

## Bituminous Plant Tester Certification Class Agenda 2023-2024

### Instructors

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### Timing, attendance, and breaks

Class days are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Attendance will be taken in the morning and afternoon. There will be short breaks throughout the day and a 1 hour lunch break around 12:00 noon.

### Day 1: Classroom

- Introductions
  - Instructors
  - Housekeeping Issues
  - Bituminous Plant Tester Certification Requirements
  - Basic Focus of Bituminous Plant Tester Course
  - Purpose of Bituminous Plant Tester Manual
  
- Unit 1: Pre-construction requirements
  
- Unit 2: Field sampling process
  
- Unit 3: Rice test (Gmm - Maximum Specific Gravity)
  
- Unit 4: Gyrotory Compaction (Gmb - Bulk Specific Gravity)
  
- Unit 5: Air Voids
  
- Unit 6: Extractions
  
- Unit 7: FAA (Fine Aggregate Angularity)
  
- Unit 8: Lottman

### Day 2: Laboratory

- Demonstrations: Extractions (ignition oven, centrifuge for solvent extractions; Mix Calibration for ignition oven; RAP Gsb procedure (Recycled Asphalt Pavement Bulk Specific Gravity); Fine Aggregate Angularity (FAA); Temperatures; Splitting; Lottman; Corelok (if available)

- Hands-on stations to learn and practice the test procedures (You will complete your performance exam in your district. See bottom of page.)
  - Gyrotory Compaction
  - Maximum Specific Gravity (Gmm)
  - Bulk Specific Gravity (Gmb), Void Calculations, Cores

### Day 3: Classroom

- Unit 9: Cores
- Naming Conventions (see Introduction of Training Manual)
- Review and practice (see BPTC Classroom Packet)
  - Gmm (Maximum Specific Gravity) and Gmb (Bulk Specific Gravity)
  - Air voids and moving averages
  - Adjusted AFT (Asphalt Film Thickness)
  - Lottman, FAA (Fine Aggregate Angularity), fines/effective
  - Cores
- Documentation and mix designations (see BPTC Classroom Packet)
- Allowable tolerances between contractor and agency test results
- Wrap up
  - Course evaluation
  - Performance evaluation checklist and deadline
  - Information about the written exam

### Deadlines (see the course webpage for more information):

**Written exam:** The exam will open for you at the end of the last day of class. You must complete the exam within one week after it is open for you, meaning the same day the following week.

**Performance exam:** You must complete the performance exam at a MnDOT district lab.

- The certification will not be awarded until the performance exam is complete and recorded.
- Complete the performance exam after your class and by **May 15, 2024**. (Students with special situations may arrange for an extension to that deadline, up to June 15, 2024, but only if arranged for by May 15, 2024.)
- Contact your MnDOT District lab staff to schedule your BPTC Performance Exam **by the end of the last day of class**. There will be an online form to fill out letting us know your plans.
- See the webpage, also linked at the bottom of the BPTC course webpage, to find your district and their scheduling information:

<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/technical-certification/courses/bptc-performance-exam.html>

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View the Technical Certification Program website at [mndot.gov/technical-certification](https://mndot.gov/technical-certification) for information about: our program and certification process, class registration, course materials and program documents, construction resources, exams, Technical Certification Card, and help and contacts.

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