

After You Pass the Exam

New amateurs may get on the air (transmit) once their license has been granted and their call sign has been assigned. The FCC authorizes operation on the basis of the license data appearing in their amateur license data base. First time licensees do not have to wait until they receive their “hard copy” license document.

Expect about 7 to 10 days for your new call sign to appear in the FCC database.

FCC databases on the web:

http://www.wm7d.net/fcc_uls/

<http://www.qrz.com/>

<http://hamcall.net/call>

<http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>

The WM7D database is probably the easiest to use and has the new call signs posted the next day after they appear in the FCC database. The FCC site will have the call sign first but may be one of the hardest to navigate. Each site downloads the information and updates their web site at different times during the day.

If you already have a call in the FCC database and are upgrading, you can immediately use the privileges of the new license. You must sign “Temporary AG” after your call sign for upgrades to General or “Temporary AE” for Extra. As soon as the upgrades are in the FCC database you can identify normally

If your license is not in the database after 2 weeks contact me by email at: wb6zbu@arrl.net or call me at 650-349-5349. I will check into the application and get back to you.