



Facts About: Underground Storage Tank System

Tank System Technician / Remover / Inspector Certification Program

The following information is provided to describe the certification and recertification requirements for UST System Technician, Remover, Inspector, and Heating Oil Technician. The *Underground Storage Tank Technician, Remover, and Inspector Certification Application* and other important information may be obtained from the Oil Control Program (OCP) UST Certification Programs webpage:

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/OilControl/Pages/ustcertification_programs.aspx

NOTE:

- MDE is no longer charges fees related to the certification or recertification of UST System Technicians, Removers, Inspectors, or Heating Oil Technicians.
- The application must be sent directly to the Oil Control Program as instructed on the new application form.
- Effective June 30, 2021, certification extensions will no longer be granted and you must submit your application no later than May 30, 2021 to qualify for option B (Recertification – Continuing Education) and keep your current MDIC number.
- In person testing and a virtual UST System Inspector Orientation is now available. Please see details below.

Requirements to Use Certified Individuals

Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.10.06 requires the following:

- A Certified Underground Storage Tank (UST) Technician shall be present on site during UST installation, upgrade, or repair work in Maryland.
- A Certified UST Remover or Technician shall be present and continuously on-site during the closure of a regulated UST and all residential and farm heating oil UST systems.
- A Certified UST Inspector is authorized to complete environmental audits and inspections of UST systems to ensure these systems are in compliance with the requirements of COMAR 26.10.02 - .11.
- A Certified Heating Oil Technician may be used for the installation and removal of a heating oil UST system that is 2,000 gallons or less in capacity.

A Maryland UST System Technician, Remover, Inspector, or Heating Oil Technician Card must be made available to an MDE upon request during these activities.



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New Certifications

First time certification requires an individual to apply using the *UST System Technician, Remover, and Inspector Certification Application* as discussed below and to pass the MDE certification test with a score of 90 percent or above. Once the certification requirements are fulfilled, an individual will receive a Maryland UST System Technician, Remover, Inspector, or Heating Oil Technician Card, which is valid for two years. The expiration date is listed on the card.

New Technician Certifications

- The Underground Storage System Technician Certificate or Heating Oil Technician Certificate requires an applicant and employer to:
 - certify the applicant has at least two years of experience within the last 36 months with a company or organization that installs, repairs, upgrades, or closes UST systems, and
 - provide MDE with verifiable proof of direct involvement in a minimum of six UST installations, repairs, upgrades, or removals.
- The following requested information must be entered into the appropriate space on the table in the application for a minimum of six site experiences.
 - MDE Facility I.D. No. or name of facility, the complete address, point of contact and telephone number, the date the work was performed, and a brief description of work performed.
- The applicant and employer must sign and date the relevant statement attesting to the UST experience.
- The application must be signed and dated by the applicant.

New Removers Certification

- The Remover Certificate requires an applicant to provide MDE with verifiable proof of direct involvement in six or more UST system removals, installations, repairs, or upgrades, within the last 36 months with a company or organization that removes, installs, repairs, or upgrades UST systems.
- The following requested information must be entered into the appropriate space on the table in the application for a minimum of six site experiences.



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- MDE Facility I.D. No. or name of facility, the complete address, point of contact and telephone number, the date the work was performed, and a brief description of work performed.
- The applicant and employer must sign and date the relevant statement attesting to the UST experience.
- The application must be signed and dated by the applicant.

New Inspector Requirements

- The Inspector Certificate requires an applicant to provide MDE with verifiable proof of one or more nationally recognized or MDE approved training courses pertaining to UST design, installation, operation, testing, or inspection **and** completion of the MDE UST System Inspector Orientation course provided by MDE.
 - The UST System Inspector Orientation Course schedule can be found by going to the following MDE webpage and scrolling to the heading *UST System Inspector Orientation Course*:

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/OilControl/Pages/ustcertification_programs.aspx

- The application must be signed and dated by the applicant.

Recertification

There are two options available for recertification. For both options (A – retest, or B – continuing education), the application (*UST System Technician, Remover, and Inspector Certification Application*) must be signed and dated by the applicant and employer if relevant and submitted to MDE as listed on the form. Once the recertification requirements are fulfilled, an individual will receive a new Maryland UST System Technician, Remover, Inspector, or Heating Oil Technician Card, which is valid for two years. The expiration date is listed on the card.

Option -A Retest

An individual must complete all requirements listed under the appropriate certification type for Option A. Also, the individual must pass a recertification test by scoring 90 percent or better.



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Technician

- The Technician Certificate or Heating Oil Technician Certificate requires an applicant and employer to:
 - certify the applicant has at least two years of experience within the last 36 months with a company or organization that installs, repairs, upgrades, or closes UST systems, and
 - provide MDE with verifiable proof of direct involvement in a minimum of six UST installations, repairs, upgrades, or removals.
- The following requested information must be entered into the appropriate space on the table in the application for a minimum of six site experiences.
 - MDE Facility I.D. No. or name of facility, the complete address, point of contact and telephone number, the date the work was performed, and a brief description of work performed.
- The applicant and employer must sign and date the relevant statement attesting to the UST experience.

Remover

- The Remover Certificate requires an applicant to provide MDE with verifiable proof of direct involvement in six or more UST system removals, installations, repairs, or upgrades, within the last 36 months with a company or organization that removes, installs, repairs, or upgrades UST systems.
- The following requested information must be entered into the appropriate space on the table in the application for a minimum of six site experiences.
 - MDE Facility I.D. No. or name of facility, the complete address, point of contact and telephone number, the date the work was performed, and a brief description of work performed.
- The applicant and employer must sign and date the relevant statement attesting to the UST experience.

Inspector

- An individual renewing the Inspector Certificate must also submit verifiable proof of attending within the last two years an MDE Workshop or UST System Inspector Orientation Course provided by MDE.



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Option B- Continuing Education

This option cannot be used if the current certification card has expired. An individual must complete all requirements listed under the appropriate certification type for Option B.

Remover or Technician

- At least 30 days prior to the certification expiration date submit proof-of-attendance from one of the MDE Certified UST Courses listed under the heading “MDE Certified UST Course Schedules” on the UST Certification Programs webpage referenced above.
 - Proof-of-attendance may be used one time only for each course taken.
 - The course must have been completed within the two years immediately prior to applying for re-certification.
- An individual renewing the Remover Certificate, Technician Certificate or Heating Oil Technician Certificate must provide MDE with verifiable proof of direct involvement in six or more UST system removals, installations, repairs, or upgrades, within the last two years.
- The following requested information must be entered into the appropriate space on the table in the application for a minimum of six site experiences.
 - MDE Facility I.D. No. or name of facility, the complete address, point of contact and telephone number, the date the work was performed, and a brief description of work performed.
- The applicant and employer must sign and date the relevant statement attesting to the UST experience.

Inspector

- At least 30-days prior to the certification expiration date submit proof of attending a MDE Workshop or UST System Inspector Orientation Course within a 2 year period of the certification expiration date.
- Successfully complete a 1-day MDE approved UST third party (TP) inspector refresher course. All approved refresher courses are listed on the UST Certification Programs webpage referenced above.
- An individual renewing the Inspector Certificate must provide MDE with verifiable proof of direct involvement in a minimum of 10 UST system inspections within the last two



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years. The following requested information must be entered into the appropriate space on the table in the application for a minimum of 10 site experiences.

- MDE Facility I.D. No. or name of facility, the complete address, point of contact and telephone number, and the date of inspection.
- The applicant and employer must sign and date the relevant statement attesting to the UST experience.

NOTE

- All continuing education documentation must be included with the signed and dated *Underground Storage Tank Technician, Remover, and Inspector Certification Application* and submitted as a packet to:

Maryland Department of the Environment
Oil Control Program / Certification Section
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore Maryland
21230-1719

Testing Requirements

Registration

Testing for all UST Technician, Remover, Inspector or Heating Oil Technician certifications and recertification is offered at MDE, the second Tuesday of each month beginning promptly at 1:00 pm starting May 11, 2021 except for July 13th 2021 will be replaced with July 6th 2021. The following additional dates and times have been added.

- Friday, April 9, 2021, 1pm to 4pm
 - Wednesday April 14, 2021, 9am to 12pm
 - Monday, May 3, 2021, 9am to 12pm
 - Wednesday, June 16, 9am to 12pm
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- To register to take a test, you must:
 - a. Submit your completed application 14 days prior to testing; and



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b. Call one week in advance at 410-537-3442 or toll-free in Maryland 800-633-6101, ext. 3442 to register for your test date (limited seating available).

- If you have not pre-registered and if all required information have not been provided to MDE in advance, you will not be allowed to take the test.
- Photo I.D. is required on the day of the test to sit for the exam.
- A maximum of three hours is allowed to complete the test. The test is not counted towards continuing education time.

Scoring

- In order to pass a test, an individual must score 90 percent or better.
- If an individual scores less than 90 percent on any certification or recertification test, they may retest within 90 days without reapplying.
- If an individual does not achieve a passing score within 90 days, they must reapply to take the test.

Study Materials

- Materials needed to prepare for the UST Technician or Remover Certification Exams are covered in COMAR 26.10.02 - .10, American Petroleum Institute (API) 1604 and 1615 (1-800-854-7179), Petroleum Equipment Institute (PEI) RP-100 (918-494-9696), any fiberglass tank manufacturer's instructions, and Steel Tank Institute Installation Instructions.
- Materials needed to prepare for the UST Inspector Certification Exam are covered in COMAR 26.10.02 - .11 and .16, and include MDE's inspection report and inspection handbook.
- Training courses to help prepare an individual for the test are available and listed on the UST Certification Programs webpage referenced above.

Questions

Please contact Melissa Wright at 410-537-3938 or by email at Melissa.wright@maryland.gov