



**BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

<https://energy.virginia.gov/coal/coal-mine-safety/coalsafety.shtml>

ELECTRICAL REPAIRMAN UNDERGROUND (COAL)

PHOTO ID REQUIRED

Article 3 of the **Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia** establishes requirements for certification of coal mine workers. The certification requirements are included in §45.2-515. through §45.2-534. in which the Board of Coal Mining Examiners is established for the purpose of administering the certification program. The Board has promulgated certification regulations 4 VAC 25-20, which set the minimum standards and procedures required for Virginia coal miner examinations and certifications.

CERTIFICATION CLASSIFICATION: **Underground Electrical Repairman (Coal)*

This certification authorizes the holder to:

- Perform electrical work and inspections at all underground and surface areas of underground coal mines
- Perform examinations on electrical equipment
- Conduct and record results of electrical examinations

NOTE: This certification shall be used at surface and underground coal mines.

APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Application (BCME-1) and \$40.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
 - **Note:** Classes are limited to 20 people and tend to fill quickly. Application fees are due no later than 5 working days prior to the examination, but this will not guarantee that an opening will be available.
- One year of electrical experience in underground coal mining under the direction of a certified underground electrical repairman or appropriately related work experience approved by the Chief, Coal Mine Safety. **NOTE: Experience must be submitted within 5 years of passing the examination. After 5 years records are destroyed. Must reapply if future certification is desired.**
- Current first aid training (MSHA 5000-23 Annual Retraining or New Miner Inexperienced Training is acceptable).
- Six months credit will be granted for electrical educational training from a college, technical school or vocational school (certificate required). The remaining 6 months must be underground electrical work under the supervision of a certified electrician.
- Hold a General Coal Miner Certification.

NOTE: Must provide MSHA Individual Identification Number prior to certification being issued.

EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS: A score of 80% on each element of the examination.

ELEMENTS OF EXAM **NUMBER OF QUESTIONS**

▪ Alternating Current - (AC)	20
▪ Direct Current - (DC)	20
▪ Circuits & Equipment/drawings - (CE)	25
▪ Cable Splicing - (CS)	20
▪ High Voltage - (HV)	20
▪ Legal Requirements - (LR)	20
▪ Permissibility - (PR)	20
▪ Gas Detection - practical demonstration	

Records - Practical Stations (7)

1. Control Circuit Troubleshooting - Electrical Schematic Reading - (ER)
2. Electrical Examinations - Record Keeping Underground - (RU)
3. Electrical Examinations – Record Keeping Surface - (RS)
4. Cable Troubleshooting - (CT)
5. Circuit Breaker Troubleshooting - (CB)
6. Permissibility - (PD)
7. High Voltage Power Move - (VP)

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:

- Electrical Study Guide (\$20.00)
- Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia (\$25.00)
- BCME Requirements (No Charge)
- Title 30 CFR Parts 18, 75, 77 (Included in study guide)
- First Aid for Miners Study Guide (\$15.00)

The above mentioned study materials are available at the Virginia Energy Big Stone Gap Office, (276) 523-8100.

***8 hours Electrical Repairman continuing education will update this certification.**