

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 6630**

Chapter 249, Laws of 2002

57th Legislature  
2002 Regular Session

**ELECTRICIANS**

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/13/02

Passed by the Senate March 11, 2002  
YEAS 43 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 8, 2002  
YEAS 95 NAYS 1

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 6630** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

TONY M. COOK

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary**

Approved March 29, 2002

FILED

March 29, 2002 - 3:44 p.m.

GARY LOCKE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 6630

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2002 Regular Session

State of Washington                      57th Legislature                      2002 Regular Session

By Senators Prentice, Honeyford, Rasmussen and Sheahan

Read first time 01/23/2002. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Financial Institutions.

1            AN ACT Relating to certification of electricians; and amending RCW  
2 19.28.006, 19.28.041, 19.28.061, 19.28.161, 19.28.191, 19.28.201,  
3 19.28.211, and 19.28.241.

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

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.006 and 2001 c 211 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7            The definitions in this section apply throughout this subchapter.

8            (1) "Administrator" means a person designated by an electrical  
9 contractor to supervise electrical work and electricians in accordance  
10 with the rules adopted under this chapter.

11            (2) "Board" means the electrical board under RCW 19.28.311.

12            (3) "Chapter" or "subchapter" means the subchapter, if no chapter  
13 number is referenced.

14            (4) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

15            (5) "Director" means the director of the department or the  
16 director's designee.

17            (6) "Electrical construction trade" includes but is not limited to  
18 installing or maintaining electrical wires and equipment that are used  
19 for light, heat, or power and installing and maintaining remote

1 control, signaling, power limited, or communication circuits or  
2 systems.

3 (7) "Electrical contractor" means a person, firm, partnership,  
4 corporation, or other entity that offers to undertake, undertakes,  
5 submits a bid for, or does the work of installing or maintaining wires  
6 or equipment that convey electrical current.

7 (8) "Equipment" means any equipment or apparatus that directly  
8 uses, conducts, insulates, or is operated by electricity but does not  
9 mean: Plug-in ((household)) appliances; or plug-in equipment as  
10 determined by the department by rule.

11 (9) "Industrial control panel" means a factory-wired or user-wired  
12 assembly of industrial control equipment such as motor controllers,  
13 switches, relays, power supplies, computers, cathode ray tubes,  
14 transducers, and auxiliary devices. The panel may include disconnect  
15 means and motor branch circuit protective devices.

16 (10) "Journeyman electrician" means a person who has been issued a  
17 journeyman electrician certificate of competency by the department.

18 (11) "Master electrician" means either a master journeyman  
19 electrician or master specialty electrician.

20 (12) "Master journeyman electrician" means a person who has been  
21 issued a master journeyman electrician certificate of competency by the  
22 department and who may be designated by an electrical contractor to  
23 supervise electrical work and electricians in accordance with rules  
24 adopted under this chapter.

25 (13) "Master specialty electrician" means a person who has been  
26 issued a specialty electrician certificate of competency by the  
27 department and who may be designated by an electrical contractor to  
28 supervise electrical work and electricians in accordance with rules  
29 adopted under this chapter.

30 (14) "Specialty electrician" means a person who has been issued a  
31 specialty electrician certificate of competency by the department.

32 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.041 and 2001 c 211 s 3 are each amended to read  
33 as follows:

34 (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation,  
35 or other entity to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of  
36 installing or maintaining wires or equipment to convey electric  
37 current, or installing or maintaining equipment to be operated by  
38 electric current as it pertains to the electrical industry, without

1 having an unrevoked, unsuspended, and unexpired electrical contractor  
2 license, issued by the department in accordance with this chapter. All  
3 electrical contractor licenses expire twenty-four calendar months  
4 following the day of their issue. The department may issue an  
5 electrical contractors license for a period of less than twenty-four  
6 months only for the purpose of equalizing the number of electrical  
7 contractor licenses that expire each month. Application for an  
8 electrical contractor license shall be made in writing to the  
9 department, accompanied by the required fee. The application shall  
10 state:

11 (a) The name and address of the applicant; in case of firms or  
12 partnerships, the names of the individuals composing the firm or  
13 partnership; in case of corporations, the names of the managing  
14 officials thereof;

15 (b) The location of the place of business of the applicant and the  
16 name under which the business is conducted;

17 (c) Employer social security number;

18 (d) Evidence of workers' compensation coverage for the applicant's  
19 employees working in Washington, as follows:

20 (i) The applicant's industrial insurance account number issued by  
21 the department;

22 (ii) The applicant's self-insurer number issued by the department;  
23 or

24 (iii) For applicants domiciled in a state or province of Canada  
25 subject to an agreement entered into under RCW 51.12.120(7), as  
26 permitted by the agreement, filing a certificate of coverage issued by  
27 the agency that administers the workers' compensation law in the  
28 applicant's state or province of domicile certifying that the applicant  
29 has secured the payment of compensation under the other state's or  
30 province's workers' compensation law;

31 (e) Employment security department number;

32 (f) State excise tax registration number;

33 (g) Unified business identifier (UBI) account number may be  
34 substituted for the information required by (d) of this subsection if  
35 the applicant will not employ employees in Washington, and by (e) and  
36 (f) of this subsection; and

37 (h) Whether a general or specialty electrical contractor license is  
38 sought and, if the latter, the type of specialty. Electrical  
39 contractor specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential,

1 ((~~domestic appliances,~~)) pump and irrigation, limited energy system,  
2 signs, nonresidential maintenance, restricted nonresidential  
3 maintenance, appliance repair, and a combination specialty. A general  
4 electrical contractor license shall grant to the holder the right to  
5 engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or  
6 maintaining wires or equipment to carry electric current, and  
7 installing or maintaining equipment, or installing or maintaining  
8 material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated  
9 by electric current, in the state of Washington. A specialty  
10 electrical contractor license shall grant to the holder a limited right  
11 to engage in, conduct, or carry on the business of installing or  
12 maintaining wires or equipment to carry electrical current, and  
13 installing or maintaining equipment; or installing or maintaining  
14 material to fasten or insulate such wires or equipment to be operated  
15 by electric current in the state of Washington as expressly allowed by  
16 the license.

17 (2) The department may verify the workers' compensation coverage  
18 information provided by the applicant under subsection (1)(d) of this  
19 section, including but not limited to information regarding the  
20 coverage of an individual employee of the applicant. If coverage is  
21 provided under the laws of another state, the department may notify the  
22 other state that the applicant is employing employees in Washington.

23 (3) The application for ((a)) an electrical contractor license  
24 shall be accompanied by a bond in the sum of four thousand dollars with  
25 the state of Washington named as obligee in the bond, with good and  
26 sufficient surety, to be approved by the department. The bond shall at  
27 all times be kept in full force and effect, and any cancellation or  
28 revocation thereof, or withdrawal of the surety therefrom, suspends the  
29 license issued to the principal until a new bond has been filed and  
30 approved as provided in this section. Upon approval of a bond, the  
31 department shall on the next business day deposit the fee accompanying  
32 the application in the electrical license fund and shall file the bond  
33 in the office. The department shall upon request furnish to any  
34 person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity a certified  
35 copy of the bond upon the payment of a fee that the department shall  
36 set by rule. The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of furnishing  
37 the certified copy. The bond shall be conditioned that in any  
38 installation or maintenance of wires or equipment to convey electrical  
39 current, and equipment to be operated by electrical current, the

1 principal will comply with the provisions of this chapter and with any  
2 electrical ordinance, building code, or regulation of a city or town  
3 adopted pursuant to RCW 19.28.010(3) that is in effect at the time of  
4 entering into a contract. The bond shall be conditioned further that  
5 the principal will pay for all labor, including employee benefits, and  
6 material furnished or used upon the work, taxes and contributions to  
7 the state of Washington, and all damages that may be sustained by any  
8 person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity due to a  
9 failure of the principal to make the installation or maintenance in  
10 accordance with this chapter or any applicable ordinance, building  
11 code, or regulation of a city or town adopted pursuant to RCW  
12 19.28.010(3). In lieu of the surety bond required by this section the  
13 license applicant may file with the department a cash deposit or other  
14 negotiable security acceptable to the department. If the license  
15 applicant has filed a cash deposit, the department shall deposit the  
16 funds in a special trust savings account in a commercial bank, mutual  
17 savings bank, or savings and loan association and shall pay annually to  
18 the depositor the interest derived from the account.

19 (4) The department shall issue general or specialty electrical  
20 contractor licenses to applicants meeting all of the requirements of  
21 this chapter. The provisions of this chapter relating to the licensing  
22 of any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity  
23 including the requirement of a bond with the state of Washington named  
24 as obligee therein and the collection of a fee therefor, are exclusive,  
25 and no political subdivision of the state of Washington may require or  
26 issue any licenses or bonds or charge any fee for the same or a similar  
27 purpose. No person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity  
28 holding more than one specialty contractor license under this chapter  
29 may be required to pay an annual fee for more than one such license or  
30 to post more than one four thousand dollar bond, equivalent cash  
31 deposit, or other negotiable security.

32 (5) To obtain a general or specialty electrical contractor license  
33 the applicant must designate an individual who currently possesses  
34 ~~((an))~~ a valid master journeyman electrician's certificate of  
35 competency, master specialty electrician's certificate of competency in  
36 the specialty for which application has been made, or administrator's  
37 certificate as a general electrical contractor administrator or as a  
38 specialty electrical contractor administrator in the specialty for  
39 which application has been made.

1       (6) Administrator certificate specialties include but are not  
2 limited to: Residential, (~~domestic, appliance,~~) pump and irrigation,  
3 limited energy system, signs, nonresidential maintenance, restricted  
4 nonresidential maintenance, appliance repair, and combination  
5 specialty. To obtain an administrator's certificate an individual must  
6 pass an examination as set forth in RCW 19.28.051 unless the applicant  
7 was a licensed electrical contractor at any time during 1974.  
8 Applicants who were electrical contractors licensed by the state of  
9 Washington at any time during 1974 are entitled to receive a general  
10 electrical contractor administrator's certificate without examination  
11 if the applicants apply prior to January 1, 1984. The board of  
12 electrical examiners shall certify to the department the names of all  
13 persons who are entitled to either a general or specialty electrical  
14 contractor administrator's certificate.

15       **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.28.061 and 1996 c 241 s 3 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17       (1) Each applicant for an electrical contractor's license, other  
18 than an individual, shall designate a supervisory employee or member of  
19 the firm to take the required master electrician's or administrator's  
20 examination. Effective July 1, 1987, a supervisory employee designated  
21 as the electrical contractor's master electrician or administrator  
22 shall be a full-time supervisory employee. This person shall be  
23 designated as master electrician or administrator under the license.  
24 No person may concurrently qualify as master electrician or  
25 administrator for more than one contractor. If the relationship of the  
26 master electrician or administrator with the electrical contractor is  
27 terminated, the contractor's license is void within ninety days unless  
28 another master electrician or administrator is qualified by the board.  
29 However, if the master electrician or administrator dies or is  
30 otherwise incapacitated, the contractor's license is void within one  
31 hundred eighty days unless another master electrician or administrator  
32 is qualified by the board. (~~(A certificate issued under this section~~  
33 ~~is valid for two years from the nearest birthdate of the administrator,~~  
34 ~~unless revoked or suspended, and further is nontransferable.)) The  
35 contractor must notify the department in writing within ten days if the  
36 master electrician's or administrator's relationship with the  
37 contractor terminates due to the master electrician's or  
38 administrator's death or incapacitation.~~

1       (2) The department must issue an administrator's certificate to all  
2 applicants who have passed the examination as provided in RCW 19.28.051  
3 and this section, and who have complied with the rules adopted under  
4 this chapter. The administrator's certificate must bear the date of  
5 issuance, expires on the holder's birthday, and is nontransferable.  
6 The certificate must be renewed every three years, upon application, on  
7 or before the holder's birthday.

8       (a) If the certificate holder demonstrates to the department that  
9 he or she has satisfactorily completed an annual eight-hour continuing  
10 education course, the certificate may be renewed by appropriate  
11 application without examination unless the certificate has been  
12 revoked, suspended, or not renewed within ninety days after the  
13 expiration date.

14       (b) The contents and requirements for satisfactory completion of  
15 the continuing education course must be determined by the director and  
16 approved by the board.

17       (c) The department must accept proof of a certificate holder's  
18 satisfactory completion of a continuing education course offered in  
19 another state as meeting the requirements for maintaining a current  
20 Washington state certificate if the department is satisfied the course  
21 is comparable in nature to that required in Washington state for  
22 maintaining a current certificate.

23       (3) A fee must be assessed for each administrator's certificate and  
24 for each renewal. An individual holding more than one administrator's  
25 certificate under this chapter is not required to pay fees for more  
26 than one certificate. The department must set the fees by rule for  
27 issuance and renewal of a certificate. The fees must cover, but not  
28 exceed, the costs of issuing the certificates and of administering and  
29 enforcing the administrator certification requirements of this chapter.

30       (4) The department may deny an application for an administrator's  
31 certificate for up to two years if the applicant's previous  
32 administrator's certificate has been revoked for a serious violation  
33 and all appeals concerning the revocation have been exhausted. For the  
34 purposes of this section only, a serious violation is a violation that  
35 presents imminent danger to the public. The certificate may be renewed  
36 for a ((two-year)) three-year period without examination by appropriate  
37 application unless the certificate has been revoked, suspended, or not  
38 renewed within ninety days after the expiration date. If the  
39 certificate is not renewed before the expiration date, the individual



1 shall pay twice the usual fee. (~~An individual holding more than one~~  
2 ~~administrator's certificate under this chapter shall not be required to~~  
3 ~~pay annual fees for more than one certificate.~~) A person may take the  
4 administrator's (~~test~~) examination as many times as necessary to pass  
5 without limit.

6 (~~(2)~~) (5) The designated master electrician or administrator  
7 shall:

8 (a) Be a member of the firm or a supervisory employee and shall be  
9 available during working hours to carry out the duties of an  
10 administrator under this section;

11 (b) Ensure that all electrical work complies with the electrical  
12 installation laws and rules of the state;

13 (c) Ensure that the proper electrical safety procedures are used;

14 (d) Ensure that all electrical labels, permits, and licenses  
15 required to perform electrical work are used;

16 (e) See that corrective notices issued by an inspecting authority  
17 are complied with; and

18 (f) Notify the department in writing within ten days if the master  
19 electrician or administrator terminates the relationship with the  
20 electrical contractor.

21 (~~(3)~~) (6) The department shall not by rule change the  
22 administrator's duties under subsection (~~(2)~~) (5) of this section.

23 **Sec. 4.** RCW 19.28.161 and 1997 c 309 s 1 are each amended to read  
24 as follows:

25 (1) No person may engage in the electrical construction trade  
26 without having a (~~current~~) valid master journeyman electrician  
27 certificate of competency, journeyman electrician certificate of  
28 competency, master specialty electrician certificate of competency, or  
29 (~~a current~~) specialty electrician certificate of competency issued by  
30 the department in accordance with this chapter. Electrician  
31 certificate of competency specialties include, but are not limited to:  
32 Residential, (~~domestic appliances,~~) pump and irrigation, limited  
33 energy system, signs, (~~and~~) nonresidential maintenance, restricted  
34 nonresidential maintenance, and appliance repair.

35 (2) A person who is indentured in an apprenticeship program  
36 approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade  
37 or who is learning the electrical construction trade may work in the  
38 electrical construction trade if supervised by a certified master

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

25 (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical training  
26 certificate under this chapter may work if that person is under  
27 supervision. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same  
28 job site and under the control of either a certified master journeyman  
29 electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician  
30 working in that electrician's specialty, or ((an-appropriate))  
31 specialty electrician ((who-has-an-applicable-certificate-of-competency  
32 issued-under-this-chapter)) working in that electrician's specialty.  
33 Either a certified master journeyman electrician, journeyman  
34 electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's  
35 specialty, or ((an-appropriate)) specialty electrician working in that  
36 electrician's specialty shall be on the same job site as the  
37 noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each  
38 working day unless otherwise provided in this chapter.

1 (4) The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified master  
2 journeymen electricians, journeymen electricians, master specialty  
3 electricians, or specialty electricians ((working)) on ((a)) any one  
4 job site ((shall be)) is as follows:

5 (a) When working as a specialty electrician, not more than two  
6 noncertified individuals ((working on any one job site)) for every  
7 certified master specialty electrician working in that electrician's  
8 specialty, specialty electrician working in that electrician's  
9 specialty, master journeyman electrician, or journeyman electrician  
10 ((working as a specialty electrician)), except that the ratio  
11 requirements are one certified master specialty electrician working in  
12 that electrician's specialty, specialty electrician working in that  
13 electrician's specialty, master journeyman electrician, or journeyman  
14 electrician working as a specialty electrician to no more than four  
15 students enrolled in and working as part of an electrical construction  
16 program at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit  
17 nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the work  
18 force training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10  
19 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in an  
20 electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade school may  
21 receive input and advice from the electrical board; and

22 (b) When working as a journeyman electrician, not more than one  
23 noncertified individual ((working on any one job site)) for every  
24 certified master journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician,  
25 except that the ratio requirements shall be one certified master  
26 journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician to no more than four  
27 students enrolled in and working as part of an electrical construction  
28 program at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit  
29 nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the work  
30 force training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10  
31 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in an  
32 electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade school may  
33 receive input and advice from the electrical board.

34 An individual who has a current training certificate and who has  
35 successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved  
36 apprenticeship program or in an electrical construction program at  
37 public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally  
38 accredited technical or trade schools licensed by the work force  
39 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may

1 work without direct on-site supervision during the last six months of  
2 meeting the practical experience requirements of this chapter.

3 (5) For the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(a)),  
4 pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(b)(i)), sign  
5 (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(c)), limited energy (as specified  
6 in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(e)(i)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified  
7 in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(f)(i)), restricted nonresidential maintenance as  
8 determined by the department in rule, or other new nonresidential  
9 specialties, not including appliance repair, as determined by the  
10 department in rule, either a master journeyman electrician, journeyman  
11 electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's  
12 specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's  
13 specialty must be on the same job site as the noncertified individual  
14 for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each working day. Other  
15 specialties must meet the requirements specified in RCW  
16 19.28.191(1)(f)(ii). When the ratio of certified electricians to  
17 noncertified individuals on a job site is one certified electrician to  
18 three or four noncertified individuals, the certified electrician must:

19 (a) Directly supervise and instruct the noncertified individuals  
20 and the certified electrician may not directly make or engage in an  
21 electrical installation; and

22 (b) Be on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a  
23 minimum of one hundred percent of each working day.

24 (6) The electrical contractor shall accurately verify and attest to  
25 the electrical trainee hours worked by electrical trainees on behalf of  
26 the electrical contractor.

27 **Sec. 5.** RCW 19.28.191 and 1997 c 309 s 3 are each amended to read  
28 as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 (i) Worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of  
18 ((four years employed full time)) eight thousand hours, of which ((two  
19 years)) four thousand hours shall be in industrial or commercial  
20 electrical installation under the supervision of a master journeyman  
21 electrician or journeyman electrician and not more than a total of  
22 ((two years)) four thousand hours in all specialties under the  
23 supervision of a ((journeyman electrician or an appropriate specialty  
24 electrician)) master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician,  
25 master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty,  
26 or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty.  
27 Speciality electricians with less than a four thousand hour work  
28 experience requirement cannot credit the time required to obtain that  
29 specialty towards qualifying to become a journeyman electrician; or

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

32 ~~((b))~~ (f) To be eligible to take the examination ((to become))  
33 for a specialty electrician certificate of competency the applicant  
34 ((shall)) must have:

35 (i) Worked in ((that specialty of the electrical construction  
36 trade, under the supervision of a journeyman electrician or an  
37 appropriate specialty electrician, for a minimum of two years employed  
38 full time)) the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(a)),  
39 pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(b)(i)), sign

1 (as specified in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(c)), limited energy (as specified  
2 in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(e)(i)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified  
3 in WAC 296-46A-930(2)(f)(i)), restricted nonresidential maintenance as  
4 determined by the department in rule, or other new nonresidential  
5 specialties as determined by the department in rule under the  
6 supervision of a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician,  
7 master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty,  
8 or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty for a  
9 minimum of four thousand hours; or

10 (ii) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as determined by the  
11 department in rule or a specialty other than the designated specialties  
12 in (f)(i) of this subsection for a minimum of the initial ninety days,  
13 or longer if set by rule by the department. The initial period must be  
14 spent under one hundred percent supervision of a master journeyman  
15 electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician  
16 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician  
17 working in that electrician's specialty. After this initial period, a  
18 person may take the specialty examination. If the person passes the  
19 examination, the person may work unsupervised for the balance of the  
20 minimum hours required for certification. A person may not be  
21 certified as a specialty electrician in the appliance repair specialty  
22 or in a specialty other than the designated specialties in (f)(i) of  
23 this subsection, however, until the person has worked a minimum of two  
24 thousand hours in that specialty, or longer if set by rule by the  
25 department; or

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

29 ((+e)) (g) Any applicant for a journeyman electrician certificate  
30 of competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the  
31 electrical construction trade at public community or technical  
32 colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade  
33 schools licensed by the work force training and education coordinating  
34 board under chapter 28C.10 RCW may substitute up to two years of the  
35 technical or trade school program for two years of work experience  
36 under a master journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician. The  
37 applicant shall obtain the additional two years of work experience  
38 required in industrial or commercial electrical installation prior to  
39 the beginning, or after the completion, of the technical school

1 program. Any applicant who has received training in the electrical  
2 construction trade in the armed service of the United States may be  
3 eligible to apply armed service work experience towards qualification  
4 to take the examination for the journeyman electrician certificate of  
5 competency.

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

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

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

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

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

37 (iv) Electrical specialty training school programs of less than two  
38 years will have all of the above student/instructor contact time hours

1 proportionately reduced. Such programs may not apply to more than  
2 fifty percent of the work experience required to attain certification.

3 (v) Electrical training programs of less than two years may not be  
4 credited towards qualification for journeyman electrician unless the  
5 training program is used to gain qualification for a four thousand hour  
6 electrical specialty.

7 (j) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

8 (2) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the  
9 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. In  
10 establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the board.  
11 Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the  
12 examination, the department shall so notify the applicant, indicating  
13 the time and place for taking the examination.

14 (3) No noncertified individual may work unsupervised more than one  
15 year beyond the date when the trainee would be eligible to test for a  
16 certificate of competency if working on a full-time basis after  
17 original application for the trainee certificate. For the purposes of  
18 this section, full-time basis means two thousand hours.

19 **Sec. 6.** RCW 19.28.201 and 2001 c 211 s 13 are each amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 The department, in coordination with the board, shall prepare an  
22 examination to be administered to applicants for master journeyman  
23 electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician, and  
24 specialty electrician certificates of competency.

25 The department, with the consent of the board, may enter into a  
26 contract with a professional testing agency to develop, administer, and  
27 score electrician certification examinations. The department may set  
28 the examination fee by contract with the professional testing agency.

29 The department must, at least four times annually, administer the  
30 examination to persons eligible to take it under RCW 19.28.191. The  
31 fee must cover, but not exceed, the costs of preparing and  
32 administering the examination.

33 The department must certify the results of the examination upon the  
34 terms and after such a period of time as the department, in cooperation  
35 with the board, deems necessary and proper.

36 (1)(a) The master electrician's certificates of competency  
37 examinations must include questions from the following categories to



1 ensure proper safety and protection for the general public: (i)  
2 Safety; (ii) the state electrical code; and (iii) electrical theory.

3 (b) A person may take the master electrician examination as many  
4 times as necessary without limit. All applicants must, before taking  
5 the examination, pay the required examination fee to the agency  
6 administering the examination.

7 (2) The journeyman electrician and specialty electrician  
8 examinations shall be constructed to determine:

9 ~~((1))~~ (a) Whether the applicant possesses varied general  
10 knowledge of the technical information and practical procedures that  
11 are identified with the status of journeyman electrician or specialty  
12 electrician; and

13 ~~((2))~~ (b) Whether the applicant is sufficiently familiar with the  
14 applicable electrical codes and the rules of the department pertaining  
15 to electrical installations and electricians.

16 ~~((The department shall, at least four times annually, administer~~  
17 ~~the examination to persons eligible to take it under RCW 19.28.191. A~~  
18 ~~person may take the journeyman or specialty test as many times as~~  
19 ~~necessary without limit. All applicants shall, before taking the~~  
20 ~~examination, pay the required examination fee to the agency~~  
21 ~~administering the examination. The fee shall cover but not exceed the~~  
22 ~~costs of preparing and administering the examination.~~

23 ~~The department shall certify the results of the examination upon~~  
24 ~~such terms and after such a period of time as the department, in~~  
25 ~~cooperation with the board, deems necessary and proper.~~

26 ~~(3) The department upon the consent of the board may enter into a~~  
27 ~~contract with a professional testing agency to develop, administer, and~~  
28 ~~score journeyman and/or specialty electrician certification~~  
29 ~~examinations. The department may set the examination fee by contract~~  
30 ~~with the professional testing agency.))~~

31 A person may take the examination as many times as necessary  
32 without limit. All applicants must, before taking the examination, pay  
33 the required examination fee to the agency administering the  
34 examination.

35 **Sec. 7.** RCW 19.28.211 and 2001 c 211 s 14 are each amended to read  
36 as follows:

37 (1) The department shall issue a certificate of competency to all  
38 applicants who have passed the examination provided in RCW 19.28.201,

1 and who have complied with RCW 19.28.161 through 19.28.271 and the  
2 rules adopted under this chapter. The certificate shall bear the date  
3 of issuance, and shall expire on the holder's birthday. The  
4 certificate shall be renewed every three years, upon application, on or  
5 before the holder's birthdate. A fee shall be assessed for each  
6 certificate and for each annual renewal.

7 (2) If the certificate holder demonstrates to the department that  
8 he or she has satisfactorily completed an annual eight-hour continuing  
9 education course, the certificate may be renewed without examination by  
10 appropriate application unless the certificate has been revoked,  
11 suspended, or not renewed within ninety days after the expiration date.

12 (a) The contents and requirements for satisfactory completion of  
13 the continuing education course shall be determined by the director and  
14 approved by the board.

15 (b) The department shall accept proof of a certificate holder's  
16 satisfactory completion of a continuing education course offered in  
17 another state as meeting the requirements for maintaining a current  
18 Washington state certificate of competency if the department is  
19 satisfied the course is comparable in nature to that required in  
20 Washington state for maintaining a current certificate of competency.

21 (3) If the certificate is not renewed before the expiration date,  
22 the individual shall pay twice the usual fee. The department shall set  
23 the fees by rule for issuance and renewal of a certificate of  
24 competency. The fees shall cover but not exceed the costs of issuing  
25 the certificates and of administering and enforcing the electrician  
26 certification requirements of this chapter.

27 (4) The certificates of competency and temporary permits provided  
28 for in this chapter grant the holder the right to work in the  
29 electrical construction trade as a master electrician, journeyman  
30 electrician, or specialty electrician in accordance with their  
31 provisions throughout the state and within any of its political  
32 subdivisions without additional proof of competency or any other  
33 license, permit, or fee to engage in such work.

34 **Sec. 8.** RCW 19.28.241 and 2001 c 211 s 17 are each amended to read  
35 as follows:

36 (1) The department may revoke any certificate of competency upon  
37 the following grounds:

38 (a) The certificate was obtained through error or fraud;

1 (b) The holder thereof is judged to be incompetent to work in the  
2 electrical construction trade as a journeyman electrician or specialty  
3 electrician;

4 (c) The holder thereof has violated any of the provisions of RCW  
5 19.28.161 through 19.28.271 or any rule adopted under this chapter; or

6 (d) The holder thereof has committed a serious violation of this  
7 chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter. A serious violation is  
8 a violation that presents imminent danger to the public.

9 (2) The department may deny an application for a certificate of  
10 competency for up to two years if the applicant's previous certificate  
11 of competency has been revoked.

12 ~~((+2))~~ (3) Before any certificate of competency shall be revoked,  
13 the holder shall be given written notice of the department's intention  
14 to do so, mailed by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the  
15 holder's last known address. The notice shall enumerate the  
16 allegations against the holder, and shall give the holder the  
17 opportunity to request a hearing before the board. At the hearing, the  
18 department and the holder may produce witnesses and give testimony.  
19 The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW.  
20 The board shall render its decision based upon the testimony and  
21 evidence presented, and shall notify the parties immediately upon  
22 reaching its decision. A majority of the board shall be necessary to  
23 render a decision.

24 ~~((+3))~~ (4) The department shall immediately suspend the license or  
25 certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to RCW  
26 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health services as a person  
27 who is not in compliance with a support order. If the person has  
28 continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during the  
29 suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate shall be automatic  
30 upon the department's receipt of a release issued by the department of  
31 social and health services stating that the licensee is in compliance  
32 with the order.

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