

*the annual*  
CRWA Scholarship  
Program



CALIFORNIA RURAL WATER

# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**THANKS IN ADVANCE TO FUTURE DONORS AND APPLICANTS, FROM THE CRWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Bill Massey, President | John Covington, Vice President/National Director | Jon Curry, Treasurer/Secretary  
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# CALIFORNIA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

What is California Rural Water Association?

Incorporated in 1990, California Rural Water Association (CRWA) has emerged as the state's leading association dedicated to providing on-site technical assistance and specialized training for rural water and wastewater systems. Tapping into the expertise of experienced water and wastewater professionals, CRWA's governing Board of Directors, administrative staff, and technical field specialists work together to offer CRWA members an expansive range of essential programs and member services.

Whether a system needs help developing a new rate schedule, setting up proper testing methods, understanding those ever-changing and complex government regulations, preparing a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), or updating operator certification requirements, California Rural Water Association is ready to assist.



CRWA has been approved as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET), 2201 Cooperative Way, Suite 600, Herndon, VA 20171. In obtaining this approval, the CRWA has demonstrated that it complies with the ANSI/IACET 1-2018 Standard which is widely recognized as a standard of good practice internationally. As a result of their Authorized Provider membership status, CRWA is authorized to offer IACET CEUs for its programs that qualify under the ANSI/IACET 1-2018 Standard.



CRWA has been approved as an Authorized Provider for Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Accreditation Agency MS, PO Box 997377, Sacramento, CA 95899-7377. CRWA classes provide students the opportunity to earn REHS Contact Hours and CEUs.



# THE ANNUAL CRWA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by California Rural Water Association

The California Rural Water Association is pleased to announce the Annual Scholarship Program for 2025. This scholarship offers four possible awards:

- Two awards towards any AWE course(s) provided by CRWA, including lodging and a food stipend.
- Two awards towards the CRWA Apprenticeship Program.

The scholarships are based on the belief that, as part of the CRWA family, we should do everything possible to meet the water needs of California's rural communities and support the development of operators.

Anyone associated with CRWA is eligible to apply, and applications will be accepted from November 1, 2024 through February 15, 2025. The scholarships will be awarded at our EXPO Annual Banquet, held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at Harvey's Lake Tahoe Casino & Resort.

Applicants do not need to attend the EXPO conference to receive a scholarship, but attendance at the conference is highly recommended. CRWA will cover lodging and EXPO expenses for winners who do choose to attend the conference.

Applicants will be evaluated based on their association with the CRWA family, an essay or paragraph outlining their need or desire for continued growth as an operator in the water/wastewater field, and overall quality and appearance of the application.

Applicants for the Apprenticeship will be evaluated on the basis of their association with CRWA, a paragraph or more describing how this apprenticeship program will assist your agency, and overall quality and appearance of the application.

Your application may be emailed to Candice Jackson at [candicej@calruralwater.org](mailto:candicej@calruralwater.org), faxed to (916) 553-4904, or mailed to CRWA, 1234 North Market Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95834.

Thank you in advance for your interest and application.

CRWA Board of Directors



**California**  
Rural Water Association

# THE AWE SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by California Rural Water Association

## What is AWE

CRWA's Academy of Water Education (AWE) has been the core of our training program for many years. During the 36-hour in-person training course students will receive a thorough introduction into the water and wastewater fields. Each course combines hands-on and formal training instructed by experience industry leaders. A brief overview of available courses is provided below. For more information and a complete course schedule, please visit our website [www.calruralwater.org](http://www.calruralwater.org).

<b>Water Treatment O&amp;M</b>	This course is designed as an introduction for Water Treatment and satisfies the 36-hour (3-unit) Specialized Training Requirement for the Grade 2 Water Treatment exam. Upon successful completion, students will be able to define and identify water treatment concepts, calculate square feet, volume, conversion of flows, pounds formula, mg/L, flow and head, explain the difference between coagulation and flocculation, and explain the purpose of disinfection and factors that influence disinfection.
<b>Water Distribution O&amp;M</b>	This course is designed as an introduction to Water Distribution and satisfies the 36-hour (3-unit) Specialized Training Requirement for the Grade 2 Water Treatment exam. Upon successful completion, students will be able to define and identify topics such as pipe maintenance and pipe features, reducing agents, trihalomethanes, breakpoint chlorination, and distribution system construction and design.
<b>Backflow Tester Certification</b>	This course focuses on cross-connection control program regulations, plumbing codes, hydraulics and hazards of backflow, prevention of backflow incidents tester safety training, approved test procedures and diagnosis of possible failures when testing various backflow assemblies, and using a test simulator to create a variety of failure conditions. A hands-on practical exam and short quiz are conducted on the last day of class.
<b>ACR Utility Management Certification</b>	This course will cover topics such as financial sustainability and capacity development, accounting practices and principles, personnel policies and procedures, water and wastewater operations, and human resources. The course will conclude with an opportunity to take the Certification Examination via a computer-based test, with immediate results available upon completion.
<b>Intro to Wastewater</b>	This course provides an overview of the sources of wastewater, the environmental and public health impacts of untreated wastewater, and treated effluent when discharged into the environment. It also describes wastewater collection, treatment, and discharge, and it covers water quality and solids processing.

## What is included

The AWE scholarship includes attendance fees, lodging, and a food stipend for the attendee. Courses are held at the CRWA Pat Williams AWE Training Center located in Sacramento, CA.

## Who can apply?

Applications are accepted from individuals interested in a career in water and wastewater operations.

# AWE APPLICATION

## Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

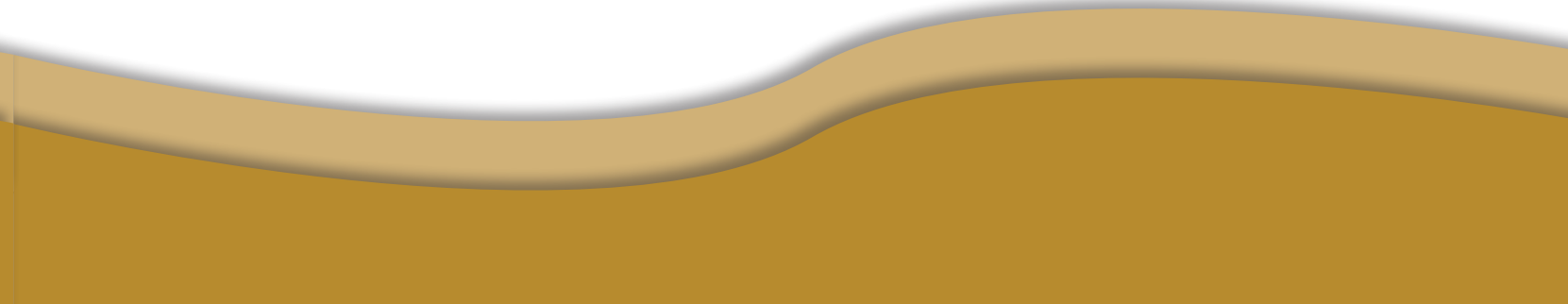
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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## Questions

*All responses should be submitted on a separate Word or PDF document for our reviewers.*

1. How did you hear about the scholarship opportunity?
  2. How are you connected to the CRWA family?
  3. Have you attended any CRWA classes or events? If so, which ones?
  4. Which course(s) would you take if you were to be awarded?
    - Water Treatment Operations and Maintenance*
    - Water Distribution Operations and Maintenance*
    - Backflow Tester Certification*
    - ACR Utility Management Certification*
    - Intro to Wastewater*
  5. In a paragraph or essay, please describe your education or career goals in the next five (5) years.
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# THE CRWA APPRENTICESHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by California Rural Water Association

## About the CRWA Apprenticeship Program

CRWA Water/Wastewater Specialist Apprenticeship Program focuses on providing a pathway for employed workers with utilities (incumbent workers) to upgrade and enhance their Technical, Managerial, and Financial understanding and skills in in the operation and management of their local utilities. The program is an approved Department of Labor (DOL) Federally Registered Apprenticeship Program. This program consists of 288 hours of formal training combined with 4000 hours of on-the-job experience in the defined work processes as outlined in the apprenticeship program application packet.

This two-year program is designed to provide qualifications for multiple certifications in operations and safety while providing financial education and a pathway for a utility management certification as well. The water wastewater specialist program also provides pathways for a 2-year associates degree in water and wastewater operations.

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### **Water Operations Specialist**

Upon completion of the two-year program an apprentice will receive:

- Backflow Tester Certification through NCBPA or ABPA
- Utility Management Certification (based on exam qualifications)
- OSHA10 Certification
- Eligible for Grade 2 Water Treatment and Water Distribution Exam Certification
- Eligible for Grade 3 Water Treatment and Water Distribution Exam Certification (upon completion of one year experience as a corresponding grade)

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### **Wastewater Treatment Operations Specialist**

Upon completion of the two-year program an apprentice will receive:

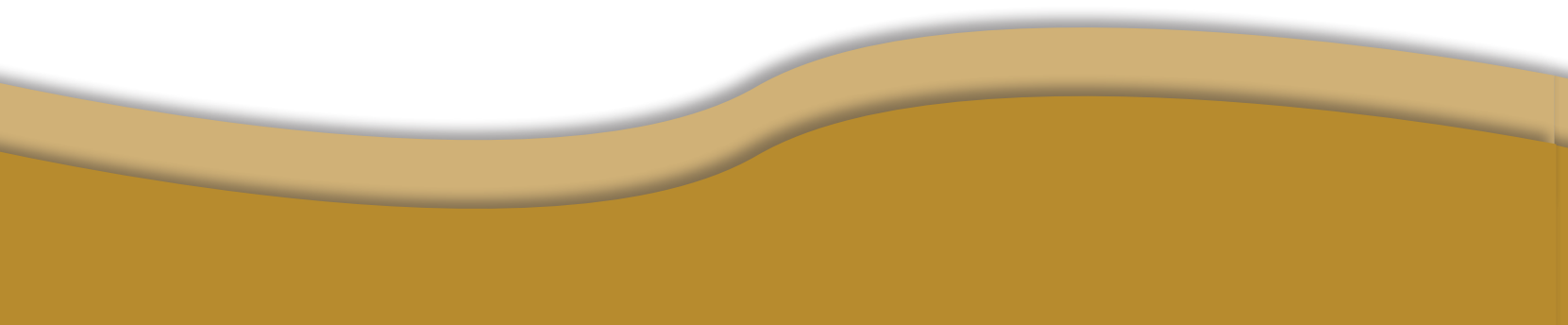
- Backflow Tester Certification through NCBPA or ABPA
  - Utility Management Certification (based on exam qualifications)
  - OSHA10 Certification
  - Eligible for Grade 1 Wastewater Treatment OIT Certification
  - Eligible for Grade 1 Wastewater Treatment Exam Certification (upon completion of one year experience as an OIT)
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## What is included

The apprenticeship scholarship will cover all associated tuition costs. The Apprenticeship Program includes all books and materials including the backflow certification and utility management tester fees.

## Who can apply?

Applications are accepted from systems interested in enrolling an employee in water and wastewater operations.



# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Contact Information

Name of System \_\_\_\_\_

System Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

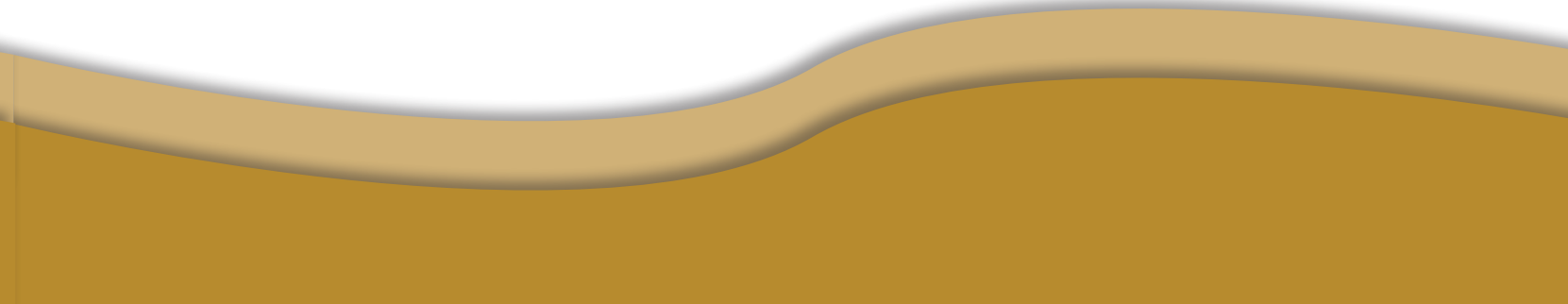
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Questions

*All responses should be submitted on a separate Word or PDF document for our reviewers.*

1. How did you hear about the scholarship opportunity?
  
  2. Have any of your utility employees attended any CRWA classes or events? If so, which ones?
  
  3. Which apprenticeship program are you applying for: Water or Wastewater?
  
  4. What water/wastewater employee do you want to enroll and why?
  
  5. This is a two-year program. Is your agency willing to commit to providing the hands-on training required for the apprentice and providing the time for the “classroom” work as well as the documentation of work performed?
  
  6. In a paragraph or more, please describe how this apprenticeship program will benefit your agency.
- 



# California

## Rural Water Association

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toll-free: 800.833.0322

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