Washington Certification Services at Green River College administers Washington State’s Backflow Assembly Tester (BAT) certification program following regulations, policies and procedures established by Washington State Department of Health (DOH) in cooperation with the Waterworks Operator Certification Advisory Committee.

The BAT certification examination consists of two parts. Applicants must pass both parts of the examination to become a certified BAT in Washington state. If you fail either part of the examination you will be required to reapply, pay all applicable fees, and retake only the part of the examination that you did not pass.

Part 1 – Practical (Hands-on) Examination - The practical examination is administered by Washington Certification Services at state testing centers. One hour is allowed to demonstrate competency in testing the following four backflow prevention assemblies using field test procedures approved by DOH. A malfunction may be simulated on the RPBA, DCVA, and PVBA. If a malfunction is simulated it must be correctly identified and diagnosed. There will not be a simulated malfunction on the SVBA.

1. Pressure Vacuum Breaker Assembly (PVBA)
2. Spill-Resistant Pressure Vacuum Breaker Assembly (SVBA)
3. Double Check Valve Assembly (DCVA)
4. Reduced Pressure Backflow Assembly (RPBA)

Part 2 – Computer-Based Examination - Applicants that pass the practical examination will be notified of their eligibility to apply to Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc. (AMP/PSI) to take the computer-based part of the examination. This part of the examination consists of 100 multiple-choice questions developed by the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC). Applicants have three hours to complete the examination.

Test Procedures
The practical examination will be administered following only the test procedures in the Manual of Cross Connection Control 10th Edition published by the University of Southern California Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research.


Test Kits
A five valve differential pressure test kit will be available for applicant use at the examination site. A lighter model five valve test may also be available.

Applicants may use their own differential pressure test kit if they provide the examination proctor with a current certificate of accuracy or calibration report. The report must confirm that the field test kit was verified against a reference source that has a calibration traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and/or that the procedures used met criteria published in the 10th Edition of the Manual of Cross Connection Control.

Examination Schedule
The practical part of the BAT certification examination is usually scheduled on a Monday once a month. The most current examination schedule is available on the Washington Certification Services web page at wacertservices.org.
What if I do not pass?
- **The practical examination**: Applicants that do not pass the practical part of the examination must submit a new application and pay the $200.00 fee to take it again.
- **The computer-based examination**: AMP will provide the applicants that do not pass with instructions on how to schedule another examination. Applicants are required to wait 14 days before retaking the examination and must pay the $100.00 fee again.

How long do I have to pass both parts of the BAT certification examination?
- The applicant’s original certification application and practical examination results are valid for three months from the date the applicant passed the practical part of the examination.
- Applicants that do not pass the computer-based examination within the three-month eligibility period must apply as a new applicant, pay the $200.00 fee, and take the practical part of the examination again.

How will I be notified that I am certified as a BAT in Washington?
Applicants that pass both the practical and computer-based parts of the certification examination within the three-month eligibility period will receive email confirmation with a link to view or print their current BAT Validation card. BATs can also check their status as a certified BAT by using the online certification status report.