

Georgia Backflow-Prevention Testers Certification Program

Certification Requirements

1. Take the 32-hour Backflow Testers Certification Class

**If you currently hold a certification that is not accepted in Georgia, you are not required to take the 32-hour course, but you must take the exam.*

2. Take the Backflow Prevention Testers Certification Exam. You are not permitted to take this exam if you have not completed the 32-hour course.*

The exam has a 100 question written portion, as well as a 3 part hands-on portion. If you do not pass the written portion you will not be permitted to take the hands-on portion. You will need to register for another exam to retake it.

The backflow prevention assembly tester certification exam is compiled from the Manual of Cross-Connection Control (10th Edition) from the University of Southern California (USC) Foundation.

** An education level of a High School Diploma, GED or equivalent is required to take the exam.*

** If you are already registered for the 32-hour course, you may go ahead and register for the exam in advance. If you register within 2 weeks of the exam date, be sure to contact GAWP Phone: (770) 618-8690 to ensure that there is availability.*

3. Once you take the exam it will take approx. 4 - 6 weeks to return the results to you. The official grading of the exam takes place at the offices of Association of Boards of Certification and involves several steps to guarantee the credibility of this program.

4. Be sure to read the Recertification Requirements. Failure to follow the process laid out for this program will result in your certification expiring. GAWP strives to provide you with adequate notice of your approaching expiration date, but the final responsibility is yours.

Exceptions cannot be made under any circumstances.

5. The Need-to-Know Criteria for Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers of the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) can be found at www.abccert.org

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Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to bring my own test equipment to the exam?

* It is preferred that you bring your own equipment to ensure that you are comfortable and knowledgeable while testing; however, it is not required.

Reference Material The backflow prevention assembly tester certification exam is compiled from the Manual of Cross-Connection Control (10th Edition) from the University of Southern California (USC) Foundation.

How do I renew my certification?

* To renew your Certification you must submit the Backflow Certification Renewal Form along with the Renewal Fee and a copy of your proof of six (6) contact hours of Continuing Education related to Backflow. (Each Certified Backflow Tester is required to obtain six (6) hours of Backflow-specific continuing education during the three years your certification is active in order to renew.)

How do I renew if my expiration date has passed?

* If you fail to renew your certification before your expiration date, you will have 90 days to submit your Backflow Certification Renewal Form along with the Late Renewal Fee and a copy of your proof of six (6) contact hours of Continuing Education related to Backflow. After the 90-day grace period you will be required to retake the exam.

Is an out-of-state certification accepted in Georgia?

* Out-of-state certifications are not accepted in Georgia. If you wish to be certified in Georgia and currently hold an out-of-state certification, you will be required to complete the Georgia Backflow Prevention Testers Certification Exam in order to be certified within the state of Georgia. See Exam schedule at gawp.org

What National Certifications are accepted in Georgia?

* ASSE, ABPA, and TREEO

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Backflow-Prevention Testers Recertification Program

Recertification Requirements

GAWP will send out a reminder to all Certified Testers as your expiration date approaches. You will receive a letter 6 – 12 weeks in advance as long as your mailing address is up-to-date in our database. If you need to update your contact information please call GAWP's office (770) 618-8690.

Each Certified Backflow Tester is required to obtain six (6) contact hours of Backflow Continuing Education during the 3 years your certification is active. See the list of training providers at gawp.org. It is not required that your continuing education be from one of the Training Providers listed. Any six (6) hours of Backflow-specific training will be accepted, but you must obtain Proof of Attendance that includes: course name, course date, course length and trainer.

You are encouraged to not wait until the last few months to get your training. Classes do fill up quickly.

1. To renew your Certification you must submit the **Backflow Certification Renewal Form** along with the Renewal Fee and a copy of your proof of 6 contact hours of Continuing Education related to Backflow.

2. This information must be received by GAWP by your expiration date. Information received after your expiration date will be considered *late*, and late fees and penalties will apply (see below).

Late Renewals

1. If you fail to renew your certification before your expiration date, you will have 90 days to submit your **Backflow Certification Renewal Form** along with the Late Renewal Fee and a copy of your proof of 6 contact hours of Continuing Education related to Backflow.

2. During this 90-day grace period your certification will NOT be active, and you must cease from testing Backflow devices until you have received your new certification information.

3. After the 90-day grace period you will have to retake the Backflow Exam. You can view the **Backflow Exam Schedule** and submit the form to GAWP.