

QSD and QSP Certification Process

The Construction General Permit (CGP) issued by the California State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) in 2010 has specific qualification and training requirements for persons responsible for various permit requirements including Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) development and implementation.

The following provides a summary of the requirements and steps to become a Qualified SWPPP Developer and Qualified SWPPP Practitioner in the State of California as of September 2, 2011.

STEP 1 – Qualifications and Certifications

Qualified SWPPP Developer (QSD) – is the person responsible for developing and keeping the SWPPP up-to-date. The registration and certification requires one of the following:

- California registered professional civil engineer
- California registered professional geologist or engineering geologist
- California registered landscape architect
- Professional hydrologist registered through the American Institute of Hydrology
- Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) at <http://www.cpesc.org/>
- Certified Professional in Storm Water Quality (CPSWQ) at <http://www.cpswq.org/>
- Professional in erosion and sediment control registration with NICET at <http://www.nicet.org/>

Qualified SWPPP Practitioner (QSP) - is the person responsible for implementing the SWPPP, conducting BMP inspections, maintaining BMPs, water quality sampling, and other general compliance oversight at the project site. The registration and certification requires one of the following:

- Certified erosion, sediment and storm water inspector (CESSWI) – EnviroCert International, Inc. <http://www.cesswi.org/>
- Certified inspector of sediment and erosion control – Certified Inspector of Sediment and Erosion Control, Inc. <http://www.cisecinc.org/>

STEP 2, Option 1 - State Water Board Registration for PEs, Land Surveyors and Geologists - QSD ONLY

An alternative option is available for California Board Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists. The State Water Board allows registration through their SMART System upon review and certification that the individual has reviewed and is familiar with the training materials. There is no exam to take or fee to pay. Information is available at:

www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/training.shtml

The process is complete once you receive your QSD certification from the State Water Boards.

STEP 2, Option 2 - State Water Board's CGP Required Class

The QSD and QSP candidates are required to take the Water Board's class through a Trainer of Record. This class is available from LaRoc Environmental and other qualified trainers. The class for the QSD is



three days. The class for the QSP is two days. Additional information on the classes can be found at: <http://www.casqa.org> or by contacting rosanna@larocenvironmental.com.

STEP 3, OPTION 2 - State Water Board's CGP Required Exam for QSDs and QSPs

The third step is taking an exam which takes about 2 and 3 hours for the QSP and QSD respectively. It is taken on-line through the Office of Water Programs at Sacramento State University at:

<https://www.owp.csus.edu/qsd-login.php>

NOTE: Steps 1 and 2 can be completed in reverse order, but both are required to receive certification upon passing the exam.

