



Fluoridation Treatment Quality Award Program

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To support the benefits of water fluoridation and recognize water treatment facilities that do an outstanding job of providing a consistent level of fluoride in the water supply, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) commend public water systems that achieve optimal fluoridation levels with an annual Water Fluoridation Quality Award. Earning these awards represents a high level of operator care and accomplishment.

CDC issues the certificates annually to state oral health programs, which are then responsible for distributing the award certificates to the recipient communities.

These awards are important to community water systems because they recognize achieving high water quality standards that water systems can promote in their consumer communications.

The DOH Office of Drinking Water reviews and evaluates the monthly operating reports to identify those water systems that meet the highest standards for control and accuracy in water fluoride treatment, monitoring and reporting. For a water system to be eligible, its performance must be documented by the state in the Water Fluoridation Reporting System (WFRS). The information from these reports identifies systems that qualify for the Water Fluoridation Quality Award.

Optimization Criteria

Adequate Points of Addition	All active sources* (including interties) continuously and optimally fluoridated for at least 11 months per calendar year *Not required of emergency or seasonal sources that operate less than 90 days/year.
Adequate Monitoring	Daily monitoring samples analyzed for each point of fluoride addition operating for two hours or more on any given day
	Calculated dose computed daily from records of water production and additive used
	Background fluoride levels in untreated raw source water analyzed by certified laboratory at least once per calendar year
Adequate Split Samples	Monthly split sample(s) analyzed for each point of addition operating for five or more days in any given month
	At least 12 monthly split samples submitted to certified lab per calendar year
	Operator and lab split sample results must be within +/- 0.20 mg/L tolerance
Optimal Fluoride Concentration and Control Range	Target fluoride concentration is 0.7 mg/L
	Optimal monthly average is a minimum of 0.7 mg/L <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowest optimal concentration is 0.6 mg/L • Highest optimal concentration is 0.9 mg/L
	75% of daily samples must be between 0.6 and 0.8 mg/L
Reporting	Monthly operations reports complete and received by the tenth of the following month.