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)

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**How do you apply?** Visit [https://www.wetlandcert.org/](https://www.wetlandcert.org/)

For questions or help with submitting your application, contact:
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