



Louisiana Weighmaster Exam Study Guide

A weighmaster should be able to weigh or measure accurately, identify improper weighing procedures, generate correct documentation, and be an impartial observer and recorder of a weighing event. It is against the law for a weighmaster to falsely certify any gross, tare, or net weight or measure.

To do so, a public weighmaster should be familiar with the following terms and definitions:

- **Public Weighing** - The weighing, measuring, or counting, of vehicles, property, produce, commodities, or articles other than those that the weigher or his/her employer is either buying or selling.
- **Weighmaster** - Any person who weighs, measures, or counts any commodity and issues a certificate of weight, measure, or count, except retailers who weigh, measure, or count commodities for sale at retail directly to consumers, or a person engaged in the business of public weighing or measuring for hire.
- **Vehicle** - Any device (except railroad freight cars) in, upon, or by which any property, produce, commodity, or article is or may be transported.
- **Gross Weight** - The weight of material being weighed and the container
- **Tare Weight** - Any material (container or vehicle) not including the material being weighed
- **Net Weight** - Weight of the material being weighed, bought, sold, or exchanged
- **Axle-load Scales** - Scales used for law enforcement of traffic and highway laws
- **Zero Load Balance** - A correct weight indication of zero when there is no load on the scale

A weighmaster should also be familiar with the following Louisiana Weights and Measures Laws and Rules:

R.S. 3:4621(E) Each person who engages in activities which are required by the commissioner to be under the control and supervision of a licensed weighmaster shall employ at least one licensed weighmaster for each shift at each place of business where such activities are conducted.

R.S. 3:4622(C) Each weighmaster who is licensed by the commission shall pay an annual license fee of seventy-five dollars.

LAC 7:XXXV.123

A. A weighmaster license shall be required of each individual in charge of weighing commodities being bought from or sold to the public and each such individual weighing for the public when a charge is made for such weighing or when a certificate of weight is issued. Each corporation, partnership, association, proprietorship or other business entity which engages in activities which require a licensed weighmaster shall employ at least one weighmaster per shift at each place of business. Individuals weighing at retail consumer outlets and individuals weighing prepackaged commodities shall be exempt from this provision.

B. The director of the Division of Weights and Measures may issue a weighmaster license after the applicant has passed the required test of his knowledge of weighing equipment.

C. This weighmaster license would be good for one calendar year, beginning January 1 through the month of December, or any part of the calendar year, but would have to be renewed at least 15 days before the beginning of each calendar year.

D. The director of the Division of Weights and Measures shall have the authority to revoke or cancel any weighmaster license if it is found that the weighmaster is improperly using any type of weighing device.

Other things that all weighmaster must know:

- 1) When a vehicle scale is used commercially, it must be long enough to weigh the entire vehicle as a single unit.
- 2) Axle scales (which are not long enough to weigh the entire vehicle) can only be officially used to enforce traffic and highway laws. They may not be used commercially.
- 3) The haulers or owners of the materials being weighed must be allowed to observe the weighing of their commodities.
- 4) If a weighmaster believes that his/her scale is not functioning properly. he/she should discontinue the use of the scale and report the problem to the party responsible for its maintenance.
- 5) Once a scale has been adjusted or repaired, it must be tested and inspected for accuracy before it is put back into service.
- 6) A weighmaster must do the following: (a) balance and zero his/her scale at the beginning of each day and check it before each load is weighed; (b) check the zero load balance when changing shifts; and (c) not leave unused or partially used scale tickets laying around the scale location.

The Weighmaster Exam may be found at:

<http://www.ldaf.state.la.us>. Look at the blue border on the left hand side and click on “Pay Online” then “Weights and Measures Online Payment Services” and finally “Study Guides and Online Exams.”

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