



DIVISION OF MINES  
 BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS  
 CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS  
<http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/dm/default.htm>

**PREPARATION PLANT FOREMAN**

**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: *Preparation Plant Foreman***

This certification authorizes the holder to:

- Perform foreman and/or examiner duties at preparation plant as required by State and Federal Laws and Codes
- Record the findings on on-shift examinations

**NOTE:**

- This certification may be used at Docks.

**APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Application (BCME-1) and \$40.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
- Five years of coal mining experience, at least one year shall be at a preparation plant or appropriately related work experience approved by the Chief of the Division of Mines
- 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

<b><u>ELEMENTS OF EXAM</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER OF QUESTIONS</u></b>
Preparation Plant Examination	100
▪ Electrical and Equipment (EE)	20
▪ First Aid (FA)	20
▪ Federal Regs (FR)	20
▪ Mine Foremanship (MF)	20
▪ Surface Mining Laws (MP)	20
▪ Gas Detection - practical demonstration	20
▪ Records – Practical – Daily and On-Shift Examination (P/O)	20

**RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:**

- Title 30 CFR Part 50, 71, 77
- Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia
- BCME Requirements
- Preparation Plant Foreman Study Guide
- First Aid for Miners Study Guide
- Mine Gases Packet

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 Keen Mountain Field Office (276) 498-4533.