

Ham Radio Technician License Course Outline

Richmond Amateur Radio Club

v.3.2 2026-09-13

Instructor:

Dave White, W4IIA

email: w4iia@arrl.net

phone: (804) 501-8857

RARC Radio School Lead:

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU

email: w4bru@arrl.net

phone: (804) 353-4269

Course Objectives:

1. The student will have the knowledge to pass the FCC Technician License Exam (Element 2), qualifying for the first level FCC Amateur Radio License.
2. The student will have the basic knowledge to operate an amateur radio station on the Technician frequency allocations above 50 MHz.

Philosophy:

This is a highly compressed course that depends on the ***focus and motivation*** of the student.

- *Reading assignments should be done **BEFORE** the classroom sessions.*
- The classroom sessions are fast paced, covering a wide variety of material in a short time.
- The ***practice exams*** are very important for reviewing the material and preparing for the actual exam.

Reading Material:

Required: [*Ham Radio School Technician License Course*](#) by Stu Turner, WØSTU (\$20.95).

Be sure you obtain the 2026-2030 question pool edition, as shown here.

Practice Exams

These online practice exams are **EXTREMELY helpful** for testing your knowledge:

Book Section Quizzes and full 35-question practice exams:

<https://hamradioschool.com/tech-quizzes-2030.html>

Additional practice exams found at:

<https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/> <https://www.eham.net/exams/> <http://aa9pw.com>

The aa9pw.com site requires an account registration to access exams.



Online Video Lessons:

Video lessons are available online. Students can view videos for Ch. Ø and (optional) Ch. 1 for free by going to:

<https://hamradioschool.thinkific.com/courses/tech-course> (Click 'Free Preview' button and create an account to gain access to the free videos.)

Taking the License Exam:

- You must register in advance for the exam session at: <https://rarclub.net/license/ve-testing/>
- No fee is charged for the license examination. Laurel VEC does not charge a fee for the exam or supplies.
- The FCC charges a \$35 license application processing fee to be paid online within 10 days of passing the exam.
- Bring to the exam:
 - 1) a photo ID, 2) a pen or pencil, 3) your FCC issued FRN (mandatory to take the exam)
 - 4) a basic calculator (no calculators with stored memory or cell phone use is allowed).

Welcome And Course Overview Agenda:

- Instructor Introduction
<https://www.qrz.com/db/W4IIA> and <http://www.w4iia.net>
- Course objectives and resources: Focus on Exam Preparation
- Student Introductions
 - What got you interested in getting an amateur radio license?
 - What experience do you have with communication or electronics?
 - What do you want to get out of the class?
- Help keep an eye on the time. 5-minute break at 7:30
- Getting your FRN (FCC Registration Number) from the FCC is critical.
 - You must have an FRN to take your exam.
 - Here is a good online tutorial:
<https://hamradioprep.com/how-to-register-for-your-frn/>
- **IMPORTANT:** *Please provide your FRN by the 9/29/26 class*