be bonded and/or Insured. Once the Indemnity Fund reaches \$50,000, additional money goes to the "Well Drillers and Pump Installers Regulation Account." This account funds training for licensees (CEUs), routine well inspections, enforcement activities, and reimbursing per-diem and travel costs for the Well Driller and Pump Installers Advisory Council.

Policies Regarding Military Service and Reciprocity

Please explain how your Agency/Board plans to implement new laws relating to felony convictions and military member/spouse reciprocity found in HB 1373 (if signed by Governor Stitt) and SB 670:

Pursuant to OAC 785:35-3-2, licensees or operators fulfilling a military obligation are granted an indefinite grace period to renew any lapsed license or certification. Pursuant to OAC 785:3-1, the 90-day residency requirement for licensees or operators who are nonresident is licensed and in good standing in a state which also extends similar privileges to licensees and operators licensed in Oklahoma. Continuing education instruction pre-approved in another state qualifies towards a licensee's or operator's in-state requirement under OAC 785:35-3-2 so long as that state similarly accepts continuing education instruction pre-approved under Oklahoma's regulations. The Board intends to enact and/or revise its regulations to issue licenses for licensees to transfer into the state as required by SB 670.

No licensee or operator is subject to a criminal background check or prohibited from receiving a license or certificate due to a felony conviction; therefore no regulatory update is needed.

One-Time, One-Year Waiver

Please explain how your Agency/Board has, or will, implement provisions in last session's HB 2933, codified at 59 O.S. § 4003, which requires a one-time, one-year, fee waiver for low-income individuals:

The Board intends to enact new regulations or revise existing regulations to meet the requirements of 59 O.S. § 4003.

Occupational Regulation Blueprint

License Details

What is the license?

Heat Exchange Well Drilling

What does the license cover?

Commercial drilling and plugging of wells utilized for heat exchange purposes

What Board regulates the license?

Oklahoma Water Resources Board ("Board")

Compelling Public Interest

What is the compelling public interest?

Public health and safety; specifically to protect the groundwater many Oklahomans use for drinking water from pollution.

Is this public interest a demonstrated, real, significant, and probable harm?

Demonstrated

Least Restrictive Means

What means is used to protect the public interest?

Occupational license issued to those who have met the educational and training requirements.

Is it the least restrictive means, which sufficiently protects the interest?

Yes

Controlling Number or Market Participants

How many members are on the regulatory board?

9 Board Members; and 8 members of the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Advisory Council ("Advisory Council")

How many are active market participants?

1 on the Board; 8 on the Advisory Council

Is the board controlled by these active market participants?

Board – No; Advisory Council - Yes

Active Supervision of the Board

Is there state supervision of the board?

Pursuant to 82 O.S. § 1085.1, 9 Board members are appointed by the Governor to serve on the Board. Under Oklahoma Administrative Code ("OAC") 785:35-1-6, 8 Advisory Council members are appointed by the Board

Fees

Please expand on the fees collected by your Agency/Board; what those fees fund at your Agency/Board; and the annual, fiscal impact of said fees to your Agency/Board.

Licensees pay application and renewal fees and an Indemnity Fund fee for their licenses as authorized by 82 O.S. § 1085.2 and § 1020.16. The application and renewal fees go back to the division to help fund water planning and management. The Indemnity Fund fees go into the “Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial Action Indemnity Fund” to fund emergency remedial actions to protect groundwater from pollution or potential pollution when a well has been improperly constructed. This fund exists as an alternative to requiring licensees to be bonded and/or Insured. Once the Indemnity Fund reaches \$50,000, additional money goes to the “Well Drillers and Pump Installers Regulation Account.” This account funds training for licensees (CEUs), routine well inspections, enforcement activities, and reimbursing per-diem and travel costs for the Well Driller and Pump Installers Advisory Council.

Policies Regarding Military Service and Reciprocity

Please explain how your Agency/Board plans to implement new laws relating to felony convictions and military member/spouse reciprocity found in HB 1373 (if signed by Governor Stitt) and SB 670:

Pursuant to OAC 785:35-3-2, licensees or operators fulfilling a military obligation are granted an indefinite grace period to renew any lapsed license or certification. Pursuant to OAC 785:3-1, the 90-day residency requirement for licensees or operators who are nonresident is licensed and in good standing in a state which also extends similar privileges to licensees and operators licensed in Oklahoma. Continuing education instruction pre-approved in another state qualifies towards a licensee’s or operator’s in-state requirement under OAC 785:35-3-2 so long as that state similarly accepts continuing education instruction pre-approved under Oklahoma’s regulations. The Board intends to enact and/or revise its regulations to issue licenses for licensees to transfer into the state as required by SB 670.

No licensee or operator is subject to a criminal background check or prohibited from receiving a license or certificate due to a felony conviction; therefore no regulatory update is needed.

One-Time, One-Year Waiver

Please explain how your Agency/Board has, or will, implement provisions in last session’s HB 2933, codified at 59 O.S. § 4003, which requires a one-time, one-year, fee waiver for low-income individuals:

The Board intends to enact new regulations or revise existing regulations to meet the requirements of 59 O.S. § 4003.