MID-ATLANTIC REGION
TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION
PROGRAM

Maryland State Highway Administration
Technician Certification Program
Training / Testing Information
February 2026

Mid-Atlantic Region Technician Certification Program

Office of Materials Technology
Technician Certification Renewal Policy

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1. Introduction

The Office of Materials Technology (OMT) manages the Maryland Technician Certification Program, which is also part of the Mid-Atlantic Region Technician Certification Program (MARTCP). This brochure provides information about technician certification courses. It is a changing document that is continually updated as classes are developed, and new information is obtained. Not all the certifications in this brochure are part of the MARTCP Program.

The latest brochure may be obtained by contacting Saprina Stafford at 443-572-5040. You may also download the brochure by visiting our website at:

https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/index.aspx?PageId=53

These certification courses are <u>not</u> introductory programs. It is advised that applicants have some knowledge in highway and bridge construction practices. Applicants must have basic reading comprehension skills as well as knowledge of basic math skills including algebra, calculation of percentages and statistics.

MARTCP documents are electronically distributed, and card holders are expected to maintain the integrity of the issued documents. In the event any MARTCP document or card is found to have been altered, changed, or forged, the card holder will be penalized as follows:

1st Offense: 18-month revocation of all certifications of the card holder. Re-certification must be performed by MARTCP examination after the 18-month revocation period.

2nd Offense: All certifications of the card holder will be permanently revoked, and the card holder will be banned from participating in any future MARTCP certifications.

2. Technician Certification Program Summary of Guidelines

2.1. Soils & Aggregate Compaction Technician (MARTCP)

This course will provide instruction on conventional and nuclear density testing, one-point proctor and moisture determination. Also covered are construction and testing of subgrade, pipe installation, roller patterns and reports. Passing both the written and "hands on" practical exams is required to achieve certification.

Prerequisite: Nuclear Gauge Safety Certification Course

2.2. Aggregate Technician (Plant/Field) (MARTCP)

No classes will be given for Aggregates. This course is self-taught from an available manual. Certification in this field requires passing a written test on plant and field aggregate requirements as well as a confirmation of performance to achieve certification.

2.3. Concrete Field Technician (MARTCP)

American Concrete Institute (ACI) Concrete Field Technician Level 1 certification is required. Candidates receive a reciprocal certification after providing documentation of an up-to-date certification from an approved certifying organization, such as ACI, VDOT, etc.

2.4. Concrete Plant Technician (MDOT-SHA)

Instruction includes components of concrete, mix design basics, aggregate gradation and moisture content, batch weight calculations, plant inspection requirements, technician responsibilities and specifications. Passing a written exam is required to achieve certification.

A reciprocal certification may be obtained by showing proof of having a National Ready-Mix Concrete Association (NRMCA) Concrete Technologist Level 2 or Level 3 certification.

2.5. Asphalt Field Technician (MARTCP)

Instruction is given on the placement, sampling, compaction and delivery of Hot Mix Asphalt. This course delivers recognized best practices on a national and state level that ensures quality HMA at the project site. Passing a written exam is required to achieve certification.

2.6. Asphalt Plant Technician – Level 1 (MARTCP)

Instruction is given on plant operations that influence mix quality. This includes daily quality control sampling and testing performed by the certified technician. Passing a written exam and a confirmation of performance are required to achieve certification.

2.7. Asphalt Plant Technician – Level 2 (MARTCP)

Instruction is given on HMA Superpave mix design analysis, materials selection and process control. Laboratory hands-on training is also provided. Passing a written exam is required to achieve certification.

***Prerequisite*: HMA Plant Tech – Lev. 1 Certification for entry into class**

2.8. Pavement Marking Technician (MARTCP)

This instruction consists of standard practices, pavement marking materials, roots and descriptions and quality control practices. Hands on training is also provided. Passing of a written exam as well as a confirmation of performance is required to achieve certification.

A program to take the Pavement Marking course via an interactive web-base is also available. This on-line training includes classroom instruction and a practice exam. Passing of a written exam as well as a confirmation of performance are required to achieve certification.

2.9. Inertial Profiler Operator Technician (MARTCP)

Instruction is given in pavement smoothness. The course is designed for those technicians that are directly involved in the use of inertial profilers and the application of the data obtained from inertial profilers. Passing a written exam and a confirmation of performance are required to achieve certification.

3. Training Schedule

The Training Schedule is a changing document that is continually updated as classes are developed, and new information is obtained. The latest schedule may be obtained by contacting Saprina Stafford at 443-572-5040. You may also download the schedule by visiting our website at:

https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/index.aspx?PageId=53

4. Exam Schedule

Examinations for most courses are given on the last day of the course. To take only the exam without taking the course, contact Saprina Stafford at 443-572-5040.

Re-certification

Re-certification shall be obtained in accordance with the "Maryland State Highway Administration's Technician Certification Renewal Policy". The latest brochure may be obtained by Saprina Stafford at 443-572-5040. You may also download the brochure by visiting our website at:

https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/index.aspx?PageId=53

5. Contacts for Scheduling Technician Certification Classes

Class	Contact Information
Soils & Aggregate Compaction, Aggregates Technician, Asphalt Plant Levels I & II, Inertial Profiler Operator, Pavement Marking	Saprina Stafford 443-572-5040 martcp@mdot.maryland.gov
Concrete Field (ACI) & Concrete Plant	Damian Caprinola 443-900-0943 MarylandChapterACI@outlook.com
Asphalt Field (Online)	Saprina Stafford 443-572-5040 martcp@mdot.maryland.gov https://mdasphalt.org
Pavement Marking (Online)	Karen Swick - kswick@umd.edu 301-405-6323 https://www.citeconsortium.org/course/pavement-marking/

Certification Contacts

Name	Title	Responsibilities	Phone
Saprina Stafford	MARTCP Administrative Officer, Materials Management Division	Information on SHA's Technician Certification Programs, registration information, reciprocal certifications, fees, class schedules, and certification status. Also, responsible for conducting certification testing and retesting, database input, and providing test results.	443-572-5040

6. Fee Schedule

Soils & Aggregate Compaction	3-Day Class - $410.00 Test only - $410.00
Aggregates (No class given – test only)	$200.00
Concrete Field	Call ACI contact
Concrete Plant	$450
Asphalt Field	Call MAA contact
Asphalt Plant-Lev. 1	$250.00
Asphalt Plant-Lev. 2	Call SHA contact
Pavement Marking	$250.00
Inertial Profiler Operator	$250.00
All Reciprocal / Re-Certifications	$50.00

Note 1: Except as noted for Soils & Aggregate Compaction, Aggregates and Pavement Marking, the fee will be the same for taking the class and the test as for taking only the test without the class.

Note 2: If a scheduled technician is unable to attend, cancellation notice must be received at least 72 hours prior to the training or testing date. Since cancellation policies vary according to the class, it is advised that applicants check with the appropriate class contact for the applicable policy. **The full fee will still be charged for no-shows.**

Note 3: The fees shown were up-to-date at the time of printing, but are subject to change. To be assured of the current cost, please call the appropriate contact listed on page 5.

Note 4: If a technician misplaces their certification card, there will be a $25 fee for a replacement card.

7. Policy on Testing and Retesting for Technician Certification

1. The fee for the training and the exam in each material discipline may vary, depending on the discipline. Examinations for all disciplines include a written test, and some include a performance test in addition to the written test.

2. If you fail the written test, or both the written and performance tests, you will be allowed one retest of the applicable test(s) at no additional charge after a waiting period of at least forty-five (45) days. The waiting period is intended to allow the technician time to gain experience and become more proficient. A waiver of the 45-day waiting period may be approved on a case-by-case basis. You must take the retest within one year of failing the original test.

3. If you fail the retest, you must take the complete training and full examination again. The fee for this additional training and certification examination may vary, depending on the discipline.

4. If you are caught cheating on the written test by using any electronic device which was prohibited from use during the exam, discussing the questions/exam with another person during the exam, or by any other method announced as prohibited by the exam proctor, you will be instructed to stop the exam immediately. **Your score will be an automatic failure and you will have a 6-month waiting period from that date before you can register to re-take the exam** one time at no charge. If you then fail that second exam, you must take the complete training and full examination again.

8. Re-certification by Independent Assurance Audits

For some materials disciplines, you may qualify for certification renewal without retaking the class and/or passing the written and/or performance exams if you obtain the required Independent Assurance (I.A.) Audits. The re-certification requirements for I.A. audits are a minimum of three (3) satisfactory Independent Assurance (I.A.) audits which must be performed in different calendar years. The last audit must be performed in the calendar year your certification expires, prior to the expiration date. You then need to submit the audit receipts with the application form to martcp@mdot.maryland.gov for processing.

The number of audits required varies according to each discipline. Audits must be performed in accordance with the "Technician Certification Renewal Policy."

You may download the "Renewal Policy" brochure by visiting our website at:
https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/index.aspx?PageId=53

To schedule Independent Assurance Audits, send all requests to ***iaateam@mdot.maryland.gov***

Area of Responsibility	Independent Assurance Auditor	Email Address	Contact Number
Team Leader	Steven Hall	shall@mdot.maryland.gov	410-371-0015
District 1, 2 and 4	Mike Zulkowski	mzulkowski@mdot.maryland.gov	443-386-9267
District 3 and 5	Frank Thompson	fthompson1@mdot.maryland.gov	
District 6 and 7	Scott Simons	ssimons@mdot.maryland.gov	410-349-7034