

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTIFIED WELL DRILLER AND DRILLER ASSISTANT

All documents, payments, correspondence, and questions are to be directed to:

Water Well Driller Certification Program Coordinator
Kentucky Division of Water
Groundwater Section, Watershed Management Branch
300 Sower Boulevard, 3rd Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.
(502) 564-3410
DOWDrillersProgram@ky.gov

Applicant must send separate checks or money orders, made payable to the **Kentucky State Treasurer**, for each of the following:

- ✓ **non-refundable \$50.00 application fee**
- ✓ **Kentucky Driller Exam fee(s) - \$80.00 for each exam**
- ✓ **Driller's Certification fee of \$200.00**

DO NOT SEND CASH

Fill in the appropriate information in the blanks or check applicable boxes provided for the following sections:

1. Applicant Information

- The name of the person as it is to appear on the certificate.
- Applicant's personal and work email addresses.
- Applicant's home mailing address, phone number, and cell number.
- Name of business, firm or corporation that employs applicant.
- The company or business address, phone number and email address.

2. Certification Type

- Water Well, Monitoring Well, Water Well Assistant, Monitoring Well Assistant

3. Drilling Methods to be used

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Cable Tool | • Reverse Rotary |
| • Jetted and Driven Wells | • Auguring and Boring |
| • Air Rotary/Hammer | • Sonic |
| • Mud Rotary | • Direct Push |

4. Kentucky and NGWA Exams

- For Certification Type selected, check exams you have or will take
 - Kentucky Water Well or Monitoring Well Driller or Drillers Assistant
- Check Specialty Exams Boxes for NGWA you have already taken, if any

○ Cable Tool	○ Mud Rotary
○ Jetted and Driven Wells	○ Reverse Rotary
○ Air Rotary	○ Auguring and Monitoring

5. Equipment list – Provide a list of equipment the driller will use while employed.

- Type of Drill Rigs, Rig IDs, Makes and Models
- Grouting Equipment

6. Current Certifications – Provide a list of licenses/certifications you already have in other states

7. Certification or License Type – Cert. No., Level, Expiration Date

8. Education and Training – Provide education history and training

- High School
- College
- Vocational
- Other

9. **Work Experience** - Provide work experience and employment history starting with most current.

10. **Proof of Liability Coverage and Surety Bond** (Kentucky Revised Statutes 223.430)

- **Liability Coverage** - Have your insurance company submit a certificate of insurance (COI) as proof of liability coverage. You must have a split limit general liability policy with **minimum limits** of either of the following:
 - i. **Two policies:**
 - for bodily injury: \$25,000 per occurrence with an aggregate of at least \$50,000, **and**
 - for property damage: \$50,000 per accident with an aggregate of at least \$100,000,
 - ii. **One combined policy:**
 - combined single limit policy with limits of at least \$100,000.
- **Surety Bond** - Have your surety company submit the performance bond to DOW. The penal sum of this bond shall be five thousand dollars (**\$5,000**), with the driller designated as the principal obligor and the Commonwealth designated as obligee. Be sure you sign and have it notarized before it is returned. The bond must be in the driller's name. **Bonds in the company name are not acceptable and will be returned.**

Information Verification

- Eligibility to Work in US
- Sign and Date Application

Application Examination and Certification Fee

Separate checks or money orders should be made payable to the **Kentucky State Treasurer** for each of the following:

\$50.00 application fee (non-refundable)

\$80.00 examination fee (for each KY Driller Exam – Water Well or Monitoring Well)

\$200.00 certification fee

Notarized Proof of Qualifying Experience (only one notarized statement needed)

- Notarized statement from a certified water well driller (KY or other state), or person who has supervised the applicant for a minimum of two (2) years, attesting to applicant's drilling experience; **OR**
- Notarized statement of other qualifying experience, including a minimum two (2) years employment as an environmental professional working with the design and installation of wells and well drilling operations; **AND**
 - Employment as a registered professional geologist,
 - Employment as a registered professional engineer; **OR**
 - Associates degree in a natural science.

Kentucky Examinations

- Examinations are administered remotely by the Kentucky Division of Water, and are scheduled by appointment only.
- Contact the Water Well Driller Program Coordinator at (502) 564-3410 or email DOWDrillersProgram@ky.gov for an appointment.

A score of seventy percent (70%) on each exam is necessary to pass. The Kentucky Driller exams may be repeated every 6 weeks necessary.

As Required by 401 KAR 6:320

Exams Required	Source	Passing Score
Kentucky Water Well and/or Monitoring Well Driller	Kentucky Division of Water	70%
General Drilling Exam	National Ground Water Association	70%
Augering and Monitoring Exam	National Ground Water Association	70%
Specialty Exams	One or More of the following:	
Cable tool Drilling	National Ground Water Association	70%
Mud Rotary Drilling	National Ground Water Association	70%
Air Rotary Drilling	National Ground Water Association	70%
Reverse-Circulation Drilling	National Ground Water Association	70%
Jetted and Driven Wells	National Ground Water Association	70%
Kentucky Water Well and/or Monitoring Well Drillers Assistant	Kentucky Division of Water	70%

NOTE:

- All water and monitoring well drillers seeking certification in KY must take the **general drilling exam** from the **National Groundwater Association (NGWA)**.
- **NGWA Specialty exam(s)** - may be required for **both water and/or monitoring well** driller certification. (Combined water and monitoring well driller certification is an option.)
- Water well drillers using drilling methods such as bucket auger or hollow stem auger (HSA), **may take the NGWA Augering and Monitoring exam as their specialty exam.**
- In addition, all monitoring well drillers are required to take the **Augering and Monitoring** exam. This includes those using drilling methods such as **direct push - (Geoprobe®) or sonic methods.**
- Monitoring well drillers will also need to take at least **one additional NGWA specialty exam** if drilling by methods like **air rotary, cable tool, etc.** (See above table).
- Monitoring well drillers installing wells by **only hollow stem auger or direct push, do not** have to take an additional **specialty exam.** However, they **will not** be allowed to drill by any other methods, even if they change employment or obtain other drilling technology.
- **All Drillers must take the State Exam(s)** – which covers the **water well** construction regulations **401 KAR6:310** and/or **monitoring well** construction regulations **401 KAR 6:350.**
- **All wishing to obtain a Driller’s Assistant Certification for water well and/or monitoring well must take the state exam(s)** – which covers the water well construction regulations **401 KAR6:310** and/or monitoring well construction regulations **401 KAR 6:350.**

For information on the NGWA portions of the application, you may contact:

National Ground Water Association
601 Dempsey Road
Westerville, Ohio 43081-8978
Or call: (800) 551-7379

www.ngwa.org | www.wellowner.org | www.groundwateradventurers.org

- The **National Ground Water Association (NGWA)** exams must be taken at a NGWA testing center.
- Go to www.Lasergrade.com for **NGWA** exams.
- You can choose exam type and testing center from:
<https://candidate.psiexams.com/catalog/displayagencylicenses.jsp?catalogID=334>

Select: National Ground Water Association (NGWA), from the drop down box

Then select the testing center nearest you to schedule an exam using the drop down boxes.

- For NGWA members, a **\$75.00 processing fee** is charged for each NGWA exam. Non-members are charged a processing fee of **\$275.00** for the first two exams, and **\$75.00** for each additional exam. The fee is non-refundable.
- If you do not pass these exams, the NGWA requires you to wait six weeks to retake the exam and pay the exam fee again.
- You must be at least 20 years of age.
- You must have at least 24 consecutive months of full-time drilling experience.
- Test takers are responsible for providing the KY Water Well Drillers Certification Program with a copy of exam scores.

Drilling categories:

- General drilling exam
- Exam A/B: Cable tool drilling
- Exam C/D: Air rotary drilling
- Exam E/F: Mud rotary drilling
- Exam G: Reverse circulation drilling
- Exam H: Jetting and driving wells
- Exam M: Augering and monitoring

NGWA is working with its exam proctor, PSI Services, to enable exam candidates to register and schedule their exams online. Exam candidates will still be able to call to schedule their exams, however there will be a new phone number for scheduling – candidates should call **800-733-9267** . Exams may be scheduled online at www.psiexams.com as well.

Exam Study Resources

Study materials for the NGWA Exams are available for order at the NGWA bookstore web site www.ngwa.org.

Study Materials are also available from the **Kentucky Water Well Driller Certification Program Coordinator (502) 564-3410** or email DOWDrillersProgram@ky.gov.

- Best single study reference book – Ground Water & Wells.