Call Signs

Technician Exam Preparation Class April - May 2020 Session 3

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License Classes

- Currently being issued:
 - Technician Class
 - General Class
 - Amateur Extra Class
- Previously issued, some still operating
 - Novice class
 - Advanced class
- A person may have one and only one Amateur Radio Service license grant

Amateur Radio Call Signs

- Sequentially issued by the FCC
- Will be in the FCC database within 10-12 days of passing the examination
- Format is 1-2 letters followed by a digit followed by 1-3 letters
 - Technicians are limited to 1x3 or 2x3 callsigns
- Valid for 10 years

Not a Valid Callsign!



Don't like your call sign? Any licensed Amateur Radio Operator can apply for a 'Vanity Callsign' from the pool of un-issued or lapsed call signs.

U.S. Call Signs

- First character must be A, K, N, or W
 - As assigned by the IARU
- Digit is one of 10 call districts in the US.
 - Set by your permanent mailing address when applying for a license



Validity and Expiration

- An Amateur Radio License grant is valid for ten years and can be renewed at no cost three months or less before the end of the license period.
- You may exercise your Technician privileges only when the license grant appears in the FCC's database.
- You have two years after a license grant expires to renew the license. If more than two years pass, you can renew the license by taking the Technician Class exam.
- During the two-year grace period after a license grant expires you may not exercise any amateur radio privileges.

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