

1.10 INCINERATOR OPERATOR CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING COURSE APPROVAL

- ❑ *Question: Do I operate an incinerator that processes special medical wastes, industrial wastes, sewage sludge, municipal wastes or hazardous wastes?*
- ❑ *Question: Do I provide a training course for incinerator operators?*

Why do I need this approval?

To ensure safety and protect the environment, all incinerator operators are required to be properly trained and certified prior to the operation of any incinerator. Incinerator operators must receive certification from a training course provider approved by the Department.

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

STATE: Environment Article, Section 2-406; COMAR 26.11.08.09.

What is the process to get this approval?

For incinerator operator certification:

- 1) Attend an approved training course.
- 2) Pass an examination administered by the training provider with at least a grade of 70%.
- 3) Upon successful completion of the examination, the incinerator operator will receive a certificate from either the Department or the training provider.

For training course approval:

- 1) Submit the training course package.
- 2) The Department will review the proposed training course and make recommendations.
- 3) Once the recommendations have been included, the Department will issue a "letter of approval".

Are there any other requirements?

There are four types of incinerator operator certifications:

- 1) Special Medical Waste and Industrial Waste Incinerator Certification: This certification requires the completion of a generalized course which has a three 8-hour day initial training course with an annual 8 hour recertification training. Currently, there are two approved training providers for this certification:
 General Physics Corporation
 Mac Hunter
 (800) 727-6677 or (410) 379-3650
 University of Maryland at Baltimore
 Pat Wolfe
 (410) 706-7207
- 2) Sewage Sludge Incinerator Certification: There is a three 8-hour day initial training requirement with an

annual 8 hour recertification training which is usually conducted at the incinerator site.

3) Municipal Waste Combustor Certification: There is a five 8-hour day initial training requirement with an annual 8 hour recertification training which is usually conducted at the incinerator site.

4) Hazardous Waste Incinerator Certification: There is a five 8-hour day initial training requirement with an annual 8 hour recertification training which is usually conducted at the incinerator site.

Training course approval:

For certifications 2, 3, and 4 above, the Department approved training course may be given by either the company or a consultant.

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

Type of Approval	Turnaround Time
Incinerator operator certification	30 days
Training course approval	60 days

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

Type of Approval	Term
Incinerator operator certification:	Must renew annually
Training course approval:	Must renew every two years

How much will this approval cost?

Training course approval: No fee.
 However, the training entities charge fees to attend special medical waste incinerators and industrial waste incinerators training classes.

Do I need to know any additional information?

There is a 45-day grace period after the expiration date to renew the certification. Incinerator operator certifications are not transferable from one incinerator classification to another.

Who do I contact with additional questions?

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Related link:
<https://mde.maryland.gov/airpermits>