



Maryland Department
of the Environment

FACTS ABOUT: UNDERGROUND STORAGE 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:

http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Land/OilControl/Pages/ustcertification_programs.aspx.

NOTE:

- Effective December 21, 2015, the Department is no longer charging fees related to the certification or recertification of UST System Technicians, Removers, Inspectors, or Heating Oil Technicians.
- The application is to be sent directly to the OCP as instructed on the new application.
- Additional letters from the applicant's employer are no longer required.
- The application form must be signed by the applicant and employer and attach any relevant certificates.
- If an applicant does not achieve a score of 90 percent or better, they may retest within 90 days. If they are unable to pass the test within that 90 day period, then the applicant must reapply.

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 inspector upon request during these activities.

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 Applicants

- 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 the Department 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 Remover Applicants

- The Remover Certificate requires an applicant to provide the Department 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.
- The application must be signed and dated by the applicant.

New Inspector Applicants

- The Inspector Certificate requires an applicant to provide the Department with verifiable proof of one or more nationally recognized or Department approved training courses pertaining to UST design, installation, operation, testing, or inspection and completion of an inspector MDE/OCP Orientation course provided by the Department.
- The application must be signed and dated by the applicant.

RECERTIFICATIONS

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 the 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.

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 the Department 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 the Department 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 Orientation Course provided by the Department.

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 the Department 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 MDE Orientation Course within a two year period of the certification expiration date.
- Successfully complete a one-day Department 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 the Department with verifiable proof of direct involvement in a minimum of 10 UST system inspections 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 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, MD 21203-1719

TESTING REQUIRMENTS

Registration

- Testing for all UST Technician, Remover, Inspector or Heating Oil Technician certifications and recertification is offered at MDE, the 2nd Tuesday of each month in Baltimore, Maryland.
- To register to take a test, you must call 72-hours in advance at 410-537-3442 or toll-free in Maryland 800-633-6101, ext. 3442.

- If you have not pre-registered and if all required information have not been provided to the Department 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.

CONTACTS

If you have further questions, please contact the Oil Control Program at 410-537-3442.