

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAM PREPARATION AND TESTING

To qualify for an amateur radio license, applicants must pass a written examination. Morse code is no longer required for any class of license.

LICENSE STUDY BOOKS and other test preparation materials are available from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national association for amateur radio; www.arrl.org . They can also be obtained from the Gordon West Radio School; www.gordonwestradioschool.com .

ONLINE SELF-TEACHING COURSES: www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html

LOCAL COURSES to help you prepare for Technician, General, and Extra Class License testing are sponsored by the Southwestern AL ARES Group. Go to <http://w4iax.net> or <http://ares.jordannetwork.com> for the upcoming schedule of classes. Courses can also be scheduled for groups. These courses usually end with a testing session.

TECHNICIAN CLASS COURSE ON DISC: MARC can provide a Technician Class License course on 1 DVD or 5 CD's. These are provided free of charge to aspiring hams in our area. These are data discs (will not operate properly on a TV) and will run under Windows XP with Internet Explorer (they will not run under Vista, and we do not know about Windows 7). We have no other license class discs at this time. Contact the Secretary, Charlotte Naylor, KF4RPB. w4iax@arrl.net

CAVEC TESTING: For more information, contact Larry Galey, KC4JPD, 625-0235, lgaley1@bellsouth.net , or David Robinson, WA4AVC, 649-5229, wa4avc4873@att.net . Sessions will be held as necessary and requested. Prior notification with confirmation is needed.

ARRL VE TESTING: For more information, contact Chuck Miller, KD4NGA, 341-1004, kd4nga@arrl.net .

Other websites with information on Amateur Radio and how to become licensed:

QRZ: The ham radio supersite – name/callsign/bio lookup; news, forums, swapmeet, DX, QSL info, software, books, equipment, practice tests. www.qrz.com

Courage HANDI-HAM System: Amateur Radio and Technology for people with disabilities provides tools for learning Amateur Radio and technical skills and earning a license. www.handiham.org