



## Department of Commerce

Division of State Fire Marshal  
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### Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) Operator Training – Frequently Asked Questions – Last Updated December 2011

The Division of State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) developed this document to answer frequently asked questions relating to Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 1301:7-9-19 *Underground Storage Tank Operator Training*.

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#### 1) How did operator training come about?

On August 8, 2005, the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 was signed into law. This law mandated requirements for underground storage tank (UST) systems within the United States of America and its Territories. One of the many provisions in the Energy Policy Act mandated that operator training be conducted for owners and/or operators, designated owner representatives and station managers and/or clerks. On September 1, 2011, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule 1301:7-9-19 *Underground Storage Tank Operator Training* became effective. This rule defines operator training requirements and procedures.

#### 2) What UST sites are affected by this training?

Owners and operators of all UST sites must list Class A, Class B, and Class C operators for their sites and undergo appropriate training. There are no exceptions.

#### 3) Do cities, schools and other government entities have to complete operator training?

Yes, Owners and operators of all UST sites shall list Class A, Class B, and Class C operators for their sites and shall undergo appropriate training. There are no exceptions.

**4) Do owners of USTs for emergency generators have to complete operator training?**

Yes, Owners and operators of all UST sites shall list Class A, Class B, and Class C operators for their sites and shall undergo appropriate training. There are no exceptions.

**5) How many people at my agency have to be identified as a Class A, Class B and Class C operator?**

At a minimum, at least one person shall be identified as a Class A, Class B, and Class C operator for each site.

**6) Does each site need a Class A, Class B and a Class C operator?**

Each UST site shall identify a Class A, Class B, and a Class C operator for their site. It is possible for the same person to serve multiple roles at one site or at several sites.

- **Class A Operators:** Responsible for achieving and maintaining compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and standards necessary to operate and maintain the UST system at one or more UST sites (e.g. owner of an UST site or owner designee).
- **Class B Operators:** Responsible for implementing applicable requirements and standards for UST systems at one or more UST sites (e.g. store managers, contractor who has taken Class B operator training, Certified UST Installer, owner designee).
- **Class C Operators:** Responsible for the initial response to alarms or other indications of emergencies caused by spills or releases from an UST system (i.e. store clerk) and notifying the Class A or Class B operator and appropriate emergency responders when necessary.

**7) Who may be classified as Class A, Class B and Class C operators?**

The rule allows for a variety of people to act as Class A, Class B, and Class C operators:

- Owner and/or operators.
- Persons employed by owners (i.e. store clerks, store managers, central office employees etc.).
- Persons contractually obligated to owner or operators to perform the functions of a Class A or Class B operator (e.g. third party contractor).
- A Certified UST Installer with a current license from BUSTR.
- It is possible for a person to be the Class A, Class B or Class C operator for more than one site.
- Owners shall designate a Class A, Class B and Class C operator for an unattended UST site; however, the operator is not required to be present at the UST site.

**8) What does “attended UST site” and “unattended UST site” mean?**

“Attended UST site” means an UST site that has an attendant on duty that authorizes the dispensing or transfer of regulated substance from the UST system (e.g. most retail gasoline stations and marinas). “Unattended UST site” means an UST site that, by design, has no attendant on duty that authorizes the dispensing or transfer of regulated substance from the UST system (e.g. emergency generator tanks, card system dispensing operations, factory operations, most fleet vehicle operations, and aviation fuel dispensing locations).

**9) How do I get the Class A, Class B and Class C operator training completed by August 8, 2012?**

Owners and operators may complete training by attending a course offered by a private ‘Sponsor of Training’. BUSTR intends to offer Class A and Class B operator training in the spring of 2012 and subsequent classes as needed. Class C training may be completed by using the training material provided on the BUSTR web site. Information concerning Sponsors of Training, dates for training, and Class C training may be found on the BUSTR web site at <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/bustMain.aspx>.

**10) We intend to use a training program developed by a certain sponsor. Can you verify they are licensed?**

All licensed sponsors of training are listed on the BUSTR web site at <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/bustMain.aspx>.

**11) Is online training available?**

The rule allows for online training. Contact a sponsor of training listed on the BUSTR web site at <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/bustMain.aspx> to see if a sponsor offers online training. The training offered by BUSTR at the Ohio Fire Academy is classroom style.

**12) How do I register for training at the Ohio Fire Academy?**

The registration process has several steps.

- Go to the Ohio Department of Commerce web site at <http://www.com.ohio.gov/> and click on the appropriate link located in the lower right corner of the page, or go directly to the Ohio Fire Academy web site at [https://www.comapps.ohio.gov/sfm/fire\\_apps/fmac/course\\_reg/CourseList.aspx](https://www.comapps.ohio.gov/sfm/fire_apps/fmac/course_reg/CourseList.aspx).
- Sign-up for an account by clicking on “My Profile” followed by “Create Account”.
- Once you create your account, type “BUSTR” into the Course Title field to search for available courses. You can also scroll to the bottom of the page, and BUSTR courses are normally displayed at the top of the course list.
- Click “Apply” for the course you want and complete the registration process.
- If you have questions or problems with any of these steps, contact the registrar’s office at (614) 752-7196.

**13) Can I call and register for training over the phone?**

No. If you encounter a problem registering with the Ohio Fire Academy online, you may request a paper registration form by contacting the registrar’s office at (614) 752-7196 or download the form directly from the Ohio Fire Academy web site [http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/docs/fire\\_course\\_registration.pdf](http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/docs/fire_course_registration.pdf).

**14) Can I use my BUSTR registration ID to register for training?**

No. The BUSTR registration ID is for a separate database system for UST registration and permits. To register for training at the Ohio Fire Academy, you need to sign-up for an account with the Academy and follow their registration process.

**15) Are the Courses BUSTR is providing at the Ohio Fire Academy combined A/B Courses?**

Yes. Anyone completing the BUSTR operator training course at the Ohio Fire Academy will receive a certificate of training for Class A and Class B operator training.

**16) What is the cost of the BUSTR A/B Course at the Ohio Fire Academy?**

The cost of the course is \$25. Anyone completing the BUSTR operator training course at the Ohio Fire Academy will receive a certificate of training for Class A and Class B operator training.

**17) How many people from the same agency can register for each operator training class?**

There is no limitation on the number of people who can register from the same agency. At the Ohio Fire Academy, registration is on a first come, first served basis.

**18) When must operator training be completed?**

Pursuant to BUSTR regulations, no later than August 8, 2012, all Class A, Class B and Class C operators shall be identified and trained. All records certifying designated employees as Class A, Class B and/or Class C operators shall be maintained by the owner and/or operator. These records shall be available upon request by a BUSTR Inspector during compliance inspections.

**19) Do we need to have a Class A/B certified person in Ohio or do you accept reciprocity from other states?**

BUSTR does not accept reciprocity from other states. Owners and operators shall complete the operator training requirement using sponsors licensed by BUSTR.

**20) What if I get a new employee and want to designate them as a Class A, Class B, or a Class C operator?**

Any newly designated Class A or Class B operator shall be trained within 60-days of assuming responsibilities as a Class A or Class B operator at an UST site. Any newly designated Class C operators shall be trained before assuming responsibility as a Class C operator.

**More questions?**

If you have additional questions regarding operator training, please feel free to contact BUSTR using the following information below. Use the word 'Operator Training' as the 'Subject' title if you email a question.

**Phone: 614-752-7938; or**

**Email: [webbustr@com.state.oh.us](mailto:webbustr@com.state.oh.us)**