

2.12 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TECHNICIAN, REMOVER, OR INSPECTOR CERTIFICATION

- ❑ *Question: Am I interested in being certified as an underground storage tank (UST) remover? **OR***
- ❑ *Question: Am I interested in being certified as an UST technician who can install, upgrade, repair, replace and remove UST systems? **OR***
- ❑ *Question: Am I interested in being certified as an underground storage tank inspector?*

Why do I need this approval?

To protect ground water from leaks caused by improperly removed or installed underground storage tanks (USTs), any individual who removes, installs, upgrades, repairs or retrofits an UST, must be certified. To protect groundwater from leaks caused by USTs not being in compliance, any individual who inspects an UST must be certified.

What laws or regulations give MDE the legal authority to issue this approval?

STATE: Environment Article, §4-405, Annotated Code of Maryland; COMAR 26.10.06.

What is the process to get this approval?

- 1) All new applicants must complete the application form and take either the technician examination (install, upgrade, repair, replace and remove), the heating oil technician examination (heating oil UST systems with capacity of 2,000 gallons or less of heating oil only), the remover examination (remover only) or the inspector examination (inspect only).
- 2) In addition, new technician and remover applicants must have at least 2 years of experience in the last 36 months.
- 3) In addition, new inspectors must attend one or more nationally recognized or Department approved training courses, classes, examinations, or workshops pertaining to UST design, installation, operation, testing, or inspection and an inspector orientation course provided by the Maryland Department of the Environment.
- 4) For technician and remover certificate renewal, applicants must provide proof of performing work at 6 UST sites within the past two years and either submit proof of attending at least one approved UST training course OR retest.
- 5) For inspector certificate renewal, applicants must submit proof, 30 days prior to the certificate expiration date, of attending the inspector orientation course provided by the Maryland Department of the Environment, and of attending at least one Department approved training course for UST system compliance inspections, of a Department approved third party inspector update seminar and to performing inspections at 10 UST sites within the past two years OR retest.

6) For all renewal certifications, an application form must be submitted to the Oil Control Program. ALL INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATE EXPIRATION DATE.

7) The applicant must call the Department 72 hours prior to test date to schedule a test offered the second Tuesday of each month.

8) Applicants with a test score of 90% or better are certified.

Before I apply for this approval, do I need to get any approvals from the local or federal government?

No local approvals are required to obtain the certificate, however counties and municipalities may require that UST projects be approved by the local authority before work begins. Check with the county or local authorities.

Are there any other requirements?

No.

How long should I expect it to take to get this approval once I submit a complete application?

40 days

Once I get this approval, how long will it last?

Two years

How much will this approval cost?

The Maryland Department of the Environment does not require any fees to become certified. However, required training for the inspector certification and any refresher course offered by an outside vendor has a fee determined by the vendor providing the service.

Do I need to know any additional information?

• Information on companies employing certified UST technicians, removers and inspectors is available from the Department upon request.

- Information on approved training for UST technicians, removers and inspectors is available from the Department's website at [this link](#).
- To become an approved UST training provider, submit your course outline and description to the Department for review.

Who do I contact with additional questions?

Permits and Support Division
Oil Control Program
(410) 537-3442

Related link:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Land/Pages/landpermits.aspx>