THE ARRL

HAM RADIO LICENSE MANUAL

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET YOUR FIRST HAM RADIO LICENSE!

- All questions and answer key, with detailed explanations, to help you pass your test and get on the air!
- For use with exams taken between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2026.









Amateur Radio Technician Exam Prep Course

Chapter 7

Licensing Regulations

- 7.1 Licensing Terms
- 7.2 Bands and Privileges
- 7.3 International Rules
- 7.4 Call Signs



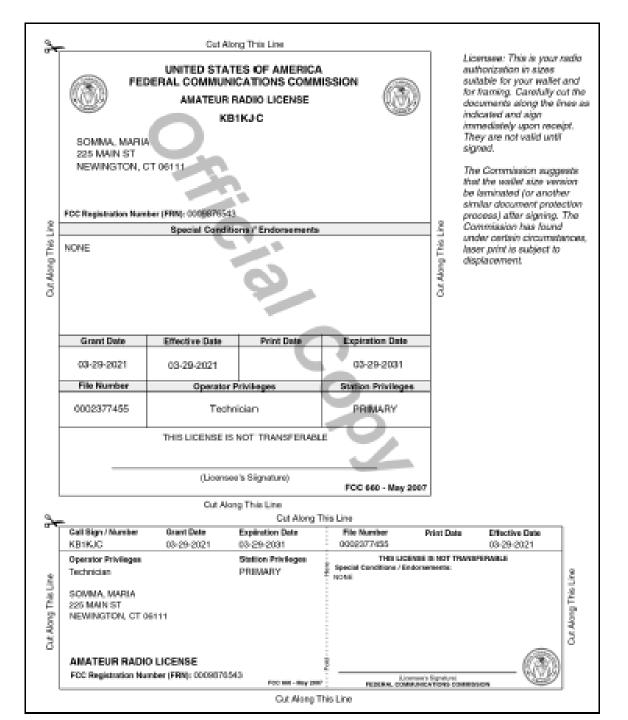
Licensing Terms

- The *Federal Communications Commission* or FCC makes and enforces the rules for the Amateur Radio service in the United States
- Detailed list of rules & regulations at ...
 - http://www.arrl.org/part-97-amateur-radio
- Amateur radio is *non-commercial* ... hams aren't allowed to be paid for their services (with a few exceptions) ... voluntary
- Hams use various events to train to operate radio equipment in useful ways and to keep their emergency response skills sharp, such as ...
 - Competitive operating events, chasing awards, and station-building



Types and Classes of Licenses

- An Amateur Radio license consists of two parts an operator license and a station license
 - Operator license gives you permission to operate an amateur station
 - Station license authorizes you to have an amateur station
 - Each person can have only ONE such license
- There are three classes of Amateur Radio licenses being granted today: Technician, General, and Amateur Extra
 - Each carries a different set of *frequency* and *operating privileges*
- Clubs can also be license holders
 - Clubs must have at least FOUR members to be organized ... see rule 97.5 (b)





Sample license

Figure 7.1 — An FCC Amateur Radio license is both an operator and a station license. The printed license shown here has two sections: one for posting in your station and one to carry with you. For information on obtaining a copy of your license, see www.arrl.org/obtain-license-copy.



Examinations

- Amateur volunteers run their own exam sessions
 - Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VEC): An organization or group that administers exams
 - *Volunteer Examiner* (VE): An individual amateur radio operator that actually gives the exam (reports to a VEC) ... General class or higher (however, Technicians can assist)
- Exams are referred to by *elements* ...
 - Element 2 ... Technician (35 questions, 26 required to pass)
 - Element 3 ... General (35 questions, 26 required to pass)
 - Element 4 ... Extra (50 questions, 37 required to pass)
- Test forms are filed with the FCC by the VEC administering the exam
- Once your information shows up in the FCC ULS database, you are fully authorized to operate



Term of License and Renewal

- Amateur licenses are good for a 10-year term, renewable without reexamination
- If your license expires, you are supposed to stop transmitting because your license is no longer valid
- You have a two-year grace period to apply for a new license
- To find an exam location ...
 - https://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session
- Bring to the exam ...
 - Two forms of ID (one a photo ID)
 - FCC Registration Number (FRN) ...
 - https://apps2.fcc.gov/fccUserReg/pages/createAccount.htm



After Examination!

Finding Your Call Sign!

Once your forms are processed by the VEC, granting your license takes only a few days. You can check the FCC database yourself and as soon as the new call or privileges are listed, you can begin using them!

Log on to the FCC's Universal Licensing System (wireless.fcc.gov/uls), then click the "Licenses" button next to "Search." Click "Amateur" under "Service Specific Search." The Amateur License Search page will appear. Enter just your last name in the "Name" window and your ZIP code in that window. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Search." The ARRL also offers a "Call Sign / Name Search" service on the home page of the ARRL website.

When your license has been granted, your name will appear with a brand-new call sign next to it! Check all of your information to be sure it's correct, then get on the air!



Your Responsibilities

- The FCC requires you to provide and maintain a valid current mailing and email address in their database at all times
 - Your license can be suspended or revoked and removed from the database
- You are obligated to make your station available for inspection upon request by an FCC representative
 - Keep your original license available for inspection



ANY QUESTIONS?

