

## **Technical Certification Program (TCP)**

### **2020-20211 Classes and Schedules (9.22.2020)**

The evolving COVID-19 situation and heightened individual county risk levels continue to influence the process of scheduling the 2020-2021 TCP classes.

We will provide opportunity for certification classes to meet the needs of the construction industry, however the delivery of those of classes will likely change. It is expected at this time, that classes will include portions of web based/virtual instruction.

Access to technology such as laptops with webcams, iPads, or smart phones will be necessary.

More information will be provided in the next weeks. A class schedule will be posted approximately November 1, 2020 with the first class to begin Mid-January 2021.

## 2020 Construction Season Update

This document was created to help explain the requirements for individuals requesting new tester certification to work on North Dakota Department of Transportation construction projects during the 2020 Construction Season.

This applies only to individuals that attended aggregate and asphalt testing classes this winter and were not able to complete the performance exam *or* had registered for one of the classes that were canceled in March or April due to the COVID-19 situation. What is considered “Level 2” or 5-year certification is held by the individual that works in a field lab on an asphalt paving project. (QC/QA)

Temporary certification process for students and new hires is also included.

A formal request must be made for all new certification using the appropriate form.

### QC/QA, Aggregate (Level 2)

#### A. Students Registered for Classes During The 2019-2020 Season

1. Certify in district, per project
2. Complete [SFN 61825](#) at least 2 weeks before project start  
List project number and expected start date and submit to [dotmaterials@nd.gov](mailto:dotmaterials@nd.gov)
3. All students need to have completed December 2019 class **or**  
Students that were registered for the March 2020 class must complete alternative curriculum.
  - a. That curriculum includes online training modules NDDOT and TC3 and provides verification print/PDF. (See page 3)
  - b. Trainer at agency must hold current certification and signs request form
  - c. Signature verifies that student is educated, trained and ready for IA by district
4. Schedule online meeting with District/Materials division and student(s) to answer questions, communicate priorities and emphasize points such as QA Field Lab Tester Responsibility Checklist.
5. Written exam – delivery to be determined, possibly web meeting.
6. District submit documentation to Materials when performance exams completed.
7. Aggregate and Asphalt Testing certification may transfer to other districts by request.

#### B. Tester Certification Length

1. December aggregate and asphalt mix testing class students may request a 5-year cert
2. March class registered students– 1-year cert, per project (FHWA guidance 3.2020)
3. Renewals unable to attend April class – 1-year extension (FHWA guidance 3.2020)
4. Renewals that attended January class – 1-year tester extension on performance exam for tester certification. (FHWA guidance 3.2020)

#### C. District Independent Assurance Review/Performance Exams

- a. Performance Exam Guidelines [found at this link](#)  
Mid-May or start of a project – whichever is earliest  
Please communicate early with the district to allow time to schedule.

#### **D. Reciprocity**

Reciprocity requests will continue to be processed on case by case basis. Written exam/web exam will be required. Performance exam also required at district.

### **Temporary or New Hire (Level 1)**

Submit completed [SFN 60649](#)

<http://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/materials/docs/TempCert.pdf>

#### **New Temporary Certification – Contractor or Consultant New Summer Hires**

Areas allowed: Soils Field, Aggregate Gradation and Coring helper. Individual tests or combination.

Timeline: Assigned project start

Training: Online modules

Employers Train

Written exam – delivery to be determined, verbal, TEAMS meeting are options

District submit documentation to Materials for performance exams to update database.

### **Manuals and Other Links**

Field Sampling and Testing Manual

<http://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/materials/testingmanual.htm>

ND Standard Specification for Roads and Bridges

<http://www.dot.nd.gov/dotnet/supplspecs/StandardSpecs.aspx>

Transportation Learning Network (TLN) Learning Management System (LMS)

*(A number of users have had a module not close out as expected when completed. If that happens to you, please notify TLN using the email link on their web page. You should not need to repeat a module to obtain a completed status)*

For access to online modules

<https://www.translearning.org/resources/>

TCP Web Page

<http://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/materials/techniciancertification.htm>

[QA \(asphalt\) Lab Responsibility Checklist](#)

<http://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/materials/docs/QALabTester.pdf>

YouTube Videos of Test Procedures and Gradation Worksheet

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpsELE5FYuwvmri0ZZTzU1Q>

Course Title	Subject	Test Method	Origin	Website	Focus	Required for Cert
<b>(Aggregate Temp any or all/Aggregate Field Lab - all)</b>						
Aggregate Sampling Basics (1 hr)	Aggregates	T 2	TC3	TLN/TC3	Testing	Agg Test
Reducing Aggregate Samples (1 hr)	Aggregates	T 248	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Agg Test
Total Moisture Content of Aggregate, <i>not available in video or module format, review written procedure</i>	Aggregates	T 255	NDDOT	--	Testing	Agg Test
Sieve Analysis / Gradation (1 hr)	Aggregates	T 27	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Agg Test
Aggregate Wash Test (1 hr)	Aggregates	T 11	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Agg Test
<b>(Aggregate Field Lab- all required)</b>						
Lightweight Pieces in Aggregate (1 hr)	Aggregates	T 113	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Agg Test
Sand Equivalent - <i>not available in module format, YouTube available</i>	Aggregates	T 176	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Agg Test
Fine Aggregate Angularity - <i>not available in module format, YouTube available</i>	Aggregates	T 304	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Agg Test
Fractured Faces, <i>not available in video or module format, review written procedure</i>	Aggregates	NDDOT 4	NDDOT	--	Testing	Agg Test
Flat and Elongated, <i>not available in video or module format, review written procedure</i>	Aggregates	D 4791	NDDOT	--	Testing	Agg Test
<b>(Asphalt Mix Tester)</b>						
QA: Collecting Data Through Sampling (1 hr)	Asphalt		TC3	TLN/TC3	General	Asphalt Test
QA: Introduction to Quality Assurance Programs (1 hr)	Asphalt		TC3	TLN/TC3	General	Asphalt Test
NDDOT 5 Sampling Asphalt Mixtures, <i>not available in module format, Video available, review written procedure</i>	Asphalt	NDDOT 5	--	--	Testing	Asphalt Test
Bulk Specific Gravity of Compacted HMA (1 hr)	Asphalt	T 166	TC3	TLN/TC3	Testing	Asphalt Test
Preparing & Determining the Density of Asphalt Mixture Specimens by Gyratory (1-2 hr)	Asphalt	T 312	TC3	TLN/TC3	Testing	Asphalt Test
Theoretical Maximum Specific Gravity & Density of Asphalt Mix (1-2 hr)	Asphalt	T 209	TC3	TLN/TC3	Testing	Asphalt Test

***(Asphalt Coring– other)***

*Asphalt Coring, video on YouTube can be referenced.  
 Current method of random locations changed in 2019. Do  
 not take 2 cores in one location. Review written procedure  
 in Spec Book and Field Sampling and Field Sampling and  
 Testing Manual Sections 430*

Asphalt

NDDOT

Testing

*Informational*

Course Title	Subject	Test Method	Origin	Website	Focus	Required for Cert
--------------	---------	-------------	--------	---------	-------	-------------------

***Soil Temp any or all Tests may be requested)***

Microwave Oven Drying Soils (1 hr)	Soils	D 4643	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Soil Test
Proctor Test (1 hr)	Soils	T 99 T 180	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Soil Test
Rubber Balloon Test (1 hr)	Soils	D 2167	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Soil Test
Sand Cone Test (1 hr)	Soils	T 191	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Soil Test
Soil Moisture Density Test (Intro) <i>Optional to complete</i>	Soils		NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Soil Test
Speedy Moisture Test (1 hr)	Soils	T 217	NDDOT	TLN	Testing	Soil Test