

University Of Arkansas At Little Rock Ham Radio Club License Exam Info:

The University Of Arkansas At Little Rock (UALR) Ham Radio Club is pleased to offer a license exam session for new or upgraded amateur radio licenses. Testing is done through the American Radio Relay League Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL/VEC). Daryl Stout, N5VLZ, is the VE Team Liaison. We normally test 4 times in a calendar year. This file was last updated on July 12, 2024 (with campus construction and other updates).

Depending on COVID-19, masks may be RECOMMENDED when “social distancing can not be maintained”; or may be REQUIRED in the building, but masks may be removed once you exit the building. This is whether you’ve had the vaccine(s) or Covid-19 or not; no exceptions. If you don’t feel well, or have Covid-19 on exam day...or have been exposed to Covid-19 in the 2 weeks before the exam, please stay home.

Due to various issues, there was a LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION of the July 13, 2024 exam session...and we apologize for any inconvenience. Our remaining 2024 session is set for Oct. 19, 2024, at 11am, in Room 517 in Fribrough Hall (the former Natural Sciences Building) on the UALR Campus. Due to the way things are structured, WALK-INS WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTED...those wishing to test MUST pre-register with VE Team Leader, Daryl Stout, N5VLZ, no later than 11am Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024. If no examinees register by that time, the session will be canceled. You can send an email to Daryl at either n5vlz@arrl.net or wx1der@gmail.com or call/text him at 501-690-8325.

Examinees should go to <https://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session> prior to exam day, and to follow ALL noted instructions. Failure to bring the noted items results in you NOT being allowed to take the exam session. The exam fee is \$15 per person (cash, check, or money order, payable to ARRL/VEC). For examinees 18 or younger, the exam fee is \$5 per person; however, proof of age (valid photo ID, or birth certificate with the proper seal attached) is required to receive the lower fee. Examinees under 18 will also be reimbursed the \$35 fee for a new license from ARRL/VEC, once the FCC has processed it. If paying by cash for the exam fee, paying with exact change is helpful, although I’ll try to have “petty cash” for change, but that’s not guaranteed. This fee may increase in 2025. The exam dates for 2025 will be chosen after the Christmas Holidays, 2024.

As of April 19, 2022, examinees must pay \$35 to the FCC within 10 days of the exam, for a new or renewed ham radio license, or vanity callsign request (the vanity callsign request is done online only). The \$35 fee doesn’t apply to a license upgrade (if already licensed with a callsign), a sequential callsign change request, or for a name, email, or mailing address change. Further info is at <https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee>

Examinees should also go to <https://www.arrl.org/fcc-licensee-privacy> to note what data will be in the public domain, and what data will be kept private. If you’re uncomfortable

with a street address, or a street address with an apartment number, a Post Office Box is acceptable; but it must be where you can receive mail from the FCC. Examinees **MUST** provide a Federal Registration Number (FRN), and an email address on the NCVEC Form 605 (July, 2022 or later), or you won't be able to take the exam. To obtain this form, go to http://www.ncvec.org/downloads/NCVEC_Form_605_2022.pdf

And, examinees **MUST** answer whether or not they've been convicted of a felony in state or federal court. A "YES" response isn't an automatic disqualification, but it all depends on the circumstances surrounding the conviction. All the data must be supplied to the FCC within 14 days of the exam. Details are at <http://www.arrl.org/fcc-qualification-question> – failure to do so, or answering it wrong ("No" when it should be "Yes"), results in the license grant being dismissed, and you've basically wasted your time and money.

Study material wise, be sure that you're studying the 2022 Technician, 2023 General, or 2024 Amateur Extra. Any study guides/materials other than these dates are worthless. I recommend HamTestOnline (<https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com>) – they offer a full money back guarantee if you fail the exam – subscriptions are in 6 month increments. It's all web browser based, with nothing to download or install.

With having to sell my car in late June, 2022, due to medical issues, a fellow VE brings me to the session. I plan to be there around 10:30am to set things up. Directions on how to get to the campus are below. Note that to bypass the intensive road construction on Interstate 30 through downtown Little Rock, alternate routes are instead noted. If you do use I-30 through downtown, expect significant delays, closures, as well as detours. Speeding fines double in construction zones when workers are present. A full campus map is later in this document. Due to campus construction through at least October, 2024 a different way has to be taken to get to the exam site, and it's noted later in this document.

From the SOUTHWEST (Benton, Hot Springs, Malvern, Texarkana): Take Interstate 30 northeast to Exit 132 (University Avenue), then turn left at the traffic signal just before the railroad crossing, turning left onto University Avenue. Jump down to "North On University Avenue" for further info.

From the SOUTHEAST (Hensley, Sheridan, Redfield, Pine Bluff). Take Interstate 530 north to Interstate 30 West, as if you're going to Texarkana. Take Interstate 30 west to Exit 132, University Avenue. At the traffic light, turn left onto University Avenue North. Jump down to "North On University Avenue" for further info.

From Little Rock Midtown. Take Interstate 630 West to University Avenue South (Exit 5B). You will encounter a traffic signal just after the I-630 overpass. Jump down to "South On University Avenue" for further info.

From the EAST (Lonoke, Hazen, Brinkley, Forrest City, West Memphis). Take Interstate 40 West to Interstate 440 West (Exit 159), as if you're going toward the Little Rock National Airport and Texarkana. Stay on Interstate 440, as it junctions with Interstate 530 to Pine Bluff, and Interstate 30 West to Texarkana, and Interstate 30 East to downtown (again, Interstate 30 through downtown is being AVOIDED due to massive road construction issues). Take Interstate 30 West, as if you're going to Texarkana. Proceed west to Exit 132, University Avenue. At the traffic light, turn left onto University Avenue North. Jump down to "North On University Avenue" for further info.

From the NORTHEAST (Jacksonville, Cabot, Searcy, Newport, Hoxie). Take US 67/167 south until Highway 440 (Exit 6). Take this exit...the highway becomes Interstate 440 at the junction of Interstate 40. Stay on Interstate 440...it junctions with Interstate 530 to Pine Bluff, and Interstate 30 West to Texarkana, and Interstate 30 East to downtown (Interstate 30 through downtown is being AVOIDED due to massive road construction issues). Take Interstate 30 west to Exit 132, University Avenue. At the traffic light, turn left onto University Avenue North. Jump down to "North On University Avenue" for further info.

From the WEST (Mayflower, Conway, Morrilton, Russellville, Clarksville, Fort Smith): Take Interstate 40 east to Interstate 430 South (Exit 147). Look for Interstate 630 East (Exit 6) toward downtown. Take Interstate 630 east to University Avenue (Exit 5). At the traffic light, turn right onto University Avenue. Jump down to "South On University Avenue" for more info.

From West Little Rock: Chenal Parkway becomes Financial Center Parkway at Autumn Lane. Proceed east and enter Interstate 630 East, as if going toward downtown. Take Interstate 630 east to University Avenue (Exit 5). At the traffic light, turn right onto University Avenue. Jump down to "South On University Avenue" for more info. Otherwise, from west Little Rock, take Interstate 430 either south from Interstate 40 to Interstate 630 East...or north from Interstate 30 to Interstate 630 East. Take Interstate 630 East (Exit 6) to University Avenue (Exit 5). At the traffic light, turn right onto University Avenue. Jump down to "South On University Avenue" for more info.

North On University Avenue:

Proceed north on University Avenue – you'll have traffic signals for traffic from Interstate 30 Westbound, then at Forbing Road, 65th Street, Mabelvale Pike, an Emergency Signal for Fire Station 11 (it normally is flashing yellow, unless in the event of a fire department emergency run), The First Tee Way, the Village Shopping Center, Asher Avenue/Colonel

Glenn Road, University Drive (the south campus entrance), West 32nd Street, and West 28th Street. At the West 28th Street traffic light, there's a big electronic sign on your right, with campus info. Turn right at this light. Jump down to "On Campus" for more info.

South On University Avenue:

You will encounter traffic signals at West 12th Street (CVS Pharmacy on your right), West 19th Street (Hogman's Hogpen on your left, and Arvest bank on your right), Berkshire Drive (the University Of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service will be on your left), then West 28th Street. At West 28th Street, you'll see a big electronic sign on your left, with campus info. Turn left at this light. Jump down to "On Campus" for more info.

On Campus:

Once on West 28th Street, you'll go past the crosswalk signal (prepare to stop if required), then turn right on to Campus Drive, just past the Bailey Alumni Center on your right. Campus Drive is a one way street going south into campus.

Due to extensive, continuing construction through campus, there are issues getting to the exam room, but hopefully, all that will be taken care of by October 19, 2025. I'll update this file with a new campus map once the construction has been completed. That was one of the reasons that I decided to CANCEL the July 13, 2024 session, plus 2 of the Volunteer Examiners were unavailable on July 13, for health or family emergency reasons.

The VE Team (examiners) will be present as you arrive to take your test. I hope to be there by 10:30am to set up, and we'll take walk-ins until 11:30am. Restrooms are across from the exam room for your convenience; if needed, please use them before entering the exam room, as you won't be able to leave the exam room once you start the exam, unless you turn everything in first.

Cheating, in any form, WON'T be tolerated...and every exam book is different. In short, trying to copy off of your neighbor won't do you any good. If caught cheating, your exam is marked as FAILED, and you will NOT be allowed to take any other exams, and asked to leave. You're either ready to take the exam, or you're not...please don't put yourself and the VE Team into an embarrassing situation. If it takes you a dozen times or more to pass the exam, even if just barely, you have as much right to be on the air, as someone who made a perfect score the first time.

After the exam, once I'm back home, I'll scan in all the data, and create a PDF file to send to ARRL/VEC. They will have it by the first business day after the exam; usually Monday morning, unless Monday is a holiday. In that case, it'll be on Tuesday. With a new or

renewed license, you'll receive an email from the FCC with a link to pay the \$35 for the new or renewed license, within 10 days.

If you fail to pay, the license grant's canceled, and you'll have to call ARRL/VEC at (860) 594-0300 during their regular business hours (8am to 5pm US Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, closed on holidays), telling them you failed to pay the fee in time, and ask that they resend the license exam info to the FCC. I understand that in some countries overseas that the license fee for the term is over \$700; so by comparison, \$35 for 10 years is a bargain. <https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee> has more information on the \$35 exam fee. Once the FCC has received payment, they will send you a link to your new license in PDF format, good for 30 days, that you can download. Then, you can start operating on the air.

With a license upgrade (you had a license and callsign when you entered the session), the \$35 fee does NOT apply, and you use the temporary suffix identifiers with your new privileges, until you receive email from the FCC of the link for your upgraded license. Examinees should NOT amend a license application that the VEC is filing; or it'll be delayed, and may require another \$35 fee to be paid by the examinee. Those under 18 for a first time license, are eligible for reduced fees...noted in the first part of this document.

If you have any questions, send email to either n5vlz@arrl.net or to wx1der@gmail.com, or via phone/text to (501) 690-8325 (please leave a message). As noted at the top of the file, please contact me in case of any last minute cancellations.

Again, due to logistics, I'm going back to requiring pre-registration (no walk-ins). If no requests are received by 48 hours prior to the session, then as of 11am Central Time, Oct. 17, 2024, the license exam session will be CANCELED. And, I'm hoping by October, 2024, all of the construction work on campus will have been completed, which will make for an easier time for parking, and to get to the exam room.

To find other license exams in Arkansas, go to:

<https://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session> – enter ARKANSAS in the STATE criteria, and click search. Then call, write, or email the contact person.

Daryl Stout, N5VLZ, UALR Ham Radio Club VE Team Liaison