

NERC Certification Prep Course

Background

The class will be delivered over a 4-day period. The class is intended to assist system personnel in preparing to take the NERC Certification Exam. The class will begin with an overview and review of interconnected operations from a Balancing, Transmission, and Reliability perspective. Participants will then be taken through the NERC Standards and provided with an explanation of they relate to real-time operations. The course material is intended to not only cover the specifics of the standards but also to identify their application to real-time operations. The course is culminated with students taking a multiple-choice exam reflective of the NERC Content Areas as defined in the NERC Content Outlines.

Course Level

Not Applicable

Target Audience

The class is intended for System Operators and any personnel who are preparing to obtain a NERC System Operator Certification Credential. This preparation will assist those individuals who are seeking their initial credential as well as those seeking re-certification. The class will be based on the NERC Standards.

NERC Continuing Education Hours

32.0 CEHs – Total
26.0 CEHs – Standards
32.0 CEHs – Ops Topics
0.0 CEHs – Sim

NERC Emergency Training Requirement

32.0 hours of Emergency Operations

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Class Content

Operations Review

The module is intended to ensure that the participant has the working knowledge of system operations with regards to system balancing and transmission operations. The module explores the basic operating principles of maintaining a safe and reliable electric grid. The module explains the concepts of operating a balancing area (old control area) in accordance with good utility practices and NERC guides. This includes: generation operation, tie-line control, inadvertent power flow, Area Control Error, time error, and so on. In addition, the module covers the aspects of operating the transmission system and maintaining transmission facilities within established operating parameters. This includes: transmission equipment, operating limitations, voltage control, thermal control, and operations coordination.

Operational Functions

The intent of the module is to provide the participant with an overview to the migration in the industry from the control area to the organizations defined in the NERC Functional Model and addressed in the NERC Standards. The module will address all of the functions addressed by the standards and provide an explanation of their roles and responsibilities. The module is intended to prepare the participant with the functional role of the organizations in order to better understand the applicability of the standards.

Standards Review

The module begins with an explanation of the standards development and then proceeds to identify the applicability and requirements associated with the NERC Standards utilized for the current Exams as they relate to the system operator and real-time system operations. The Standards addressed include:

- BAL - Resource and Demand Balancing
- COM - Communications
- EOP - Emergency Preparedness and Operations
- PRC - Protection and Control
- TOP - Transmission Operations
- INT - Interchange Scheduling and Coordination
- IRO - Interconnection Reliability Operations and Coordination
- VAR - Voltage and Reactive
- FAC - Facilities

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Course Follow Up

Upon completion of the class activities, participants will be provided with access to complete the appropriate TEST TRAK™ activity. TEST TRAK™ is a web-based activity that helps system operators to improve test taking skills and also to gain knowledge for answering questions similar to those present on the Certification Exam. It consists of 3 sets of quizzes and 2 tests that are reflective of the content areas identified for the specific Certification Exam.

Classroom Schedule

Day 1 - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Day 2 - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Day 3 - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Day 4 - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Attendee Requirements

Attendees must sign-in for the training activity in accordance with the attendance verification process stated:

- Attendees are required to sign-in on the course sign-in sheet
- Attendees are required to provide their NERC SO Certification # on the sign-in sheet, if applicable
- Attendees are required to provide a photo ID as proof of identity
- Attendees must participate in all course activities
- Attendees must complete the activity assessment
- Attendees must submit a course evaluation form

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