**Section 680.604 Reciprocity Determination**

a) An applicant for a Class A, Class B, Class C, or Class D Certificate of Competency who possesses a valid certificate issued under the laws of another state will be issued a Certificate of Competency, without examination, provided:

1) The Agency may determine by reviewing the other state's requirements that the applicant has met minimum standards equivalent to or more stringent than the standards specified in Sections 4, 13, 14 and 22 of the Law, respectively, prior to receiving the certificate from the other state;

2) The state that issued the certificate to the applicant accepts, by reciprocity, certificates issued by the Agency; and

3) The applicant resides in Illinois or is employed at a public water supply in Illinois.

b) An applicant satisfying subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) above, but failing to meet the residency requirements of subsection (a)(3) above, shall be issued a notice of intent to grant reciprocity. Should that applicant fail to meet the requirements outlined in subsection (a)(3) above within 90 days after issuance of the notice, the notice shall become void.

c) Applications for reciprocity described in Section 680.601 shall be reviewed by the Agency as follows:

1) The Agency shall review each applicant's education and experience to determine the levels of certification examination for which the applicant is eligible pursuant to Subpart C of this Part;

2) An applicant for reciprocity shall be notified of, and given the option to take, the certification examinations for which the applicant qualifies;

3) The Agency shall contact the certifying officials from the other state to determine the level of certification of each applicant for reciprocity and whether the certificates are currently valid;

4) The Agency shall compare the applicant's qualifications and the other state's eligibility requirements for certification with those described in Subpart C of this Part to determine if the requirements of subsection (a) above are fulfilled; if so, reciprocity shall be granted at the appropriate level;

5) If it is determined that reciprocity should be granted, the Agency shall issue the appropriate level Certificate of Competency to the applicant and shall notify the certifying official from the other state; and

6) If it is determined that reciprocity should not be granted, the Agency shall notify the applicant and the certifying official from the other state, and provide reasons for the decision.

d) If a Certificate of Competency that has been issued through reciprocity is suspended or revoked pursuant to Subpart G of this Part, the Agency shall notify the certifying official from the other state.

e) An applicant who is denied reciprocity or who is given a lower level of eligibility than the one requested shall have an opportunity for a hearing with the Advisory Board. The applicant for reciprocity may seek review of the Agency determination by the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board shall review the determination and provide a recommendation to the Agency.

(Source: Amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 7263, effective April 24, 2000)