

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2253

Chapter 156, Laws of 2014

63rd Legislature
2014 Regular Session

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/12/14 - Except section 1, which becomes effective 03/31/14.

Passed by the House March 10, 2014
Yeas 98 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2014
Yeas 48 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Approved March 31, 2014, 2:47 p.m.

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2253** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

Chief Clerk

FILED

March 31, 2014

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 2253

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2014 Regular Session

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Manweller, Sells, Johnson, and Ryu

Read first time 01/15/14. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to telecommunications installations; amending RCW
2 19.28.400 and 19.28.191; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.400 and 2000 c 238 s 204 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The definitions in this section apply throughout this subchapter
7 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8 (1) "Telecommunications backbone cabling systems" means a system
9 that provides interconnections between telecommunications closets,
10 equipment rooms, and entrance facilities in the telecommunications
11 cabling system structure. Backbone cabling consists of the backbone
12 cables, intermediate and main cross-connects, mechanical terminations,
13 and patch cords or jumpers used for backbone to backbone cross-
14 connection. Backbone cabling also includes cabling between buildings.

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

16 (3) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

17 (4) "Director" means the director of the department or the
18 director's designee.

1 (5) "Telecommunications horizontal cabling systems" means the
2 portions of the telecommunications cabling system that extend(~~s~~
3 ~~[extend]~~) from the work area telecommunications outlet or connector to
4 the telecommunications closet. The horizontal cabling includes the
5 horizontal cables, the telecommunications outlet or connector in the
6 work area, the mechanical termination, and horizontal cross-connections
7 located in the telecommunications closet.

8 (6) "Telecommunications network demarcation point" means the point
9 or interconnection between the service provider's communications
10 cabling, terminal equipment, and protective apparatus and the
11 customer's premises telecommunications cabling system. The location of
12 this point for regulated carriers is determined by federal and state
13 regulations. The carrier should be contacted to determine the location
14 policies in effect in the area.

15 (7) "Telecommunications scope of work" means the work of a
16 telecommunications contractor. This includes the installation,
17 maintenance, and testing of telecommunications systems, equipment, and
18 associated hardware, pathway systems, and cable management systems,
19 which excludes cable tray and conduit raceway systems. The scope also
20 includes installation of open wiring systems of telecommunications
21 cables, surface nonmetallic raceways designated and used exclusively
22 for telecommunications, optical fiber innerduct raceway, underground
23 raceways designated and used exclusively for telecommunications and
24 installed for additions or extensions to existing telecommunications
25 systems not to exceed fifty feet inside the building, and incidental
26 short sections of circular or surface metal raceway, not to exceed ten
27 feet, for access or protection of telecommunications cabling and
28 installation of cable trays and ladder racks in telecommunications
29 service entrance rooms, spaces, or closets.

30 (8) A "telecommunications structured cabling system" is the
31 complete collective configuration of cabling and associated hardware at
32 a given site and installed to perform specific telecommunications
33 functions.

34 (9) "Telecommunications administrator" means a person designated by
35 a telecommunications contractor to supervise the installation of
36 telecommunications systems in accordance with rules adopted under this
37 chapter.

1 (10) "Telecommunications closet" means a room for housing
2 telecommunications equipment, cable terminations, and cross-connect
3 wiring that serve that particular floor. The closet is the recognized
4 transition point between the backbone and horizontal cabling systems.

5 (11) "Telecommunications contractor" means a person, firm,
6 partnership, corporation, or other entity that advertises, offers to
7 undertake, undertakes, submits a bid for, or does the work of
8 installing or maintaining telecommunications systems.

9 (12) "Telecommunications service entrance room or space" means a
10 room or space used as the building serving facility in which the
11 joining of inter-building and intra-building backbone facilities takes
12 place. The service entrance room may also house electronic equipment
13 serving any telecommunications function.

14 (13) "Telecommunications systems" means structured cabling systems
15 that begin at the demarcation point between the local service provider
16 and the customer's premises structured cabling system.

17 (a) Telecommunications systems encompass all forms of information
18 generation, processing, and transporting of signals conveyed
19 electronically or optically within or between buildings, including
20 voice, data, video, and audio.

21 (b) Telecommunications systems include structured cabling systems,
22 compatible connecting hardware, telecommunications equipment, premises
23 switching equipment providing operational power to the
24 telecommunications device, infrared, fiber optic, radio-frequency,
25 power distribution associated with telecommunications systems, and
26 other limited-energy interconnections associated with
27 telecommunications systems or appliances.

28 (c) Telecommunications systems do not include horizontal cabling
29 used for fire protection signaling systems, intrusion alarms, access
30 control systems, patient monitoring systems, energy management control
31 systems, industrial and automation control systems, HVAC/refrigeration
32 control systems, lighting or lighting control systems, and stand-alone
33 amplified sound or public address systems.

34 (d) Telecommunications systems may interface with other building
35 signal systems including security, alarms, and energy management at
36 cross-connection junctions within telecommunications closets or at
37 extended points of demarcation. Horizontal cabling for a
38 telecommunications outlet, necessary to interface with any of these

1 systems outside of a telecommunications closet, is the work of the
2 telecommunications contractor. Telecommunications systems do not
3 include the installation or termination of premises line voltage
4 service, feeder, or branch circuit conductors or equipment.

5 (14) "Telecommunications worker" means a person primarily and
6 regularly engaged in the installation and/or maintenance of
7 telecommunications systems, equipment, and infrastructure as defined in
8 this chapter.

9 (15) "Telecommunications workstation" means a building space where
10 the occupant normally interacts with telecommunications equipment. The
11 telecommunications outlet in the work area is the point at which end-
12 user equipment plugs into the building telecommunications utility
13 formed by the pathway, space, and building wiring system.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.191 and 2013 c 23 s 30 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review
17 the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to take
18 an examination for the master journey level electrician, journey level
19 electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty electrician
20 certificate of competency.

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

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

32 (c) Before December 1, 2003, the following persons may obtain an
33 equipment repair specialty electrician certificate of competency
34 without examination:

35 (i) A person who has successfully completed an apprenticeship
36 program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the machinist trade; and

1 (ii) A person who provides evidence in a form prescribed by the
2 department affirming that: (A) He or she was employed as of April 1,
3 2003, by a factory-authorized equipment dealer or service company; and
4 (B) he or she has worked in equipment repair for a minimum of four
5 thousand hours.

6 (d) To be eligible to take the examination for a master journey
7 level electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have
8 possessed a valid journey level electrician certificate of competency
9 for four years.

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

14 (f) To be eligible to take the examination for a journey level
15 certificate of competency, the applicant must have:

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

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

30 (g)(i) To be eligible to take the examination for a specialty
31 electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have:

32 (~~(i)~~) (A) Worked in the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-
33 920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-
34 920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited
35 energy (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential
36 maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), or other new
37 nonresidential specialties as determined by the department in rule
38 under the supervision of a master journey level electrician, journey

1 level electrician, master specialty electrician working in that
2 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that
3 electrician's specialty for a minimum of four thousand hours;

4 ((+iii)) (B) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as determined
5 by the department in rule, restricted nonresidential maintenance as
6 determined by the department in rule, the equipment repair specialty as
7 determined by the department in rule, the pump and irrigation specialty
8 other than as defined by (g)(i)(A) of this subsection or domestic pump
9 specialty as determined by the department in rule, or a specialty other
10 than the designated specialties in (g)(i)(A) of this subsection for a
11 minimum of the initial ninety days, or longer if set by rule by the
12 department. The restricted nonresidential maintenance specialty is
13 limited to a maximum of 277 volts and 20 amperes for lighting branch
14 circuits and/or a maximum of 250 volts and 60 amperes for other
15 circuits, but excludes the replacement or repair of circuit breakers.
16 The initial period must be spent under one hundred percent supervision
17 of a master journey level electrician, journey level electrician,
18 master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty,
19 or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty.
20 After this initial period, a person may take the specialty examination.
21 If the person passes the examination, the person may work unsupervised
22 for the balance of the minimum hours required for certification. A
23 person may not be certified as a specialty electrician in the appliance
24 repair specialty or in a specialty other than the designated
25 (~~specialities~~) specialties in (g)(i)(A) of this subsection, however,
26 until the person has worked a minimum of two thousand hours in that
27 specialty, or longer if set by rule by the department; or

28 ((+iii)) (C) Successfully completed an approved apprenticeship
29 program under chapter 49.04 RCW for the applicant's specialty in the
30 electrical construction trade(~~(+iv)~~).

31 ((+iv)) (ii) In meeting the training requirements for the pump and
32 irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be
33 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the same
34 time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW
35 18.106.040(1)(c). After meeting the training requirements provided in
36 this section, the individual may take the examination and upon passing
37 the examination, meeting additional training requirements as may still
38 be required for those seeking a pump and irrigation, or a domestic pump

1 specialty certificate as defined by rule, and paying the applicable
2 fees, the individual must be issued the appropriate certificate. The
3 department may include an examination for specialty plumbing
4 certificate defined in RCW 18.106.010(10)(c) with the examination
5 required by this section. The department, by rule and in consultation
6 with the electrical board, may establish additional equivalent ways to
7 gain the experience requirements required by this subsection.
8 Individuals who are able to provide evidence to the department, prior
9 to January 1, 2007, that they have been employed as a pump installer in
10 the pump and irrigation or domestic pump business by an appropriately
11 licensed electrical contractor, registered general contractor defined
12 by chapter 18.27 RCW, or appropriate general specialty contractor
13 defined by chapter 18.27 RCW for not less than eight thousand hours in
14 the most recent six calendar years shall be issued the appropriate
15 certificate by the department upon receiving such documentation and
16 applicable fees. The department shall establish a single document for
17 those who have received both an electrical specialty certification as
18 defined by this subsection and have also met the certification
19 requirements for the specialty plumber as defined by RCW
20 18.106.010(10)(c), showing that the individual has received both
21 certifications. No other experience or training requirements may be
22 imposed.

23 (iii) Before July 1, 2015, an applicant possessing an electrical
24 training certificate issued by the department is eligible to apply one
25 hour of every two hours of unsupervised telecommunications system
26 installation work experience toward eligibility for examination for a
27 limited energy system certificate of competency (as specified in WAC
28 296-46B-920(2)(e)), if:

29 (A) The telecommunications work experience was obtained while
30 employed by a contractor licensed under this chapter as a general
31 electrical contractor (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(1)) or limited
32 energy system specialty contractor (as specified in WAC 296-46B-
33 920(2)(e)); and

34 (B) Evidence of the telecommunications work experience is submitted
35 in the form of an affidavit prescribed by the department.

36 (h) Any applicant for a journey level electrician certificate of
37 competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the
38 electrical construction trade at public community or technical

1 colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade
2 schools licensed by the workforce training and education coordinating
3 board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may substitute up to two years of the
4 technical or trade school program for two years of work experience
5 under a master journey level electrician or journey level electrician.
6 The applicant shall obtain the additional two years of work experience
7 required in industrial or commercial electrical installation prior to
8 the beginning, or after the completion, of the technical school
9 program. Any applicant who has received training in the electrical
10 construction trade in the armed service of the United States may be
11 eligible to apply armed service work experience towards qualification
12 to take the examination for the journey level electrician certificate
13 of competency.

14 (i) An applicant for a specialty electrician certificate of
15 competency who, after January 1, 2000, has successfully completed a
16 two-year program in the electrical construction trade at a public
17 community or technical college, or a not-for-profit nationally
18 accredited technical or trade school licensed by the workforce training
19 and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may
20 substitute up to one year of the technical or trade school program for
21 one year of work experience under a master journey level electrician,
22 journey level electrician, master specialty electrician working in that
23 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that
24 electrician's specialty. Any applicant who has received training in
25 the electrical construction trade in the armed services of the United
26 States may be eligible to apply armed service work experience towards
27 qualification to take the examination for an appropriate specialty
28 electrician certificate of competency.

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

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

37 (ii) In a two-year electrical training program, a minimum of two
38 thousand four hundred hours of student/instructor contact time must be

1 technical electrical instruction directly related to the scope of work
2 of the electrical specialty. Student/instructor contact time includes
3 lecture and in-school lab.

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

7 (iv) Electrical specialty training school programs of less than two
8 years will have all of the above student/instructor contact time hours
9 proportionately reduced. Such programs may not apply to more than
10 fifty percent of the work experience required to attain certification.

11 (v) Electrical training programs of less than two years may not be
12 credited towards qualification for journey level electrician unless the
13 training program is used to gain qualification for a four thousand hour
14 electrical specialty.

15 (k) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

16 (2) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the
17 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency. In
18 establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the board.
19 Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the
20 examination, the department shall so notify the applicant, indicating
21 the time and place for taking the examination.

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

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act is necessary for the
28 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or
29 support of the state government and its existing public institutions,
30 and takes effect immediately.

Passed by the House March 10, 2014.

Passed by the Senate March 7, 2014.

Approved by the Governor March 31, 2014.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 31, 2014.