

Amateur Radio Service

“A radiocommunication service in which radio apparatus are used for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication or technical investigation by individuals who are interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest”.

Privileges vs Qualification

BASIC Qualification:

- access all amateur bands above 30 MHz.
- use a maximum of 250 watts transmitter power.
- build and operate all station equipment, except for "home-made" transmitters.
- Assemble commercially available transmitter kits of professional design.

BASIC with a mark of 80% OR MORSE Code (5 words per minute) OR ADVANCED Qualification:

- Access all amateur bands, including the ones below 30 MHz (national and international).

ADVANCED Qualification:

- use maximum transmitter power of 1000 watts.
- build and operate transmitting equipment.
- establish repeaters and club stations.
- remotely control fixed stations, including the use of radio links.

Activities:

- Digital communications: with the help of computers.
- Distance communications ("DX"): seeking rare countries.
- Public service: community events, emergency relief, search & rescue.
- Low power communications: the thrill of covering long distances with 5 watts or less.
- Space communications: with the Space Station or through satellites.
- Image communications: exchanging images or full-motion video (i.e., television).
- APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System): GPS position reports and weather reports.
- Direction finding: finding hidden transmitters.
- Nets: on-the-air gatherings of like-minded individuals.
- Building equipment: antennas, station accessories, receivers, transmitters, etc.
- Weak signal operation: via the Moon, meteor trails or auroras.
- Contests and awards.

Where to find more information:

Radio Amateur du Québec Inc. <https://raqi.ca/>

Radio Amateurs of Canada <https://www.rac.ca/>