CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 5210

Chapter 211, Laws of 2003

58th Legislature
2003 Regular Session

ELECTRICIANS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/27/03

Passed by the Senate March 12, 2003
YEAS 49  NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN
President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 16, 2003
YEAS 97  NAYS 0

FRANK CHOPP
Speaker of the House of Representatives

CERTIFICATE

I, Milton H. Doumit, Jr., Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 5210 as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

MILTON H. DOUMIT JR.
Secretary

Approved May 9, 2003.

FILED
May 9, 2003 - 4:27 p.m.

GARY LOCKE
Governor of the State of Washington

Secretary of State
State of Washington
AN ACT Relating to electrician certification; and amending RCW 19.28.191.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Sec. 1. RCW 19.28.191 and 2002 c 249 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to take an examination for the master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty electrician certificate of competency.

(a) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid journeyman electrician certificate of competency in effect for the previous four years and a valid general administrator's certificate may apply for a master journeyman electrician certificate of competency without examination.

(b) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in the specialty
applied for, for the previous two years and a valid specialty administrator's certificate, in the specialty applied for, may apply for a master specialty electrician certificate of competency without examination.

(c) To be eligible to take the examination for a master journeyman electrician certificate of competency the applicant must have possessed a valid journeyman electrician certificate of competency for four years.

(d) To be eligible to take the examination for a master specialty electrician certificate of competency the applicant must have possessed a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in the specialty applied for, for two years.

(e) To be eligible to take the examination for a journeyman certificate of competency the applicant must have:

(i) Worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of eight thousand hours, of which four thousand hours shall be in industrial or commercial electrical installation under the supervision of a master journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician and not more than a total of four thousand hours in all specialties under the supervision of a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. Speciality electricians with less than a four thousand hour work experience requirement cannot credit the time required to obtain that specialty towards qualifying to become a journeyman electrician; or

(ii) Successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade.

(f) To be eligible to take the examination for a specialty electrician certificate of competency the applicant must have:

(i) Worked in the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(b)(i)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(c)), limited energy (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(e)(i)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(f)(i)), or other new nonresidential specialties as determined by the department in rule, under the supervision of a master journeyman electrician,
journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that
electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that
electrician's specialty for a minimum of four thousand hours; or

(ii) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as determined by the
department in rule, restricted nonresidential maintenance as determined
by the department in rule, or a specialty other than the designated
specialties in (f)(i) of this subsection for a minimum of the initial
ninety days, or longer if set by rule by the department. The
restricted nonresidential maintenance specialty is limited to a maximum
of 277 volts and 20 amperes for lighting branch circuits and/or a
maximum of 250 volts and 60 amperes for other circuits, but excludes
the replacement or repair of circuit breakers. The initial period must
be spent under one hundred percent supervision of a master journeyman
electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician
working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician
working in that electrician's specialty. After this initial period, a
person may take the specialty examination. If the person passes the
examination, the person may work unsupervised for the balance of the
minimum hours required for certification. A person may not be
certified as a specialty electrician in the appliance repair specialty
or in a specialty other than the designated specialities in (f)(i) of
this subsection, however, until the person has worked a minimum of two
thousand hours in that specialty, or longer if set by rule by the
department; or

(iii) Successfully completed an approved apprenticeship program
under chapter 49.04 RCW for the applicant's specialty in the electrical
construction trade.

(g) Any applicant for a journeyman electrician certificate of
competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the
electrical construction trade at public community or technical
colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade
schools licensed by the work force training and education coordinating
board under chapter 28C.10 RCW may substitute up to two years of the
technical or trade school program for two years of work experience
under a master journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician. The
applicant shall obtain the additional two years of work experience
required in industrial or commercial electrical installation prior to
the beginning, or after the completion, of the technical school
program. Any applicant who has received training in the electrical construction trade in the armed service of the United States may be eligible to apply armed service work experience towards qualification to take the examination for the journeyman electrician certificate of competency.

(h) An applicant for a specialty electrician certificate of competency who, after January 1, 2000, has successfully completed a two-year program in the electrical construction trade at a public community or technical college, or a not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade school licensed by the work force training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may substitute up to one year of the technical or trade school program for one year of work experience under a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. Any applicant who has received training in the electrical construction trade in the armed services of the United States may be eligible to apply armed service work experience towards qualification to take the examination for an appropriate specialty electrician certificate of competency.

(i) The department must determine whether hours of training and experience in the armed services or school program are in the electrical construction trade and appropriate as a substitute for hours of work experience. The department must use the following criteria for evaluating the equivalence of classroom electrical training programs and work in the electrical construction trade:

(i) A two-year electrical training program must consist of three thousand or more hours.

(ii) In a two-year electrical training program, a minimum of two thousand four hundred hours of student/instructor contact time must be technical electrical instruction directly related to the scope of work of the electrical specialty. Student/instructor contact time includes lecture and in-school lab.

(iii) The department may not allow credit for a program that accepts more than one thousand hours transferred from another school's program.

(iv) Electrical specialty training school programs of less than two
1 years will have all of the above student/instructor contact time hours
2 proportionately reduced. Such programs may not apply to more than
3 fifty percent of the work experience required to attain certification.
4  (v) Electrical training programs of less than two years may not be
5 credited towards qualification for journeyman electrician unless the
6 training program is used to gain qualification for a four thousand hour
7 electrical specialty.
8  (j) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.
9  (2) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the
10 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. In
11 establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the board.
12 Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the
13 examination, the department shall so notify the applicant, indicating
14 the time and place for taking the examination.
15  (3) No noncertified individual may work unsupervised more than one
16 year beyond the date when the trainee would be eligible to test for a
17 certificate of competency if working on a full-time basis after
18 original application for the trainee certificate. For the purposes of
19 this section, full-time basis means two thousand hours.
   Passed by the Senate March 12, 2003.
   Approved by the Governor May 9, 2003.
   Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 9, 2003.