

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING APPLICATION FORM NCVFC FORM 605

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE LEVELS AND REQUIREMENTS

In the US, there are three license levels, or "license classes" which are Technician class, General class and Extra Class. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) grants these licenses.

LEVEL 1: Technician Class License

EXAM: 35-question Technician Written Exam (Element 2)
PRIVILEGES: All VHF/UHF amateur bands (frequencies above 30 MHz) and certain HF frequencies on the 80, 40, and 15 meter bands using CW, and on the 10 meter band using CW, voice, and digital modes.

LEVEL 2: General Class License (upgrade from Technician)

EXAM: 35-question General Written Exam (Element 3)
PRIVILEGES: All VHF/UHF amateur bands and most HF privileges (10 through 160 meters).
In addition to the Technician privileges, General Class operators are authorized to operate on any frequency in the 160, 30, 17, 12, and 10 meter bands. They may also use significant segments of the 80, 40, 20, and 15 meter bands.

LEVEL 3: Extra Class License (upgrade from General)

EXAM: 50-question Extra Written Exam (Element 4)
PRIVILEGES: All amateur privileges.

Should you have any question, please contact your local volunteer examiner team, or contact one of the 14 volunteer examiner coordinator (VEC) organizations. For contact information for the VECs, or to contact the FCC, call 888-225-5322 (weekdays), or write to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245. Also see the FCC web at http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/index.htm?job=service_ho me&id=amateur. ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, has additional information and resources at www.arrl.org or 1-888-277-5289.

ARE WRITTEN TESTS AN FCC-LICENSE REQUIREMENT? ARE THERE EXEMPTIONS?

As of April 15, 2000, you may be examined on only three classes of operator licenses, each authorizing varying levels of privileges. The Amateur Operator/Primary Station License class for which an examinee qualifies for is determined by the exams taken at a VE test session. The exams cover regulations, operating practices, and electronics theory. There is no exemption from the written exam requirements for persons with difficulty in reading, writing, or because of a handicap or disability. There are exam accommodations that can be afforded examinees. Most new amateur operators start at the Technician class and then advance one class at a time. The VEs give examination credit for the license class currently (and in some cases, previously) held so that examinations required for that license need not be repeated. The written examinations are constructed from question pools that have been made public (see: www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html). Helpful study guides and training courses are also widely available. To locate examination opportunities in your area, contact your local club, VE group, one of the 14 VECs or see the online listings at: www.arrl.org/examsearch.

IS KNOWLEDGE OF MORSE CODE AN FCC-LICENSE REQUIREMENT?

As of February 23, 2007, the FCC no longer requires passing a Morse code examination for any Amateur Radio license class.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Under the Debt Collection Act of 1996 your Taxpayer ID Number (TIN), which is your Social Security Number, is required on this application -- or your FCC-assigned Federal Registration Number (FRN). An FRN is assigned by the FCC registration system as soon as your SSN is registered.

RENEWING OR MODIFYING YOUR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR/PRIMARY STATION LICENSE

NCVEC FORM 605

The NCVFC form 605 may also be used to renew or modify your Amateur Radio Operator/Primary Station license. License renewals (with associated fee for vanity renewals) may only be completed during the final 90 days prior to license expiration, or up to two years after expiration. Changes to your mailing address, name and requests for a sequential change of your station call sign appropriate for your license class may be requested at any time. This form may not be used to apply for a new specific "Vanity" station call sign. Do not send or provide this form to the FCC - this form is for VE / VEC use only.

THE FCC APPLICATION FORM 605

The FCC version of the form 605 may not be used for applications submitted to a VE team or a VEC since it does not request information needed by the administering VE's. The FCC Form 605 may however, be used to routinely renew or modify your license without charge. New vanity license requests and vanity license renewals require a FCC regulatory fee. FCC form 605 should be sent to the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd., Gettysburg PA 17325-7245. FCC forms can be obtained via the FCC web at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> or by fax at 202-418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders by calling 800-418-3676.

RENEWING OR MODIFYING YOUR AMATEUR LICENSE

You can submit your renewal or license modifications to FCC via the internet at: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>. If you are already registered in ULS and have obtained a FRN (Federal Registration Number), you can choose the "ONLINE FILING / LOG IN" link to perform your on-line transaction with the FCC. If you do not have a FRN, you must first register in the ULS by following the "New Users / Register" link and complete your registration information. You can then choose the "Online Filing / LOG IN" link. Direct any on-line filing or password questions to FCC Tech Support weekdays at 202-414-1250.

CLUB STATION CALL SIGN ADMINISTRATORS (CSCSA)

The NCVFC Form 605 is also used for the processing of applications for Amateur Service club and military recreation station call signs and for the modification of RACES stations. This form may not be used to apply for a new specific "Vanity" station call sign. The Club Station Call Sign Administrators are: ARRL/VEC (225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111), W4VEC (3504 Stonehurst Pl., High Point, NC 27265) and the W5YI-VEC (PO Box 565101, Dallas TX 75356) Please return this form to one of these three CSCSAs.

