

Phy 420- HAM Radio Licensing

1 Details

In order to be able to legally launch a high-altitude weather balloon, at least one person in your group must have an amateur radio license (HAM) at, at least, the technician level. However, **I will not let you launch unless at least 3 people in each group have their license.** I suggest everyone get their license! In order to get a license, you need to take an exam. These exams are offered on the second Saturday of the month at 9 AM by the Arrow Communication Association (<http://www.w8pgw.org/services/testing/>). I believe it is free if you are pre-registered. Prior to taking the exam, you will want to study. You can find an excellent study guide at <http://web.eecs.umich.edu/~becher/test/2006techstudyguideRef.pdf> that was written using the actual test question pool from the exam itself (which can be obtained from <http://www.arrl.org/question-pools>). While you should not have any trouble with the physics questions on the exam, there are some technical questions that you will not know the answer to if you don't study.

In addition to being allowed to launch, getting your license is part of your grade. 3 members of your group must have passed their exam by March 7 in order for the team to get credit.