NEW Radon Certification Regulations (N.J.A.C. 7:28-27) MEASUREMENT TECHNICIAN & MEASUREMENT SPECAILIST Frequently Asked Questions

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- 25. What should I do if the test was interfered with in some way?
- 26. When I test a home, am I required to conduct a test in each unique foundation area, such as above a crawl space, in a basement and above a slab, if multiple foundation types are in a home?

FAQs

1. Do I really need to read the new regulations and ANSI/AARST protocols?

ABSOLUTELY. You must read, understand, and follow the new regulations and protocols. You must follow the most recent revisions of the following protocols, depending upon the building types you are approved to test. It is your responsibility to ensure that you check regularly for, and follow, the latest version of the protocols listed below:

"Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Homes," ANSI/AARST MAH-2023

"Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Multifamily, School, Commercial and Mixed-Use Buildings" ANSI/AARST MA-MFLB-2023

2. How will I know if the Radon Section has received my application? You will receive an email that says your application has been received by the Radon Section. This email does not mean that your application was approved, it means only that your application was received and logged into the database.

3. What is an acknowledgment notice?

An acknowledgment notice will be sent to you by the Radon Section after your application is reviewed and when all <u>initial</u> certification requirements have been met. It then qualifies you to affiliate with a business.

4. How will I affiliate with a business for the new regulations?

When you receive an acknowledgment notice from the Radon Section, submit the acknowledgment notice to the measurement business that you will be purchasing radon test kits from or that will process your CRM or electret tests. The business will send you an affiliation form, their QA plan, and their radiological safety plan. You must also take radiation safety training and pass an examination. The business will send the completed affiliation form to the Radon Section and a copy to you. If you are affiliated with more than one business, you must follow this procedure for each business.

5. When will I get a certification credential?

When the Radon Section receives a completed affiliation form from a measurement business, you will receive a certification credential.

6. What is a certification credential?

Your certification credential will be a certificate printed on State of New Jersey stationery. This credential shows that you meet all certification requirements. Your name, certification number, and dates of the certification period will be listed on the certification credential. An email from the Radon Section that contains this information can also be used as a certification credential.

- 7. How do I add a building type or device type, revise my contact information, or change anything else that is part of my certification?

 To make changes to your certification outside of the application process, you will need to submit an amendment form. Amendment forms can be found here. The amendment will not be effective until the Radon Section reviews, approves, and confirms the change to you, in writing (most likely via email from radon@dep.nj.gov).
- 8. When am I required to place two testing devices in each testing location?

 Duplicate tests are required for ALL time-sensitive tests, including during a real estate transaction when using charcoal canister, liquid scintillation, and electret devices.
- 9. When am I allowed to place one testing device in each testing location? If you can follow the extended testing protocol and there is time to conduct follow-up testing when elevated concentrations are found, one test may be used. Also, when you perform a time-sensitive test with a CRM that records retrievable hourly measurements, then one CRM device can be used.
- 10. Do the time-sensitive and extended testing requirements apply to all building types? Yes. Read the protocols listed in 1. above.
- 11. What buildings can I test if I only check "Residential Single-Family Buildings" on the application?
 - You can test a single-family home, a duplex (two attached homes), one condo, or one townhouse following "Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Homes." ANSI/AARST MAH-2023
- 12. What buildings can I test if I check "Residential Multifamily Buildings" on the application and do I need to take an NRPP or NRSB approved multifamily training course?

You can test a building with three or more attached dwellings or units. The multifamily testing protocol must be used when the entire building is being tested, such as during the sale of the building. To test the entire building, you will need to take the 8-hour training course for multifamily buildings and provide the certificate to the Radon Section. You follow the most current revisions of "Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Multifamily, School, Commercial and Mixed-Use Buildings," ANSI/AARST MA-MFLB-2023

The regulations define a multifamily building as "a residential building having more than one attached dwelling or other occupied unit including, but not limited to, condominium, townhouse, and apartment buildings." ANSI/AARST MA-MFLB-2023 defines a multifamily building as "buildings having more than one attached dwelling or other occupied unit..."

- 13. What if a client asks me to test a few rooms in a multifamily building, a school, or a large building and I know the entire building needs to be tested?

 One example of when you must test the entire building is if the entire building is being sold. In this case, if the entire building is not tested, the radon measurement business is required to invalidate the test and the results cannot be reported to the client. You should consult both the applicable protocol and the measurement business with which you are affiliated when deciding how a particular building should be tested.
- 14. How do I know when a building falls into the large building category for testing?

 The scope and purpose section of the "Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Multifamily, School, Commercial and Mixed-Use Buildings," ANSI/AARST MA-MFLB-2023, discusses the building types to be tested using this protocol. You should consult both the applicable protocol and the measurement business with which you are affiliated when deciding how a particular building should be tested.
- 15. Is a child care center owner or operator still allowed to test their child care center? No. Under the new regulations, all child care centers must be tested by a certified individual.
- 16. Does the Radon Section still have a special child care center guidance document for building owners?
 - No. A child care center owner can no longer test the child care center they own.
- 17. If I test licensed child care centers, do I need to take an NRSB or NRPP approved course for schools and large buildings?
 - Yes. You will need to take the 8-hour training course for schools and large buildings and provide the certificate to the Radon Section The "Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Multifamily, School, Commercial and Mixed-Use Buildings," ANSI/AARST MA-MFLB-2023 is required to be followed when testing all licensed child care centers.
- 18. Do I need to take the 8-hour training course(s) before I submit my initial application? You can take the courses at any time, but you cannot test the applicable building types until you submit your course certificate to the Radon Section, and you receive a response that it has been added to your certification.
- 19. What training courses can I take to fulfill the 8-hour training for multifamily, school, and large building types?
 - As of July 17, 2024, the Radon Section confirmed with the training course providers that the following courses are available and they are listed on the NRPP and/or NRSB website, as required by the regulations. The required training course must specifically focus only on these building types. A general course with a small amount of training on multifamily, schools, and large buildings does not fulfill this requirement.

| Course Name | Course Number | Course Provider |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Multifamily Buildings Testing for Radon and Radon Decay Products | (8 CE hours) | #1 Radon Tester, LLC |
| Multi-Family Large Building Measurement | (8 CE hours) | Kansas State University |
| Multifamily Measurement | Spruce-600 (8 CE hours) | Spruce Environmental Technologies |
| Advanced Radon Measurements for Multifamily and other Large Buildings | CERTI-601 (12 CE hours) | Center for Environmental Research and Technology, Inc (CERTI) |
| Addressing Radon in Daycare Facilities, Schools and large Buildings | CERTI-323 (16 CE hours) | Center for Environmental Research and Technology, Inc (CERTI) |

20. Do I need to perform a proficiency test (device performance test)?

Yes, if you use CRM or electret devices, you must perform a proficiency test for each model you use. If you use multiple device models, a proficiency test must be done one time using each device model. Examples of device models are the Sun Nuclear 1028 and Sun Nuclear 1028XP. If you use only a 1028, then one proficiency test for this model is required. If you use both the 1028 and the 1028XP, you will need a proficiency test for both models.

If you use only charcoal canister, liquid scintillation, or alpha track devices, you do not need to perform a proficiency test.

21. How do I perform a proficiency test?

Find an approved test chamber on the NRSB or NRPP website. Fill out their required paperwork and ship the device to the test chamber. The test chamber exposes the device to a known radon concentration for at least 48 hours and ships it back to you. You will analyze the data and report the result to the test chamber on their analysis reporting form. The test chamber compares your result to the actual average radon concentration to which your device was exposed and sends you a report detailing your accuracy and whether you passed the test. Some helpful links for more information are:

Device Training & Calibrations - NRPP and Proficiency Test Info - NRSB

22. Do I need to provide prior notification before testing, including written notice, and follow the minimum requirements to verify test conditions, including the posting of a "test in progress" sign and implementation of a non-interference agreement, as stated in Sections 8.3 and 8.4 of the "Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Homes." ANSI/AARST MAH-2023?

Yes. The certified radon measurement business can decide whether they want to receive this documentation or allow you to keep this information on file.

23. Do I need to use the exact chain of custody form or confidentiality waiver given to me by the business with which I affiliate?

Yes. Do not change the form that is provided to you by the business. Ensure it is filled out completely.

24. What should I do if closed building conditions cannot be met because, for example, the person is in the midst of selling their house and needs it tested, it is 100 degrees, and they have no air conditioning?

In a case like this, where there are extenuating circumstances that absolutely cannot be avoided, if you choose to test while windows are open, you must clearly document the conditions and circumstances (100 degrees, no AC, must test to sell home) on the chain of custody form. The business will also include this information in the client report. The business needs to be able to determine whether the test is valid to report. A business wants to know that every reasonable action was taken to follow protocol and that there were very extenuating circumstances that made it impossible for you to follow it.

- 25. What should I do if the test was interfered with in some way?

 If the test was interfered with, you must clearly document the issue on the chain of custody form so the test can be invalidated.
- 26. When I test a home, am I required to conduct a test in each unique foundation area, such as above a crawl space, in a basement and above a slab, if multiple foundation types are in a home?

"Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Homes." ANSI/AARST MAH-2023 recommends considering testing each foundation area in homes because one test location may not be representative of radon concentrations in or above other foundation types in that home. You should consider testing all unique foundations, but it is not a requirement.