

General License Info – read me first

After you have passed the Technician exam, you upgrade to General class. With the “ham cram” style of class that we teach, there isn’t much time for the material to really sink in. We want you to pass the exam and then get out and operate and use your new privileges. Here’s a little info about how the exam works:

- The General Exam will have 35 questions taken from a fixed question pool of about 450.
- The questions are grouped into Elements and Sub-Elements, and one question is drawn from each Sub-Element to create an exam.
- You must answer 26 of the 35 correctly for a passing score (72%).
- All questions are multiple-choice (A, B, C, or D).
- The questions on the test must be taken from the approved VEC question pool at <http://ncvec.org/>
- The questions may not be altered, except for rotation of the correct answer between A), B), C), and D) and minor typographical corrections.

We strongly recommend that you read through the Question/Answer notes in the General Question Pool file. This file has each pool question with answers, and an indication of the correct answer. The purpose is to allow you to become familiar with each question and its correct answer.

Caution: Reading this document may cause drowsiness.

There are many good on- and off-line resources to drill the question pool and/or take practice exams. In Drill mode, you answer each question in a sub-element of the question pool. If you make an error, the tool tells you the correct answer, then places the question back into the list, until all questions in that review segment are answered correctly. In test mode, the tool prepares a random exam, administers it to you, and gives you your score.

Among the good tools out there are:

1. Ham Academy from <http://www.ah0a.org> as an excellent resource for reviewing the questions and trying practice tests. It is a freeware program that will allow you to "Drill" all of the questions and does not require an internet connection to work.
2. Websites such as <http://aa9pw.com> and <http://www.qrz.com/exams> for free tests
3. Websites such as <http://hamtestonline.com> which charge a nominal fee and have good study materials.

Take several practice tests. This will help build your confidence in the testing process.

If you do not know the answer, make your best guess. If you select the correct answer, Ham Academy will go to the next question. If you select an incorrect answer, Ham Academy will high-light the correct answer and wait for you to select it. Read the Correct answer twice, then, select it. Ham Academy will put incorrectly answered questions back into the review pool randomly.

When you complete all of the questions, you may quit, or start the next sub-element. It should take 4-5 hours to go through the entire question pool.

Example of Ham Academy use:

<http://www.ah0a.org/> (A - H - Zero - A)

Click on HAM Academy (either online, or download version)

If download version, select the file labeled "Index" (you must unzip the file first).

Select "Single" user (it tracks your progress)

Select Element 3 - General

Select "Drill" to review questions.

Select "Random" or "Sequential" and any portion of the question pool you wish to review.

Rather than selecting “Single User”, you may select “General Study Notes”, which brings up a narrative covering all of the answers in that sub-element.

If you feel ready to take the exam without the class, you can find a “regular” exam session just about every Saturday morning. See the SANDARC website. <http://sandarc.org> (look for License testing, under the INFO tab).

Additional information and links is at our class website: <http://sandiegohamclasses.com>

If you have any questions, contact the instructor and/or the person managing the roster for your class.

Good Luck!

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