



DIVE IN!

The Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) program provides in-depth instruction on all facets of aquatic facility operation and management.



**National Recreation
and Park Association**

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Aquatic Facility Operator Training and Certification Program



**Aquatic
Facility
Operator**

The Aquatic Facilities Operator (AFO) training and certification course is a leading-edge program in the industry today. The course teaches you the skills necessary to make your facility safe and efficient. The certification is specifically designed to meet the needs of those working in public, semi-public, municipal pools or water park facilities.

The Course

Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) is the most advanced training program in the industry. This comprehensive, two-day course provides an in-depth instruction on all facets of aquatic facility operation and management, including:

- Filtration
- Disinfection
- Water testing and treatment
- Design considerations
- Facility management
- Pool safety
- Risk management
- Facility trouble shooting
- Hot tub & spa operation
- And much more!!

Free from product bias, AFO course materials are updated as changes occur in the field to ensure information covers the current trends and methods in the industry.

To ensure quality, AFO Instructors are subject to an application and training process before they are approved to present the AFO course curriculum. The minimum qualifications to become an AFO instructor are among the highest in the industry.

The Certification

In order to earn the AFO certification the aquatic professional must successfully pass the AFO certification exam. The AFO is an open book 50 question exam. Individuals who obtain the AFO credential are knowledgeable in the systematic approach to pool operations including pool chemistry, management, pool safety and risk reduction. Upon successful completion of the exam the National Recreation and Park Association will add all newly certified AFO's to the National AFO certification database. The AFO certification is valid for five years. At the end of the five year certification period, the AFO certification must be renewed.



The Difference

Participation in the AFO program creates better operators, who in turn give us safer water, more efficient facilities, and increasingly appealing programs for our popular aquatic venues. The AFO program meets most state and local health code requirements.

In addition, previous AFO participants have shared the following benefits of the AFO program over similar aquatic facility training:

- Highly experienced subject matter experts
- Skills that can be applied right "to the deck"
- Simplified arithmetic
- Up to date course materials that reflect changes in technology and legislation

The Background

In 1989 the National Aquatic Section of NRPA set out to assemble a training program for pool operators that was appropriate for community swimming pools, free of product bias, instructed by professionals who are thoroughly trained and continually evaluated, and which trained participants not only about daily pool operations but also contained information about risk management, staffing, budgeting and purchasing for those participants that manage their aquatic facilities. In 1992 NRPA's National Certification Board voted to approve the association's Aquatic Facility Operator training and exam, and the most comprehensive aquatic facility operations training in the industry was launched.

