

Announcing the 2025 Technician License Class, sponsored by the Bella Vista area Radio Club –

Here is the class information and guidelines. Please carefully review the following:

CLASS DATES: Saturday, September 13 and Saturday, September 20, 2025

CLASS LOCATION: Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy (ALETA)

3424 S. Downum Road Springdale, AR 72762

CLASS DURATION: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

(Restroom/smoke breaks will be given during class sessions. There are two smoking areas at the ALETA

facility.)

INSTRUCTOR: Tom Northfell – W5XNA

CLASS INFORMATION:



• IF YOU REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS, THE CLASS IS FREE, BUT YOU WILL NEED TO ORDER THE ACCOMPANYING LICENSE MANUAL (\$29.95). BE SURE AND ORDER EARLY ENOUGH, SO THAT YOU WILL HAVE IT ON HAND WHEN THE FIRST CLASS CONVENES.



YOU CAN ORDER YOUR MANUAL FROM ANY OF THE WEBSITES BELOW...ORDER NOW!

ARRL: Click HERE

Amazon: Click HERE

- BRING PENS AND NOTEBOOK WITH YOU FOR THE CLASSES. On Testing Saturday, February 10, it would be good if you bring a couple of sharpened #2 pencils with you in addition to your pen(s) and notebook. The pencils will be used for the FCC exam that day. If you cannot obtain sharpened pencils we will have some available.
- BE ON TIME AND PLAN TO ATTEND THE FULL 2 DAYS. These classes will be jampacked with information, questions, and answers in a collegial and friendly environment. The success of this course of instruction is based upon covering all of the test material in 2 class sessions followed immediately by the license exam. In addition, each attendee will be given material to review and preview during the week. This is a great opportunity to obtain your amateur radio Technician Class license in only 8 days. Each class will start PROMPTLY at 9:00 am each Saturday. Be on time.
- NO FOOD OR DRINK AVAILABLE AT ALETA FACILITY. There are no vending machines at ALETA. You may bring drinks, sandwiches or a snack if you wish.
- YOUR BOTTLED DRINKS OR DRINKING CONTAINERS MUST HAVE A TOP ON THEM, to avoid spilling in the ALETA classroom. ALETA has graciously made their facility available for us to use for this radio class. We do not want spillages in their classroom. Anyone without a top on their drink container will be asked to dispose of it.
- No snacks allowed in the classroom. This is a classroom not a break area. You
 may take your snack and lunch break in the ALETA gymnasium.
- PARKING: The ALETA main parking lot is in the front of the building on the west side.



TESTING INFORMATION:

The test for the Technician class license will be given on Saturday, September 20, immediately following the class that day. The test will be administered by the Bella Vista area Radio Club ARRL VE team.



•YOU MUST HAVE YOUR FRN (FCC REGISTRATION NUMBER) TO TAKE THE EXAM ON SEPTEMBER 20.

To conduct business with the FCC, you <u>must</u> use your FRN. This number is used to uniquely identify you in all transactions with the FCC. The FCC no longer accepts Social Security #'s or Driver's License #'s to apply for a ham license upgrade – *only the FRN*.

You can obtain an FRN by going to this FCC website:

https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do
In the middle box, click the REGISTER tab, & follow the instructions from there

- Along with your FRN, you will need to provide identification. This can be:
 - One photo ID (State Driver's License, Government issued passport, Military ID, Law Enforcement Officer ID card, student school photo ID, or state photo ID), or.......
 - **Two non-photo IDs** (Non-photo state ID card, Birth Certificate, Social Security card, Employer's wage statement, school ID card, public library card, utility bill, or bank statement)

The class is free, but there is a \$15 testing fee, *due at the time you take the test.* For persons 17 years of age or younger, the test fee is \$5.

We do not have the ability to accept debit/credit cards. If you intend to pay with cash, please bring the **EXACT** amount with you (no \$20 bills, please). Personal checks are also ok.

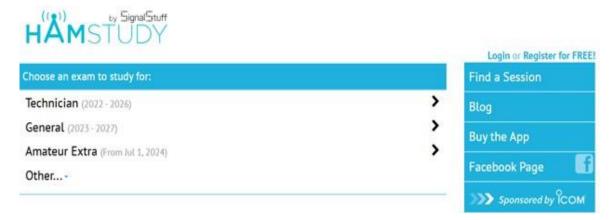
A calculator with the memory erased and formulas cleared is allowed. Cell phones MUST be silenced or turned off during the class and exam sessions. Also, iPhones, iPads, etc. may not be used.



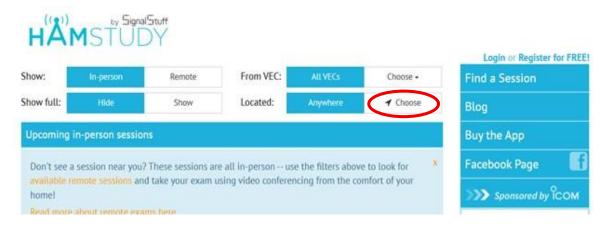
After you pass the test, [usually] 1-2 business days later, you will receive two e-mails from the FCC. – The first e-mail will contain a link to take you to the FCC payment section to pay your \$35 license fee. Your license is good for 10 years. If you later upgrade to General or Amateur Extra, upgrades are free. After the FCC receives your payment, you will receive a 2nd e-mail. This e-mail will contain a link which will take you to a .pdf file with an image of your new Technician license. The license will have 'original copy' printed across it. The link is good for 30 days. We suggest that you not only print your new license but SAVE the .pdf file to your hard drive. If you fail to print this original license, or you do not download and keep the .pdf file and you need a copy of your license later on, you can download a .pdf file from your account on the FCC website, but this license will have 'reference copy' – not 'original copy' – on it, and will state it is not an official license.

The BVRC amateur radio exam sessions are conducted electronically. After obtaining your FRN, you need to register for the exam session on September 20, 2025:

- 1) If you have not done so as yet, go to the HamStudy.org website: https://hamstudy.org/
- 2) On the screen, click the 'Find a Session' tab:



3) On the next screen, click the 'Choose' tab:



4) On the next screen, enter your zip code then click the 'Filter' tab.

You will then see the available BVRC exam locations. Click the September 20 session at 3424 S. Downum Road, Springdale, then follow the prompts to register for the exam session.

When you attend the exam session, we have e-tablets that you can use to take your exam, or if you choose, you can bring a device of your choosing to take the exam: cellphone, laptop, etc.

Be sure and have the proper ID, your FRN, and your PIN on exam day.

If you have any additional questions, please e-mail the instructor, Tom Northfell-W5XNA, at: w5xna@arrl.net