WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §22a-8-3

§22A-8-3. Permit of apprenticeship-underground miner.

A permit of apprenticeship-underground miner shall be issued by the director to any person who has demonstrated by examination a knowledge of the subjects and skills pertaining to employment in underground mines, including, but not limited to, general safety, first aid, miner and operator rights and responsibilities, general principles of electricity, general mining hazards, roof control, ventilation, mine health and sanitation, mine mapping, state and federal mining laws and regulations and such other subjects as may be required by the board of miner training, education and certification: Provided, That each applicant for said permit shall complete a program of education and training of at least eighty hours, which shall be determined by the Board of Miner Training, Education and Certification and provided for and implemented by the director: Provided, however, That if a sufficient number of qualified applicants having successfully completed the state training program provided by the Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training are not available, the operator may request approval from the director to conduct the operator's own preemployment training program so long as such training adequately covers the minimum criteria determined by the board and such trainees shall be eligible for the same certification as provided for trainees undergoing training provided by the state.