
HOUSE BILL 1931

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Conway, Cody, Cole, Romero, Voloria, Chopp,
Dickerson, Costa and Mason

Read first time 02/15/95. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to apprenticeship for electricians; amending RCW
2 19.28.510, 19.28.530, and 19.28.620; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.510 and 1983 c 206 s 13 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) No person may engage in the electrical construction trade
7 without having a current journeyman electrician certificate of
8 competency or a current specialty electrician certificate of competency
9 issued by the department in accordance with this chapter. Electrician
10 certificate of competency specialties include, but are not limited to:
11 Residential, domestic appliances, pump and irrigation, limited energy
12 system, signs, and nonresidential maintenance.

13 (2) A person who is indentured in an apprenticeship program
14 approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade
15 (~~or who is learning the electrical construction trade~~) may work in
16 the electrical construction trade if supervised by a certified
17 journeyman electrician or a certified specialty electrician in that
18 electrician's specialty. All apprentices (~~and individuals learning~~
19 ~~the electrical construction trade~~) shall obtain an electrical training

1 certificate from the department. The certificate shall authorize the
2 holder to learn the electrical construction trade while under the
3 direct supervision of a journeyman electrician or a specialty
4 electrician working in his or her specialty. The holder of the
5 electrical training certificate shall renew the certificate annually.
6 At the time of renewal, the holder shall provide the department with an
7 accurate list of the holder's employers in the electrical construction
8 industry for the previous year and the number of hours worked for each
9 employer as well as the number of hours of related supplemental
10 training completed that year. An annual fee shall be charged for the
11 issuance or renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the
12 fee by rule. The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of
13 administering and enforcing the ((~~trainee~~)) apprenticeship
14 certification and supervision requirements of this chapter.
15 Apprentices ((~~and individuals~~)) learning the electrical construction
16 trade shall have their electrical ((~~training~~)) apprenticeship
17 certificates in their possession at all times that they are performing
18 electrical work. They shall show their certificates to an authorized
19 representative of the department at the representative's request.

20 (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical ((~~training~~))
21 apprenticeship certificate under this chapter may work if that person
22 is under supervision. Supervision shall consist of a person being on
23 the same job site and under the control of either a journeyman
24 electrician or an appropriate specialty electrician who has an
25 applicable certificate of competency issued under this chapter. Either
26 a journeyman electrician or an appropriate specialty electrician shall
27 be on the same job site as the ((~~noncertified individual~~)) apprentice
28 for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each working day unless
29 otherwise provided in this chapter. The ratio of ((~~noncertified~~
30 ~~individuals~~)) apprentices to certified journeymen or specialty
31 electricians working on a job site shall be((÷

32 ~~(a) From September 1, 1979, through December 31, 1982, not more~~
33 ~~than three noncertified electricians working on any one job site for~~
34 ~~every certified journeyman or specialty electrician;~~

35 ~~(b) Effective January 1, 1983, not more than two noncertified~~
36 ~~individuals working on any one job site for every specialty electrician~~
37 ~~or journeyman electrician working as a specialty electrician;~~

1 ~~(e))~~, effective January 1, ((1983)) 1996, not more than one
2 ~~((noncertified individual))~~ apprentice working on any one job site for
3 every certified journeyman electrician.

4 The ratio requirements do not apply to a trade school program in
5 the electrical construction trade established during 1946.

6 An individual who has a current training certificate and who has
7 successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved
8 apprenticeship program ~~((or in a technical school program in the
9 electrical construction trade in a school approved by the commission
10 for vocational education))~~ under chapter 49.04 RCW, may work without
11 direct on-site supervision during the last six months of meeting the
12 practical experience requirements of this chapter.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.530 and 1988 c 81 s 13 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review
16 the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to take
17 an examination for the journeyman or specialty certificate of
18 competency. To be eligible to take the examination for a journeyman
19 certificate the applicant must have worked in the electrical
20 construction trade for a minimum of four years employed full time, of
21 which two years shall be in industrial or commercial electrical
22 installation under the supervision of a journeyman electrician
23 certified under this chapter and not more than a total of two years in
24 all specialties under the supervision of a journeyman electrician
25 certified under this chapter or an appropriate specialty electrician
26 certified under this chapter or have successfully completed an
27 apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the
28 electrical construction trade. To be eligible to take the examination
29 to become a specialty electrician the applicant shall have worked in
30 that specialty of the electrical construction trade, under the
31 supervision of a journeyman electrician certified under this chapter or
32 an appropriate specialty electrician certified under this chapter, for
33 a minimum of two years employed full time, or have successfully
34 completed an approved apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04 RCW
35 for the applicant's specialty in the electrical construction trade.
36 ~~((Before January 1, 1984, applicants for nonresidential maintenance
37 specialty licenses are eligible to become nonresidential maintenance
38 specialists upon certification to the department that they have the~~

1 equivalent of two years full-time experience in that specialty field.
2 Persons applying before January 1, 1984, for a journeyman certificate
3 are eligible to take the examination to become journeymen until July 1,
4 1984, upon certification to the department that they have the
5 equivalent of five years full-time experience in nonresidential
6 maintenance, of which two years shall be in industrial electrical
7 installation. Any applicant who has successfully completed a two-year
8 technical school program in the electrical construction trade in a
9 school that is approved by the commission for vocational education may
10 substitute up to two years of the technical school program for two
11 years of work experience under a journeyman electrician. The applicant
12 shall obtain the additional two years of work experience required in
13 industrial or commercial electrical installation prior to the
14 beginning, or after the completion, of the technical school program.
15 Any applicant who has received training in the electrical construction
16 trade in the armed service of the United States may be eligible to take
17 the examination for the certificate of competency. Any applicant who
18 is a graduate of a trade school program in the electrical construction
19 trade that was established during 1946 is eligible to take the
20 examination for the certificate of competency. No other requirement
21 for eligibility may be imposed.))

22 (2) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the
23 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. In
24 establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the board.
25 Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the
26 examination, the department shall so notify the applicant, indicating
27 the time and place for taking the examination.

28 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.28.620 and 1988 c 81 s 16 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation,
31 or other entity to employ an individual for purposes of RCW 19.28.510
32 through 19.28.620 who has not been issued a certificate of competency
33 or ((a training)) an apprenticeship certificate. It is unlawful for
34 any individual to engage in the electrical construction trade or to
35 maintain or install any electrical equipment or conductors without
36 having in his or her possession a certificate of competency or ((a
37 training)) an apprenticeship certificate under RCW 19.28.510 through
38 19.28.620. Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity

1 found in violation of RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall be assessed
2 a penalty of not less than fifty dollars or more than five hundred
3 dollars. The department shall set by rule a schedule of penalties for
4 violating RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620. An appeal may be made to
5 the board as is provided in RCW 19.28.350. The appeal shall be filed
6 within fifteen days after the notice of the penalty is given to the
7 assessed party by certified mail, return receipt requested, sent to the
8 last known address of the assessed party and shall be made by filing a
9 written notice of appeal with the department. Any equipment maintained
10 or installed by any person who does not possess a certificate of
11 competency under RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 shall not receive an
12 electrical work permit and electrical service shall not be connected or
13 maintained to operate the equipment. Each day that a person, firm,
14 partnership, corporation, or other entity violates the provisions of
15 RCW 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 is a separate violation.

16 (2) A civil penalty shall be collected in a civil action brought by
17 the attorney general in the county wherein the alleged violation arose
18 at the request of the department if any of the provisions of RCW
19 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 or any rules promulgated under RCW
20 19.28.510 through 19.28.620 are violated.

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