

ALDOT-376-92
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR AGGREGATE TECHNICIANS

1. Scope

- 1.1. The purpose of this program is to develop, train, maintain, and certify a pool of qualified technicians for the Department and aggregate producers necessary to manage the Quality Control and Quality Assurance Programs for aggregate materials. The intent of this program is to improve the performance of aggregates that are used in the highway construction industry through knowledge and understanding of the product. This program will provide training and certification for aggregate technicians participating in a producer's Quality Control Program and the Department's Quality Assurance Program.

2. Training

- 2.1. Each applicant must complete both classroom and laboratory training provided by the Department in cooperation with the Academia. The classroom training shall consist of all AASHTO Test Specifications and Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) Procedures necessary to perform all required tests. They are as follows:
 - 2.1.1. ALDOT-249, Aggregate Control Program
 - 2.1.2. AASHTO T-2, Sampling Aggregates
 - 2.1.3. AASHTO T-11, Materials Finer Than No. 200 (75 μ m) Sieve in Mineral Aggregates by Washing
 - 2.1.4. AASHTO T-19, Unit Weight and Voids in Aggregates
 - 2.1.5. AASHTO T-27, Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates
 - 2.1.6. AASHTO M-92, Wire Cloth Sieves for Testing Purposes
 - 2.1.7. AASHTO M-231, Weighing Devices Used in the Testing of Materials
 - 2.1.8. AASHTO T-248, Reducing Field Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size
 - 2.1.9. ALDOT-150, Method of Sampling Coarse and Fine Aggregate from a Conveyor Belt
 - 2.1.10. ALDOT-239, Method of Sampling and Testing Riprap Stone
 - 2.1.11. ALDOT-253, Rapid Drying of Soil and Aggregate Samples for Field Tests
 - 2.1.12. ALDOT-321, Test for Glassy Particles in Crushed Slag
 - 2.1.13. ASTM D4791, Method of Determining Flat and Elongated Pieces in Coarse Aggregate

2.1.14. Sections 801 and 802, DOT Specifications

3. Certification

3.1. Written Examination:

3.1.1. Alabama Department of Transportation, Central Laboratory personnel, will administer an open-book, written examination at the conclusion of the classroom training. The participant must attain a score of 70 to pass.

3.2. Practical Examination:

3.2.1. All applicants are expected to successfully demonstrate proficiency with performance of the following laboratory tests: AASHTO T-11, AASHTO T-19, AASHTO T-27, and AASHTO T-248.

3.3. Actual proficiency testing will be performed in the presence of a qualified evaluator approved by the Materials and Tests Engineer. The evaluator will utilize a proficiency guide that was prepared by the Bureau of Materials and Tests and reviewed by the Aggregate Industry. At the completion of the practical laboratory examination, the evaluator will render a decision as to whether the applicant demonstrated a level of competence necessary to perform the above tests in strict compliance with the particular testing specification. Personnel meeting the qualifications for both the written and practical laboratory examinations shall be certified upon recommendation by the Working Task Force and approved by the Certification Board. Certification shall be contingent on the technician signing the Certified Technician Warrant (BMT-138) which informs the technician of his rights and responsibilities as a Certified Aggregate Technician and the penalties attached to the abuse and/or neglect of these rights and responsibilities.

3.4. Certification Board: The Aggregate Technician Certification Board will be composed of the following:

3.4.1. Materials and Tests Engineer, Chairman (Position)

3.4.2. Assistant Chief Engineer (Appointed by Transportation Director)

3.4.3. Construction Engineer (Position)

3.4.4. Area Operations Engineer (Appointed by Transportation Director)

3.4.5. Industry Member (Appointed by the Road Builders Association)

3.5. Working Task Force:

3.5.1. Testing Engineer (position)

3.5.2. Aggregate Engineer (position)

3.5.3. Area Materials Engineer (approved by the Materials and Tests Engineer)

3.5.4. Industry Member (appointed by Alabama Road Builders Association)

4. Recertification

4.1. Certification of a technician is good for three (3) years, after which the technicians must be re-certified. Re-certification can be accomplished as follows:

4.1.1. The Technician must attend a refresher course or seminar to update him/her on specification changes, procedures, etc., (if available).

4.1.2. The Technician must complete BMT-136, "Application for Recertification", which provides a summary of work, education and training received since initial certification or last recertification.

4.1.3. The Technician must complete and sign BMT-138, "Certified Technician Warrant".

4.1.4. All required documentation must be sent to the Working Task Force.

5. Decertification

5.1. Accusations of abuse or neglect of the Technician's rights and responsibilities shall be made to the Working Task Force. Charges and accusations shall be investigated by same. Penalties shall be implemented upon recommendation by the Working Task Force and approval by the Certification Board after a thorough review of all facts. Penalties shall range from a minimum 30 day suspension to permanent revocation.