

# QUALIFIED SWIMMING POOL WATER TREATMENT OPERATOR COURSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

*for Operation of NYS Swimming Pools and Recreational Aquatic Spray Grounds*

## Fact Sheet – March 2024

(Go to [www.health.ny.gov](http://www.health.ny.gov) to view most current certification list)

A qualified swimming pool water treatment operator is required to maintain pools larger than 3,000 square feet in surface area, or pools disinfected using gas chlorine and all recreational aquatic spray ground facilities.

Qualified swimming pool water treatment operator certifications shall be valid for the time period specified by the certifying agency and must be maintained current.

The following are adequate courses of instruction regarding the safe and effective operation and maintenance of pool treatment equipment as specified in Section 6-1.2(I)(2) of [Subpart 6-1](#) and Section 6-3.2(e) of [Subpart 6-3](#) of the New York State Sanitary Code:

Provider	Certification Title
<b>American Swimming Pool and Spa Association</b>	Licensed Aquatic Facility Technician (LAFT) Certificates indicating completion of an <b>online or hybrid</b> LAFT course are <b>not acceptable</b> .
<b>City of New York Parks &amp; Recreation</b>	Swimming Pool Operations Certification is <b>only accepted for</b> swimming pools and recreational aquatic spray grounds operated by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation.
<b>National Recreation and Park Association</b>	Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO)
<b>National Swimming Pool Foundation</b>	Certified Pool/Spa Operator (CPO) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Pool &amp; Hot Tub Alliance</b>	Certified Pool & Spa Operator Certification
<b>Starfish Aquatics Institute</b>	AquaTech
<b>Swimming Pool and Spa Association</b>	Pool Operator's Certificate – Certificate must state Valid in the State of New York.

<sup>1</sup>The National Swimming Pool Foundation Certified Pool/Spa Operator (CPO) course is no longer offered. Existing certifications are valid for five years from the date of certification.