AWWA Contact: Greg Kail

303-734-3410 gkail@awwa.org

WEF Contact: Travis Loop

703-684-2465 tloop@wef.org

Work for Water website spotlights 'Great Careers for a Great Cause'

(DENVER)— A newly-revamped web site invites job seekers to discover "great careers for a great cause" in the water sector at www.workforwater.org.

Created by the <u>Water Environment Federation</u> (WEF) and the <u>American Water Works</u> <u>Association</u> (AWWA), the site is a valuable resource for job seekers, students and veterans to find resources to pursue or further careers in the water sector.

A 2018 Brookings Institution study, "Renewing the water workforce: Improving water infrastructure and creating a pipeline to opportunity," noted that the water workforce includes more than 200 occupations and offers competitive pay. AWWA's 2019 State of the Water Industry showed that water professionals continue to see opportunities for prospective water career-seekers as seasoned workers retire and water utilities recruit new talent.

An essential part of the site is the "Get Started" section, which guides users through the education, training and certification requirements and resources that vary by state for those launching or continuing a career in the industry. The section also features a state-by-state listing of AWWA sections and WEF member associations, allowing job seekers the opportunity to connect with local industry contacts.

The site also has a dedicated section for veterans, who can bring valuable skills to the water industry. Through the site, veterans can connect with local veteran liaisons to serve as someone who can introduce them to other veterans in the industry.

"We must have a strong and steady pipeline of talent entering the water workforce to successful continue our mission to protect public health and the environment," said WEF Executive Director Eileen O'Neill. "It was vital to build a modern online portal to promote water professions and provide resources for entering the workforce."

"The water industry desperately needs an infusion of new talent," AWWA Chief Executive Officer David LaFrance said. "The water workforce is aging, and a large percentage of it will be retiring in the coming years. Launching this website will go a long way toward attracting the sharpest minds to work for water."

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About AWWA

Established in 1881, the <u>American Water Works Association</u> is the largest nonprofit, scientific and educational association dedicated to managing and treating water, the world's most

important resource. With approximately 51,000 members, AWWA provides solutions to improve public health, protect the environment, strengthen the economy and enhance our quality of life.

About WEF

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization of 35,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world. Since 1928, WEF and its members have protected public health and the environment. As a global water sector leader, our mission is to connect water professionals; enrich the expertise of water professionals; increase the awareness of the impact and value of water; and provide a platform for water sector innovation. To learn more, visit wef.org.