

**SUBCHAPTER L: VISIBLE EMISSIONS EVALUATOR TRAINING AND
CERTIFICATION**
§§30.500 - 30.508
Effective September 29, 2016

§30.500. Purpose and Applicability.

(a) The purpose of this subchapter is to establish standards approved by the executive director to train and certify visible emissions evaluators.

(b) Persons who train and certify visible emissions evaluators must meet the qualifications of this subchapter and be approved by the executive director.

Adopted September 5, 2007

Effective September 27, 2007

§30.501. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings (unless the context clearly indicates otherwise).

(1) Visible emissions evaluator--A person trained and certified in Texas to conduct visible emissions assessments as determined by testing every six months consistent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's guidance found in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 60 Appendix A, Method 9.

(2) Visible emissions evaluator course--A training course presented by a qualified training provider that has been approved by the executive director.

(3) Visible emissions evaluator training provider--A person that has been approved by the executive director to train and certify visible emission evaluators on both the basic lecture session as well as conduct and perform field training.

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§30.502. Terms for Visible Emission Evaluator Certification.

All visible emission evaluator certifications are valid for six months from the date of issuance.

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§30.503. Visible Emission Evaluator Course Training Material and Course Approval.

Applications for new visible emissions evaluator course training material and course approval shall be made in accordance with §30.28 of this title (relating to Approval of Training).

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§30.504. Visible Emission Evaluator Training Provider Approval.

To obtain approval to train and certify visible emissions evaluators, a person must:

- (1) submit an application made on a standard form approved by the executive director;
- (2) submit the appropriate fee; and
- (3) meet the training criteria approved by the executive director.

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§30.505. Requirements for Visible Emission Evaluator Training Providers.

Visible emission evaluator course training providers shall:

- (1) train and certify visible emissions evaluators within the State of Texas;
- (2) provide the executive director with electronic records of training and certifications, in an acceptable format, as approved by the executive director;
- (3) provide telephone and facsimile numbers to assist customers that may inquire about certification status;
- (4) respond to inquiries regarding the visible emission evaluator course training and certification program;
- (5) be responsible for all training and certification materials, equipment, and training locations including, but not limited to classrooms and field sites; and
- (6) be responsible for issuing certificates.

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Effective September 27, 2007

§30.506. Visible Emission Evaluator Training Requirements.

(a) Visible emission evaluator training providers must:

(1) ensure that training meets the general and delivery standards approved by the executive director;

(2) follow the criteria and procedures of Method 9 as established by United States Environmental Protection Agency;

(3) provide a six to eight hour mandatory lecture session for first time students, and those students desiring to attend the lecture session again as a refresher;

(4) present the lecture session to the new students prior to any field training or testing;

(5) present the lecture session in a setting that is conducive to learning;

(6) use visual aids and handouts to clarify topics that are taught; and

(7) provide one proctor for 24 attendees or less, two proctors for 25 to 100 attendees, and an additional proctor for every 50 attendees over 100.

(b) Visible emission evaluator training shall include, but is not limited to, the following topics:

(1) opacity history to include Ringlemann equivalency;

(2) court cases that uphold opacity readings and procedures;

(3) applicability of Federal and State Method 9 opacity regulations;

(4) Federal and State New Source Performance Standards;

(5) Federal and State New Source Review program;

(6) State operating permits;

(7) State Implementation Plans;

- (8) scientific principles of opacity;
- (9) methodology of reading visible emissions, to include, but not limited to:
 - (A) position of sun;
 - (B) multiple stacks;
 - (C) water vapor plumes;
 - (D) slant angle correction;
 - (E) "red sky" concerns;
 - (F) not staring at plume;
 - (G) meteorology;
 - (H) wind direction and speed; and
 - (I) contrasting background;
- (10) applicability and uses of Method 22, 203A, 203B, and 203C;
- (11) proper documentation methods using the various field forms; and
- (12) field testing instructions.

(c) The training topics may be modified at the discretion of the executive director.

(d) The training provider will issue a certificate of completion to attendees of the lecture session which will contain the training provider's name, title of course (visible emission evaluator course classroom lecture), student's name, location of lecture, and date of lecture.

(e) The training provider shall develop and submit for executive director approval an exit questionnaire that shall be administered to the attendees upon completion of the lecture. This questionnaire is for determining the effectiveness of the training session and the ability of the instructor to convey the necessary information. The completed questionnaires shall be kept on file for a minimum of three years and be made available to the agency upon request.

Adopted September 7, 2016

Effective September 29, 2016

§30.507. Field Training and Testing Requirements.

(a) Field training shall:

(1) provide repetition of any field instructions, given at the lecture session, to those attendees attempting recertification who have not had to attend the lecture;

(2) provide familiarization plumes shown before the start of each black portion and each white portion of the field test;

(3) provide for completion of one test run for new students prior to taking a test for certification. The training run shall consist of 25 black readings and 25 white readings, and be given exactly as a regular certification test run. The training run cannot be accepted from the new student as certification, even if the score is within the passing parameters. This training run will be kept on file for three years; and

(4) allow attendees that are attempting recertification to take the training run described above before certification.

(b) Field testing shall include:

(1) a complete run which consists of 50 contiguous plumes;

(2) a random order of opacity from 0% to 100%;

(3) avoidance of adverse weather; i.e., drizzle, rain, fog, or high winds; and

(4) a certificate issued to those students that successfully pass the test that contains the name of the provider, title of certification (to include a term similar to "visible emissions evaluator"), the name of the student, and the date of successful certification. The provider shall number each certificate so that each certificate is unique and not duplicated.

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Effective September 29, 2016

§30.508. Disapproval of Visible Emissions Evaluator Course Training.

(a) The executive director may return without approval, visible emissions evaluator training courses and training material that is determined to contain errors.

(b) The executive director may rescind or deny training approval for good cause, to include, but not be limited to:

(1) training that does not conform to current technical standards or rules;

(2) training that does not conform to the materials as approved;

(3) subject matter that is not related to job tasks performed by licensees;

(4) an instructor not qualified to teach the subject matter;

(5) an instructor that is ineffective in the delivery of the subject matter;

(6) an instructor that promotes or endorses products, product lines, or services from one manufacturer, distributor, or service provider;

(7) participation records or other records that are false or untimely submitted; or

(8) the training provider's noncompliance with a training recall.

(c) The executive director may recall previously approved training for reevaluation and rescind the approval of the training if the training does not meet standards.

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