

Amateur Radio License Classes

Useful in sailing, hiking, and just talking around town. Learn the basics of electronics and theory.



Our FREE Technician License Course is designed to introduce the average person to the world of Amateur Radio. It requires no prior knowledge of radio or electronics, though you will learn some of both during the course. The class is specifically designed to give you the skills needed to pass the FCC Element 2 Exam. The Technician License comes with complete UHF and VHF privileges typically used for relatively local communication, and some limited access to the HF bands and the rest of the world.

WHEN Starting February 29, 2020
Time 8:30am -12pm
WHERE Davidsonville Family Rec Center
3789 Queen Anne Bridge Road
COST F R E E

Class runs for 6 consecutive Saturdays with review session and testing on April 11.

QUESTIONS or register email:

learn@w3vpr.org

Scan QR code for Location map.



DIRECTIONS:

Davidsonville Family Recreation Center
3789 Queen Anne's Bridge Road
Davidsonville, Maryland 21035

The clubhouse is about 1¼ miles from the intersection of Maryland Routes 214 and 424. From that intersection proceed ¼ mile west on MD 214, Central Avenue, then make a 45 degree left turn onto Queen Anne's Bridge Road. After about 1 mile, you will cross Wayson Road. At this point you will see a chain-link fence on your left. This is the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center. Proceed to the gate and turn left into the center, go straight ahead between two buildings and up the hill. At the top, you will find ample free parking.

The Anne Arundel Radio Club is the last building on your right. It is near an almost 200 foot repeater tower, and is clearly marked. You really can't miss it.

FAQ :: Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are there age requirements ? No ! If you pass the test, you get a license. That being said, the youngest US ham on record was 6 years old, but she had the benefit of growing up with licensed parents and siblings. My feeling is that this course is not beyond the ability of the average teenager, and can likely be passed by those in the 10 to 12 range if they have a strong interest in the hobby. I do know a little knowledge of algebra helps.
2. Is this class going to be over my head ? No ! We try to keep everything at a level that the average person can understand. It is the instructors goal to teach the material using plain English with as little geek-speak as possible. Our function is to help you understand the material as best as we can. You might, however, learn a little geek-speak along the way.
3. Do I need to pre-register ? No ! But if you know you are going to take the class, we would appreciate it. This helps us know how many to expect on that first class date, how many supplies and handouts to prepare, and even helps us know how many donuts to buy. But if someone wants to come along last minute, that is great. We always plan for a few extras. We track class interest by the number of pre-registrations.
4. How does one dress for a ham radio class ? Dress comfortably. You are going to be there for several hours. Jeans and a t-shirt are just fine.
5. What do I need to bring with me ? You will need note taking materials. If you are purchasing your book thorough the club, we will provide those to you at your first session. A calculator capable of doing logarithms and square roots might come in handy occasionally but is certainly not necessary. The dollar store sells one suitable for the test.
6. What if I can't attend all the classes ? Missing a class is not going to doom you to failure. We can provide you with the class materials, and the book should help you cover the rest. That being said, missing a number of classes may lower your chances of passing the test substantially. Read, Study, & Ask Questions.
7. Is your class really totally 'FREE', with no strings attached ? Yes ! Obviously we would love a few new members for our club, assuming that idea interests you. But if it doesn't, that's okay too. We are totally happy that we could help you move forward with your Amateur Radio hobby. If you complete the course and pass the test, we will give you a free membership in the AARC for the remainder of the membership year.
8. How much does the book cost ? It sounds awful to say, but it varies. The Kindle version is probably the least expensive for approximately \$20, but of course you must own the equipment to read the Kindle files. With shipping included most print versions are in the \$30 range. In past years I can say that Amazon.com has been less expensive than purchasing the book either from the AARC or the ARRL, but not by much. Your decision may come down to what is most convenient for you.