



**SURFACE FACILITIES FOREMAN FOR SHOPS, LABS,  
 WAREHOUSES AND CLEAR CUTTING OPERATIONS (COAL)**

**PHOTO ID REQUIRED**

Article 3 of the Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia establishes requirements for certification of coal mine workers. The certification requirements are included in §45.1-161.24 through §45.1-161.41 in which the Board of Coal Mining Examiners is established for the purpose of administering the certification program. The Board has promulgated certification regulations 4 VAC 25-20, which set the minimum standards and procedures required for Virginia coal miner examinations and certifications.

**CERTIFICATION CLASSIFICATION:** \**Surface Facilities Foreman for Shops, Labs, Warehouses, and Clear Cutting Operations (Coal)*

This certification authorizes the holder to:

- Perform foreman and/or examiner duties at shops, labs, warehouses and clear cutting required by State and Federal laws and regulations

**NOTE:** This certification shall not be used in lieu of other certifications.

**APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Application (BCME-1) and \$40.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
  - **Note:** Classes are limited to 20 people and tend to fill quickly. Application fees are due no later than 5 working days prior to the examination, but this will not guarantee that an opening will be available.
- Possess one year work experience at a shop, lab or warehouse or appropriately related coal mining work experience approved by the Chief of the Division of Mines.
 

**NOTE: Experience must be submitted within 5 years of passing the examination. After 5 years records are destroyed. Must reapply if future certification is desired.**
- Current first aid training (MSHA 5000-23 Annual Retraining or New Miner Inexperienced Training acceptable)
- Hold a General Miner Certification as part of this certification (A card will be issued)

**EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS:** A score of 80% on each element of the examination

<u>ELEMENTS OF EXAM</u>	<u>NUMBER OF QUESTIONS</u>
First Aid (FA)	25
Surface Facilities (SF)	50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Electrical</li> <li>▪ Equipment</li> <li>▪ Examinations</li> <li>▪ Fire Prevention</li> <li>▪ General Provisions</li> <li>▪ Personal Protection</li> <li>▪ Gas Detection - practical demonstration</li> <li>▪ Records – on-shift exercise</li> </ul>	

**RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:**

- Title 30 CFR Part 50, 71, 77 (Included in study guide)
- Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia (\$5.50)
- BCME Requirements (No Charge)
- Surface Facilities Foreman Guide (\$7.00)
- First Aid for Miners Study Guide (\$9.00)

**The above mentioned study materials are available at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's Big Stone Gap Office, Customer Assistance Center (276) 523-8233 and Lebanon Field Office (276) 415-9650.**