

Amateur Radio Service

Technician Exam Preparation Class
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Session 2

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The Amateur Radio Service

Amateur Radio Service (also known as “ham radio”) is regulated under Part 97 of the FCC rules. The purpose of the Amateur Radio Service is to advance skills in the technical and communication phases of the radio art.

Amateur, in this case, means “non-professional”, or in other words, unpaid.

There are more than 800,000 ham radio operators in the US.

Teachers in a classroom setting are an exception to the “pecuniary interest” rule



The amateur service is for qualified persons of all ages who are interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest (fcc.gov).

Who In the World Governs Amateur Radio?

International Telecommunications Union

The ITU is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is responsible for issues that concern information and communication technologies. It is the oldest global international organization. The ITU coordinates the shared global use of the radio spectrum, promotes international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, works to improve telecommunication infrastructure in the developing world, and assists in the development and coordination of worldwide technical standards.

Other Agencies

International Amateur Radio Union

The IARU is an international confederation of national amateur radio organizations that allows a forum for common matters of concern and collectively represents matters to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

American Radio Relay League

The ARRL is the largest membership association of amateur radio enthusiasts in the USA. The ARRL represents the interests of amateur radio operators before federal regulatory bodies, provides technical advice and assistance to amateur radio enthusiasts, supports a number of educational programs and sponsors emergency communications service throughout the country.

**Jot down any questions
you may have to ask
during the online meeting**