



Society of Wetland Scientists - Professional Certification Program

An International Organization with over 2,000 Professional Wetland Scientists certified since 1994



The **Society of Wetland Scientists** was formed to promote understanding, conservation, protection, restoration, science-based management and sustainability of wetlands. The Society developed the **Professional Certification Program (PCP)** in 1994 for certification of wetland science training and experience, with the aim of serving the public and governments' need to identify qualified individuals to assess and manage wetland resources.

What is a PWS or WPIT?

Professional Wetland Scientist or PWS

- ✓ Meets stringent academic and work experience standards
- ✓ Adheres to high level of professional ethical standards
- ✓ Conducts & practices wetland science in multi-disciplinary work environments
- ✓ Holds special international designation similar to Professional Engineer or Landscape Architect

WPIT (Wetland Professional in Training)

- ✓ Meets stringent academic standards
- ✓ Works on gaining qualifying employment experience and/or some types of volunteer experience in wetlands
- ✓ Adheres to professional ethical standards

What are the requirements?

Academic Requirements – PWS / WPIT*

- ✓ 15 credits in Biological Sciences, such as biology, botany, zoology, ecology, etc.
- ✓ 15 credits in Physical Sciences, such as chemistry, soils, hydrology, geology, etc.
- ✓ 6 credits in Quantitative Sciences, such as math, computer science, statistics, etc.
- ✓ 15 credits in Specialized Wetland Course Work (PWS *only*), such as wetland plant taxonomy, wetland hydrology, soil morphology, wetland mapping, wetland restoration & wetland delineation, etc.

* Before applying, applicants must have earned a Baccalaureate degree or higher.

Qualifying Work Experience – PWS

After earning a Baccalaureate degree or higher, required experience is:

- ✓ 5 years of full-time professional experience while working in consulting, industry, non-profit, public or academic sectors.
- ✓ Experience calculated on percentage of time devoted specifically to professional wetland activities which can be pro-rated
- ✓ Statement of Expertise essay
- ✓ 5 references attesting to your qualifications

Fees (USD)	Developed Countries		Developing Countries	
	SWS Member	SWS Non-Member	SWS Member	SWS Non-Member
PWS	\$300	\$400	\$100	\$140
WPIT	\$100	\$200	\$30	\$60

How do you apply? Visit <https://www.wetlandcert.org/>

For questions or help with submitting your application, contact:
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