How do I practice for an amateur radio test?

You must know the rules and be licensed before you may operate an amateur radio legally. U.S. licenses are good for 10 years and can be easily renewed without taking the test again. There are three license classes – Technician, General, and Amateur Extra.

The ham radio question pools are publicly available. You are welcome to study the questions and answers to prepare for the test, but many people prefer to take a course or read a study guide to learn more than just answers to questions. The national ham radio group ARRL has an excellent website to answer all your questions.

There are many resources available. Here are a few we like:

Find a license class in your area
ARRL Find a Class – Type your zip code to find classes in your area
Gordon West Training Resources – Gordon lists classes across the country
New England Amateur Radio – We post classes that we teach in New England

Self Study Guides
KB6NU’s No-Nonsense Study Guides – Many people love this study guide.
Gordon West Training Resources – Gordon has been a great resource for many years

Practice Tests On-line
ARRL Exam Review
AA9PW Practice Test
QRZ.COM Practice Test

Question Pools
ARRL explains the Question Pools – read to learn more or download them

Flash Cards
HamStudy Flash Cards – Some people love flash cards
NC4FB main page – video explanations and flash cards
NC4FB “Kid-Friendly” Technician Self-Study Program

Books
ARRL Ham Radio License Manual – For getting your first license
ARRL General Class Manual Supplement – To study for an upgrade license
ARRL Book Store – purchase study guides

To schedule a course for a group of 8 or more, contact Bob Phinney, 508-720-4179, bobphinney@nescitech.org.