

2019-2020 House of Delegates Work Group Charter

Work Group Title: Water Utility Workforce of the Future Workgroup

Work Group Description: *This workgroup will seek to assist and work with the WEF Operator Advisory Panel and the WEF Plant Operations and Maintenance Committee to enhance programs and practices that promote the water utility workforce of the future. The focus will be on front-line water utility personnel like facility and collection system operators, mechanics, and laboratory technicians. The workgroup will develop materials and collaborate with the Member Associations regarding local water utility workforce development and recruitment and assist the MAs in delivering materials that promote the water utility profession. Specifically, the workgroup intends to:*

- *Collect descriptions of MA operator and water utility workforce development programs that are currently in place.*
- *Analyze the above descriptions to evaluate strengths and weaknesses. In addition, identify as either a private or public sector program.*
- *Share the above descriptions and analysis on WEF's online community, WEF.COM,*
- *Develop a model presentation on water utility workforce development for audiences such as elected officials, community youth groups, and public school employees and collaborate with WEF to participate (e.g., session proposal or exhibit) in conferences such as Association of Career and Technical Education's VISION Conference, the Corps Network's annual meeting, and the American Association of Community College's annual convention.*
- *Collaborate with MA leaders to promote WEF Operator Initiatives including Operations Challenge, WEF Operator Fact Sheets, and Operator Ingenuity.*
- *Collaborate with MA leaders to promote and endorse the ABC Professional Operator Designation.*
- *Develop articles on operator workforce-oriented topics, such as the value of the operator workforce and in support of "living wage" conversations. Share articles with WEF staff for distribution to MAs for their use in their publications.*
- *Identify career and technical education opportunities and resources within the MA and share with WEF staff for publication on worforwater.org.*
- *Identify one member of this workgroup to be a liaison to the Operator Advisory Panel and one member to be a liaison to the WEF Plant Operations and Maintenance Committee. These delegates will share the efforts and outcomes of the workgroup and be a communication link between the groups.*