



# MassDEP

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Environmental Protection

## Underground Storage Tank Program Fact Sheet

---

### MassDEP Third-Party Inspector (TPI) Certification *Renewal*

<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/massdep-ust-third-party-inspector-certification-or-renewal>

MassDEP certifies UST TPIs for a period of three years. If a TPI wishes to renew, an application must be submitted to MassDEP's UST Program as described, below.

#### Application Process

1. **Submit 90 days before expiration date.** Please note that certifications are *automatically extended if* a third-party inspector files a renewal application at least 90 days before the expiration date. This automatic extension remains in effect until MassDEP:
  - *Issues* the new certification, **or**
  - *Denies* the application for renewal, **or**
  - *Suspends or revokes* the extended certification
2. **Application Form.** Complete the renewal form located on MassDEP's UST web page, here: [TPI Certification Renewal](#)
  - Include: annual training documentation (described below).
  - Include: documentation showing six or more third party inspections within the prior three- year certification period

#### Training Options for Third Party Inspector (TPI) Certification Renewal

The TPI certification renewal process includes an annual training component. The list below has been approved by MassDEP as allowable training options. Third Party Inspectors who are seeking renewal must choose among the listed trainings and keep records showing registration and completion of training. Please note that training documentation must be submitted as part of the TPI certification renewal application which occurs every three years.

#### **Option #1. Maine Underground Storage Tank Inspector Certification**

The Maine UST Tank Inspector Certification is an on-line training program offered by the state of Maine. Maine requires annual tank inspections conducted by inspectors who are certified by this program. The initial certification and renewal process each satisfy **three (3) consecutive years** of MassDEP's UST TPI annual training requirements. For registration information, please click on this link: [Maine UST Inspector Certification](#).

**(1. A) Initial Certification:** on-line training, plus in-person open book multiple choice exam (includes Maine's regulatory requirements). Note: this option **satisfies three (3) consecutive years** of MassDEP's UST TPI annual training requirements – this means that once the initial

certification is obtained, MassDEP's training requirement has been met for a total of three consecutive years. **Fee: \$250** exam and certification

**(1. B) Renewal:** must demonstrate having obtained eight (8) hours of Board approved continuing education credits and pay the appropriate fee. Note: this option **satisfies three (3) consecutive years** of MassDEP's UST TPI annual training requirements – this means that once the initial renewal is obtained, MassDEP's training requirement has been met for a total of three consecutive years. **Fee: \$150** recertification.

**Additional Required Certifications.** The state of Maine requires the following additional certifications to be certified as a Maine UST Inspector:

- Third-party cathodic protection tester certification is required to conduct the cathodic protection tester portion of the annual inspection.
- Demonstration Certification by the manufacturers of leak detection equipment is required to annually inspect specific brands and models of equipment.

### **Option #2. National ICC UST Certification.**

The ICC certification includes four units of study and exams are taken in-person at Pearson testing centers. **One (1) unit per year** satisfies DEP's annual training requirement. **Fee: \$99** per exam. For more information, please review the description at this link: [ICC UST Certification](#).

The following ICC UST offerings meet the annual training requirement:

[Exam Catalogue - ICC \(iccsafe.org\)](#)

U-1 UST Installation and Retrofitting

U-2 UST Decommissioning

U-3 UST Tank Tightness Testing

U-4 UST Cathodic Protection System

Note that the following study materials are used:

- Operating and Maintaining Underground Storage Tank Systems, August 2000 (EPA 510-K-16-001) updated 2016
- PEI/RP 100 (2011) Recommended Practices for Installation of Underground Liquid Storage Systems
- PEI/RP300 (2009) Recommended Practices for Installation and Testing of Vapor Recovery Systems at Vehicle Fueling Sites

### **Option #3. UST Inspector Course National Petroleum Training Institute (NPTI)**

**The NPTI UST Inspector Course.** The NPTI UST inspector course is an in-person 5-day training offered four times per year. This option satisfies a total of **six (6) consecutive years** of MassDEP's annual training requirement for UST TPIs. This course prepares experienced tank personnel with the specific requirements and tasks necessary for compliance inspection of existing UST's. Details of required inspection items, along with necessary tools and site work are reviewed. Although this course is organized to follow the Maryland Department of the Environment's Inspection Report, this class is

intended for UST inspectors across the U.S. Please click on this link for more information: [UST Inspector Course - NPTI \(nptinstitute.com\)](#). **Fee:** Course and exam **\$1,950**.

#### **Option # 4. UST Inspector Refresher Course (NPTI)**

**UST Inspector Refresher Course.** This is an on-line, one-day virtual course taught live by an instructor offered on four dates through-out the year: Jan/Apr/Aug/Oct. This option satisfies a total of **three (3) consecutive years** of MassDEP's annual training requirements for UST TPIs. Note that this option is only available to NPTI UST certified inspectors. Please click on this link for more information: [UST Refresher Course - Virtual - NPTI \(nptinstitute.com\)](#). **Fee: \$425**

Oriented towards already certified tank inspectors, technicians, and removers in need of continuing education hours for their renewal requirements. This course will focus on the current UST regulations, avoiding common pitfalls with new tank installation, removals, and maintenance/upgrade operations at existing facilities. There will be a review of common problems with properly completing the MDE Third Party UST Inspection Report with an emphasis on specific technologies such as: overfill/spill prevention equipment, leak detection gear, and corrosion control systems.

**Further Information.** MassDEP may approve other training options, but they shall be submitted to MassDEP in advance for review and approval. Please contact the UST Program via email at [dep.ust@mass.gov](mailto:dep.ust@mass.gov). or via the UST Hot line at 617-556-1036.