



Getting Licensed: The Technician Exam

Thirty-five questions stand between you and a call sign

The test at a glance

35

multiple-choice
questions

26

right answers to pass

\$35

FCC fee, good for 10
years

0

Morse code required

Every question and answer is published ahead of time, so you can study the exact pool you will be tested on.

From study to call sign

1

Get an FCC Registration Number

Free, on the FCC CORES website; you already have one from GMRS

2

Study the question pool

Practice tests at [PassThePool.com](https://www.passthepool.com) until you score 85% or better

3

Find an exam session

Search [ARRL.org](https://www.arrl.org) or [HamStudy.org](https://www.hamstudy.org); many are on Saturday mornings

4

Take the test

Three volunteer examiners grade it on the spot

5

Pay and get your call sign

The FCC emails a link for the \$35 fee; the call sign follows in a few days

What to bring

Photo ID, your FRN, a pencil and calculator, and the session fee (often \$15 or less).

Study tips that work



Short sessions

Twenty minutes a day beats a weekend cram



Learn the why

The rules and safety questions make sense once you know the reason



Skip the hard math first

You can miss nine and still pass



Take full practice tests

When you pass three in a row, book the exam

Sources: FCC Part 97 rules; ARRL licensing pages; NCVET question pools

Remember

Study the public question pool, pass 26 of 35, pay \$35, and you're on the air for 10 years.