Initially developed by Dr. Roger A. Morse at Cornell University, the EAS Master Beekeeper certification program has existed for many years as a level of beekeeping expertise certified through the rigorous testing established and maintained through the organization.

The purpose of the program is to identify and certify people who have a detailed knowledge of honey bee biology, expertise in the proper practices of beekeeping, and can present this information to the beekeeping and non-beekeeping public in a detailed, accurate, clear and authoritative manner. The goal of this program is to certify that those who are awarded the Master Beekeepers Certificate are competent at a college level in the four areas where they are tested.

Deadline for application is June 1st, and the certification program costs $100. If an individual fails an exam, they are charged $25 for each section retaken. Conducted in conjunction with the annual EAS Short Course and Conference, candidates must register and pay for all three days of the main conference.

ELIGIBILITY: Any experienced beekeeper is eligible to apply for certification as a Master Beekeeper. Persons interested in applying should have a minimum of 5 years as a serious beekeeper in some aspect of apiary management such as a very dedicated hobbyist, a commercial beekeeper, working for a commercial beekeeper or as an apiary inspector.

Applicants are provided with a subject outline and a list of references, and a pre-exam review is available to applicants before the examinations are administered.

Testing will consist of:
  Written examination on knowledge of all aspects of beekeeping
  Laboratory examination on recognition of diseases, equipment and proper practices and
  Field Exam on the proper explanation of beekeeping practices and on handling of bee colonies.
  Oral examination on knowledge and ability to communicate effectively to both beekeepers and public.

RETAKING A SECTION OF THE EXAM: A section of the exam can be retaken. It is not necessary to repeat sections of the exam that have already been passed. Candidates taking the exam must complete all sections of the exam within five years of first test attempt.