

Guidelines for Granting “Testing Out” of a WASBA Education Level – Approved July 2023

The WASBA Education Committee evaluated the use of the testing out option for students requesting to be allowed to take the test for certification at a specific beekeeping level instead of taking the course and passing the test. These guidelines are recommended when receiving such a request.

The request should be submitted to the person responsible for WASBA Education. They should follow these guidelines.

Testing out of the Beginning Beekeeping Level can be allowed if the following criteria are met by the person making the request:

- Has a minimum of one year with direct hands-on beekeeping.
- Is a member of a beekeeping club and an active participant of the club (if possible).
- Is recommended by an officer of the club or the instructor of the class (if possible).
- Submits a statement about why they wish to test out.

Upon approval of the request the person will purchase a copy of the Beginning Beekeeping Manual following normal ordering procedures through the Executive Director. When payment has been made, the test will be sent to the person by the person responsible for WASBA Education (or their designee). When the test is completed, it will be returned to the person responsible for WASBA Education (or their designee), who will correct it. Assuming the student passes the test, a certificate will be processed and issued. The certificate along with the student’s Progress Form and completed test will be sent to the student.

The cost of testing out of the Beginning level is \$25 which covers the cost of the manual and the processing of the certification.

Testing out of the Apprentice Beekeeping Level can be allowed, but is not recommended unless the following criteria are met by the person making the request:

- Has a minimum of three years with direct hands-on beekeeping,
- Has demonstrated interest in learning about beekeeping by taking classes from other organizations,
- Is an active member of a beekeeping club (if possible),
- Has a recommendation from an officer of the club or the instructor of the course (if possible)
- Submits a statement about why they wish to test out.
- Upon approval of the request the person will purchase a copy of the Apprentice Beekeeping Manual following normal ordering procedures through the Executive Director. When payment has been made, the test will be sent to the person by the person responsible for WASBA Education (or their designee). When the test is completed, it will be returned to the person

responsible for WASBA Education (or their designee), who will correct it. Assuming the student passes the test, a certificate will be processed and issued. The certificate along with the student's Progress Form and completed test will be sent to the student.

- The cost of testing out of the Apprentice level is \$35 which covers the cost of the manual and the processing of the certification.

Testing out of the Journeyman Beekeeping Level is not recommended since that level of beekeeping needs to be familiar with WASBA educational coursework and the experience/service points that are a required part of the certification need to be documented by an instructor.

Testing out of the Craftsman Beekeeping Level is not recommended.

Testing out of the Master Beekeeping Level is not recommended.