



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Bureau of Mine Safety

September 24, 2015

Anthracite Operators

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a "Notice" for you to post at your operation to inform your employees of the anthracite mine officials training session scheduled November 5, 2015 and the mine official's examination scheduled November 20, 2015. Please contact this office or your district mine inspector to attend the training session.

A copy of the application is enclosed for your convenience. If you are unable to make copies, please contact this office or your district mine inspector for additional applications.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Troy A. Wolfgang".

Troy A. Wolfgang  
Chief

Anthracite & Industrial Minerals Safety Division

Enclosures



**pennsylvania**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

September 24, 2015

**NOTICE**

***BUREAU OF MINE SAFETY ANNOUNCES***  
**ANTHRACITE MINE FOREMAN, ASSISTANT MINE FOREMAN**  
**AND MINE EXAMINER EXAMINATIONS**

The Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Mine Safety, will hold examinations for Anthracite Mine Foreman, Assistant Mine Foreman, and Mine Examiner Certificates on **November 20, 2015**, at DEP, Bureau of Mine Safety, First Floor Conference Room, 5 West Laurel Boulevard, Pottsville, Pa.

Please have the application **COMPLETED, NOTARIZED** and return to DEP, Bureau of Mine Safety office as soon as possible but no later than **October 30, 2015**. An exam/certification fee of \$50.00 in the form of a check or money order payable to "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania" shall accompany the application. The application will be reviewed for eligibility to qualify for the examination.

To apply for Anthracite Mine Foreman certification, you must be at least 25 years of age and have satisfactory evidence of at least **five years' practical experience** as a miner, and of good conduct, capability and sobriety. Miners will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of anthracite mining techniques as well as demonstrate the use of mine gas detection equipment.

The one-day examination consists of one session beginning at 8:00 a.m. A practical examination will be given prior to the written examination. This practical examination will be pass or fail. If you fail the practical examination, you are not eligible for the written examination.

A training session to prepare for this examination will be held on **November 5, 2015**, 8:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Tremont Mine Rescue Station, 44 N. Crescent St. Tremont, Pa.

For more information, contact DEP, Bureau of Mine Safety, Anthracite & Industrial Minerals Safety Division, Pottsville, Pa., 17901, telephone 570-621-3139.

If you or members of your group are a person with a disability, and you require an accommodation to participate in the examination, please contact 570-621-3139, or through the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at 1-800-654-5984 (TDD) to discuss how the Department may accommodate your needs.

Troy A. Wolfgang  
Chief  
Anthracite & Industrial Minerals Safety Division



## ATTENTION: Certification Examination Candidates

### ANTHRACITE APPLICANTS:

The eligibility criteria are established in Section 205 of the Anthracite Coal Mining Laws of Pennsylvania for Underground Mines "Act 346" § 346-205.

To apply for ANTHRACITE MINE FOREMAN certification, you must be at least 25 years of age and have satisfactory evidence of at least five years' practical experience as a miner, and of good conduct, capability and sobriety.

### INDUSTRIAL MINERALS OR SHAFT/SLOPE APPLICANTS:

The eligibility criteria are established in Section 207 of Title 25 – Environmental Protection, PA Code Chapter 207, Noncoal Underground Mines, § 207-214.

To apply for INDUSTRIAL MINERALS MINE FOREMAN certification the individual shall:

1. Be at least 21 years of age.
2. Have at least 2 years of practical experience as a noncoal underground miner or have 1 year of practical experience as a noncoal underground miner and either possess a Bachelor of Science Degree in mining engineering, possess a certificate of qualification under Section 205 of the Pennsylvania Anthracite Coal Mine Act (52 P.S. § 70-205) or Section 206 of the Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal Mine Act (52 P.S. § 701-206) or possess an acceptable certificate of qualification issued by another state. **and**
3. Possess a Pennsylvania Underground Industrial Minerals Blaster's License.

To apply for SHAFT/SLOPE FOREMAN certification the individual shall:

1. Be at least 21 years of age.
2. Have at least 2 years of practical experience in the sinking of slopes and shafts **or**  
Have 1 year of practical experience in the sinking of slopes and shafts **and** either possess:
  - a. A Bachelor of Science Degree in mining engineering.
  - b. A certificate of qualification to be a coal mine foreman or assistant coal mine foreman issued pursuant to the Acts.
  - c. A certificate of qualification to be an industrial mineral underground mine foreman.
  - d. An acceptable certificate of qualification issued by another state. **and**
3. Possess a Pennsylvania Underground Industrial Minerals Blaster's License or Mine Opening Blaster's License.



## Application for Mine Officials Certification

**READ BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION:** After you have (a) answered questions 1-5, (b) had three persons complete the certificate of character (question 6), and (c) obtained notarized statements from each of the mines at which you have worked (question 7), then sign your name at the bottom of each page of the application and complete the affidavit on the last page in the presence of a notary public.

1. Check the appropriate box: MIIN # (MSHA Individual Identification #) \_\_\_\_\_

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY FOR THIS EXAMINATION)

Anthracite Mine Foreman       Industrial Minerals Mine Foreman       Shaft/Slope Foreman

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. (Last four) XXX-XX- \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a citizen of the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

Length and nature of service in or about mines \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years experience in working section \_\_\_\_\_ Total experience \_\_\_\_\_

Current employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's address \_\_\_\_\_

Mine presently employed at \_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you ever had a mine official certification revoked in the past? Yes  No

4. Qualifying Education (if necessary, complete on additional sheet)

	Degree (attach copy)	Date Obtained	School	Total Credit Hours	Major
a.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

5. Prior Certificates Obtained from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (i.e. miners certificate, blasters license, assistant mine foreman, etc.)

	Type of Certificate	Date Received	Certificate No.
a.	_____	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____	_____
c.	_____	_____	_____
d.	_____	_____	_____
e.	_____	_____	_____

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_



7. Identify the work experience that establishes your eligibility to take the test for which you are applying. Answer the following questions about each position in which you worked to acquire the required experience. See the instructions for calculating eligibility which are included with this application package.

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mine Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Mine: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (Month/Day/Year) on which you began work in this position: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (Month/Day/Year) on which you ceased work in this position: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of your job duties in this position: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you work within 1,000 feet of the face in this position: Yes  No

How many days did you work within 1,000 feet of the face in this position? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you absent from working underground during this time period for reasons such as illness, injury, layoffs, education, military service, or temporary assignment to surface activities? Yes  No

How many days? \_\_\_\_\_ For what reason(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Who was your immediate supervisor in this position? \_\_\_\_\_

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Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mine Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Mine: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (Month/Day/Year) on which you began work in this position: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (Month/Day/Year) on which you ceased work in this position: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of your job duties in this position: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you work within 1,000 feet of the face in this position: Yes  No

How many days did you work within 1,000 feet of the face in this position? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you absent from working underground during this time period for reasons such as illness, injury, layoffs, education, military service, or temporary assignment to surface activities? Yes  No

How many days? \_\_\_\_\_ For what reason(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Who was your immediate supervisor in this position? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF MINE SAFETY

Employer's Verification of Work Experience

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

County of \_\_\_\_\_ ) SS

\_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- (a) that he/she is or was an official at \_\_\_\_\_;  
(Name of Mine)
- (b) that he/ she has reviewed the information provided by the applicant;
- (c) that he/ she **either** has personal knowledge about the applicant's claims about work experience at this mine **or** has compared the applicant's claims about work experience at this mine with the records of that employer; and
- (d) that the information about the applicant's work experience reflected in this application is true and accurate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of verifying official)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Position at Mine)

Signed and sworn to before me

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Public)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Applicant)

**Applicant's Verification**

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania)

County of \_\_\_\_\_) SS

\_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- (a) that he/she has read, understood and followed the instructions for completing this application;
- (b) that this application consists of \_\_\_\_\_ (number) of pages;
- (c) that the statements and information provided in this application are true, complete, and correct; and
- (d) that it is his/ her intent that the statements and information being provided by this application will be relied upon by the public officials reviewing this application.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of Applicant)

Signed and sworn to before me

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Notary Public)



The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection, provides this information to assist you in determining whether you are eligible for the Mine Officials Certification Examination.

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**"Working section"** means "within one thousand (1,000) feet of the face."

**How to count a year** –

A year of work means that you were employed doing work underground in a mine for a full year and that you actually worked underground for at least 240 days within that calendar year.

You should:

- **Count** each day you worked as one individual day, even if you worked more than one shift on that day.
- **Count** only days when you worked underground.
- **Not count** days when you worked on the surface.
- **Not count** days when you did not work because of illness, injury, vacation, strike, or education.

**Examples:**

1. You were employed on October 1 and worked 35 days between October 1 and November 20. On November 21, you became ill and did not return to work until February 1. None of the days between November 20 and February 1 would count toward your one-year calculation. You were not available for work for 72 days which would extend your one year calculation from October 1 by 72 days.
2. You were employed on January 15 and you worked six days a week for forty (40) weeks, without interruption. By November 15 you have already worked 240 days underground; you must continue working until January 15 of the next year to meet the one-year requirement.