

# EPA Section 608 Technician Certification

Since November 14, 1994, EPA-Approved Section 608 certification is needed to service building air conditioning and refrigeration systems. With 608 certification, you can purchase any refrigerant in containers greater than 20 pounds. Four types of certification are available. Only CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS can purchase refrigerants.

Technicians receiving a passing grade on the Type I (small appliance) examination are certified to recover refrigerant during the maintenance, service or repair of packaged terminal air conditioners with 5 pounds or less of refrigerant. Only Type I or Universal certified technicians can recover refrigerant from these units. The Type I certification is available in an open-book exam, as well as the closed book format.

Technicians receiving a passing grade on the Type II (high-pressure and very high pressure) examination are certified to recover refrigerant during the maintenance, service or repair of high-pressure equipment (Medium-Pressure R-12, R-114, R-134a, R-401A, and R-500; High-Pressure R-22, R-402A, R-402B, R-404A, R-407A, R-407B, R-407C, R-410A and R-502; and Very-High-Pressure R-13, R-23, and R-503). Only Type II or Universal certified technicians can recover refrigerant from these units.

Technicians receiving a passing grade on the Type III (low-pressure appliance) examination are certified to recover refrigerant during the maintenance, service or repair of low-pressure equipment (CFC-11, HCFC-123). Only Type III or Universal certified technicians can recover refrigerant from these units.



Technicians receiving a Universal Certification are certified to recover refrigerant during the maintenance, service or repair of small appliances, high-pressure equipment and low-pressure equipment. That is, they are certified to work on any type of air conditioning and refrigeration equipment except motor vehicle air conditioning. Type I, II and III certification exams consist of 25 core questions and 25 specific Type I, II, or III questions, for a total of 50 multiple choice questions. The Universal certification exam consists of 25 Core questions, 25 Type I questions, 25 Type II questions, and 25 Type III questions, for a total of 100 multiple-choice questions. Technicians can take any of the certification exams as many times as necessary (passing grade per section is 72%, that is 18 of 25 correct in each section). When retaking the exam, only the sections failed need to be repeated. If a technician taking a Universal Exam fails to pass all sections, but passes the Core Sections and at least one other section, a certification card for the types passed will be issued. Proctored exams are all closed-book exams, with no notes or papers of any kind allowed in the test area. Calculators are not allowed.

Currently, the certification has no expiration date. However, if EPA regulations change after a technician becomes certified, it is the technician's responsibility to comply with any future changes in the law. SOS Metals Island Recycling is approved by the EPA as a certifying agency for Section 608 Type I, II, III and Universal exams.

## How to Take the EPA Section 608 Universal Test

**BY Mail:** When the technician is ready for testing, he/she has to contact our office to arrange for the test to be taken at our office location. The test must be proctored by an approved proctor designated by SOS Metals Island Recycling. After the test is completed, the distributor mails the test to an EPA approved grading company for grading. Test results and certificates of completion are mailed to the technician. Exam fees are included in your purchase of the course. However, any test re-takes will be charged an additional fee.

**Electronically:** When the technician is ready for testing, he/she has to contact our office to arrange for the test to be taken at our office location. The test must be proctored by an approved proctor designated by SOS Metals Island Recycling. The proctor will sign on to the testing center's website for testing. The test is immediately graded and your results are given instantly. Certificates of completion are mailed to the technician. Exam fees are included in your purchase of the course. However, any test re-takes will be charged an additional fee.

## **Test Preparation**

SOS Metals Island Recycling LLC is an EPA approved testing organization for the required EPA Refrigeration Technician Certification Exam. To assure a better chance of passing this exam, Mainstream Engineering has developed a self-study course the technician can use at home to gain a better understanding of what the EPA exam questions will involve. The individually boxed course includes a 142 page fully illustrated study manual, a two-hour practice video, and a one hour practice audio tape. Four Hundred (400) practice questions are provided with the study course to improve your opportunity for passing the first time.

## **Section 608 Self-Study Course**

- EPA approved test for Type I,II,III, and Universal
- Receive your EPA Certification card: Self Study VCR Video tape, Reference manual, Module 200 guide, Practice Tests, and EPA Certification Test
- Course material is presented quickly and easily
- Price includes EPA certification test and card
- Results available online at [www.epatest.com](http://www.epatest.com)
- Exams mailed within 2 business days

## **Section 608 On-Site Course**

### ***Available at our office location***

- EPA approved test for Type I,II,III, and Universal
- Receive your EPA Certification card: Course VCR Video tape, Reference manual, Module 200 guide, Practice Tests, 2 hours of hands-on training and practice with a certified recovery system and Universal Certified Technician, and EPA Certification Test
- Course material is presented quickly and easily
- Price includes EPA certification test and card
- Immediate test results

## **Section 608 On-Site Premium Course**

### ***Available at our office location***

- EPA approved test for Type I,II,III, and Universal
- Receive your EPA Certification card: Course VCR Video tape, Reference manual, Module 200 guide, Practice Tests, 4 hours of hands-on training and practice with a certified recovery system and Universal Certified Technician, and EPA Certification Test
- Course material is presented quickly and easily
- Price includes EPA certification test and card
- Immediate test results

For more information on the EPA's Section 608 regulations, visit <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/title6/608/608fact.html#techcert>