Applications submitted or post marked after Feb. 15, 2024 are subject to a $163 late fee. This covers the firm and one Specialist/Technician. We will add a $43 late fee for each additional individual application. This includes incomplete applications.

O&M Firms must:

- Complete an application and pay your certification fees:
  - O&M Firm/No Pumping ................................................................. $217
  - Specialty Hauling Firms ............................................................ $217
- Have a valid OnlineRME account.
- List certified individuals employed by firm. We require a minimum of 1 certified individual if the firm inspects, installs, or pumps septic tanks. Site specific specialty hauling firms that only pump leachate, grease traps (FOG), portable toilets are classified exempt from this requirement.
- O&M only firms require a Specialist on duty.
- Provide a copy of your firm’s valid contractor license.
- Provide proof of general liability insurance of $1,000,000, or more per occurrence.

O&M Firms that perform pumping must also provide:

- A completed application and payment of certification fees:
  - O&M Firm/Pumping ........................................................................ $814
    - Pump Truck inspection by Health Department staff ...................... $163 (per truck)
    - Portable Toilet Truck inspection by Health Department staff ......... $163 (per truck)
    - Specialty hauling vehicles inspection by Health Department staff ...... $163 (per truck)
    - Above ground tank inspection by Health Department staff ............ $163 (per tank)
    - Off-site truck inspection by Health Department staff .................... $434 (2-hour min.)
- Truck inspection reports performed by Health Department, WOSSA or King County within the past 90 days of certification.
- Above ground storage tank inspection by Health Department or WOSSA within the past 90 days.
- Underground tanks used for onsite storage require certified watertight certification by a Professional Engineer within the past 90 days. Attach this certification to your application.

Your certification is valid through March 15, 2025 if we have up-to-date copies of your insurance and contractor’s license. If you renew your insurance or license and don’t provide us a copy, we must:

- Remove you from our list of certified professionals.
- Cancel your access to OnlineRME.
- Not issue permits until your certification is current.

O&M Specialists and Technicians must submit:

- A completed application.
- Certification fee of $326 for each individual.
- Continuing Education Units (CEU) earned within the past 12 months (March 15, 2023-March 14, 2024), related to sewage/septic/O&M. See application for required hours and back page for examples of accepted CEUs.
- If you completed training on any proprietary systems, attach a certificate showing successful completion or approval from manufacturer or patent holder.
2024 Certification Process

O&M Firms

We will notify you if your application is incomplete. We can’t recertify you in Pierce County until resolved.

Questions about certification process? Contact us at (253) 649-1860 or oscp@tpchd.org.

Questions about truck or above ground storage tank inspections? Contact:

- Renée Avelino (primary)  (253) 649-1826  ravelino@tpchd.org
- Holly Calvert (secondary)  (253) 649-1822  hcalvert@tpchd.org
- WOSSA  (253) 770-6594  andrea@wossa.org

Reciprocity

Individuals who haven’t completed a certification exam in Pierce County but are currently certified and in good standing in another Washington State county with similar certification standards are eligible for certification.

On-site sewage system (OSS) course examples for Certified Professional CEUs:

- General maintenance or O&M for OSS.
- OSS troubleshooting.
- O&M for proprietary systems.
- OSS timer panel/electrical training.
- OSS related safety training.
- Septic Pumper training.
- OSS related conferences.
- Soils training.
- Public Health related conferences.
- OSS worker first aid training.
- Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department septic industry meetings and workshops.
- WOSSA & NOWRA trainings.
- Recommended Standards and Guidance (RS&G) or regulation training.
- FOWA training (on broad/universal topics only)
- Recommended Standards and Guidance (RS&G) or regulation training.

If you received training not listed in the categories above, we require a syllabus, agenda and any additional information to determine suitability of CEUs.

Questions about CEUs? Contact us at (253) 649-1860 or oscp@tpchd.org.