



WELCOME TO AMATEUR RADIO

GENERAL EXAMINATION PREPARATION COURSE

PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE

- To prepare you to PASS the Amateur Radio General exam
- To introduce you to the additional privileges associated with holding a General Class (Element 3) license

SPONSORS



ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim as The American Radio Relay League, ARRL is a noncommercial organization of radio amateurs. Course materials are provided by ARRL.

WCARS
Murphy / WC4NC

WCARS is the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society. The club was founded in 1977 and serves radio amateurs in the Asheville/Buncombe County area of Western North Carolina. The Murphy chapter serves the tri-county area. Course materials are edited & enhanced by WCARS. Instructors are WCARS members.

US AUXCOMM Society

AUXCOMM is the DHS National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant program adopted by North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) for all amateur radio emergency / public service communications within the state. While AUXCOMM stands for Auxiliary Communications, within the state of North Carolina AUXCOMM is considered a Primary Emergency Communications Asset. Instructors are AUXCOMM members.

W4VEC



Volunteer Examiner Coordinator

W4VEC is part of the National Volunteer Examiners Coordinators Program of the Federal Communications Commission. Our purpose is to provide local examination opportunities to those interested in amateur radio. Testing is done and results are submitted by W4VEC. VE's report to W4VEC.

USEFUL WEBSITES

- Look up your call sign (once you pass the exam)
 - <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>
 - You'll see this on the screen. Click the arrow beside BY CALL SIGN and select FRN ... enter your FRN and click SEARCH.



The screenshot shows a web interface titled "License Search". It features a dropdown menu currently set to "By Call Sign" with a downward arrow. To the right of the dropdown is an equals sign followed by a text input field. Further right is a blue button labeled "SEARCH". Below these elements is a checkbox labeled "exact matches only". At the bottom of the interface, there is a link labeled "Advanced License Search" with a right-pointing arrow.

- Free Practice Exams
 - <https://hamexam.org>
- American Radio Relay League
 - www.arrl.org
- EchoLink
 - www.echolink.org

EXAM PREPARATION TIPS

- Before each class
 - Read the chapter(s) to be covered in that session
 - Review every question included in that chapter
 - Work out any math problems (don't guess)
 - Make notes about areas you don't fully understand
 - Writing it down reinforces the information!
- Beginning 2-3 weeks before the exam
 - Review every presentation
 - Go through the Question Pool at least TWICE
- **Optional: One week before the exam ... (only if you're comfortable with the General material)**
 - **Go through the EXTRA Question Pool at least twice**
- 2-3 days before the exam
 - Go through the Question Pool at least ONCE
 - Get plenty of sleep

EXAM TIPS

- Go through the exam the first time answering ONLY those questions of which you're **absolutely sure** (even if you can eliminate 1-2 incorrect responses).
 - Reason: Some questions will be **near duplicates**. In other words, it's possible that one question may provide a tip (or even the answer) to a previous question. If you guess early on, you may overlook this opportunity. Frequently, 1-2 responses is the difference between passing and failing.
- Keep a list of those you skipped on your scratch paper (you can't write in the test booklet) ... mark these out as you answer them.
- The second time through the exam, only look at those questions you skipped.
 - Try to eliminate as many incorrect choices as possible before you make an educated guess.
- Go through exam a third time to see if you skipped any questions.
- TAKE YOUR TIME!