

**HB 1590** - H AMD 769

By Representative Reykdal

ADOPTED 02/16/2016

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3

4 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.161 and 2013 c 23 s 29 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) No person may engage in the electrical construction trade  
7 without having a valid master journey level electrician certificate  
8 of competency, journey level electrician certificate of competency,  
9 master specialty electrician certificate of competency, or specialty  
10 electrician certificate of competency issued by the department in  
11 accordance with this chapter. Electrician certificate of competency  
12 specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential, pump and  
13 irrigation, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential  
14 maintenance, restricted nonresidential maintenance, and appliance  
15 repair. (~~Until July 1, 2007, the department of labor and industries  
16 shall issue a written warning to any specialty pump and irrigation  
17 or domestic pump electrician not having a valid electrician  
18 certification. The warning will state that the individual must apply  
19 for an electrical training certificate or be qualified for and apply  
20 for electrician certification under the requirements in RCW  
21 19.28.191(1)(g) within thirty calendar days of the warning. Only one  
22 warning will be issued to any individual. If the individual fails to  
23 comply with this section, the department shall issue a penalty as  
24 defined in RCW 19.28.271 to the individual.~~)

25 (2)(a) A person who is (~~indentured~~): (i) Registered in an  
26 apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the  
27 electrical construction trade (~~or who is~~); (ii) learning the

1 electrical construction trade while working in a specialty other  
2 than residential; or (iii) learning the electrical construction  
3 trade in a program described in RCW 19.28.191(1) (f) or (g) for a  
4 journey level or residential specialty certificate of competency may  
5 work in the electrical construction trade if supervised by a  
6 certified master journey level electrician, journey level  
7 electrician, master specialty electrician in that electrician's  
8 specialty, or specialty electrician in that electrician's specialty.

9 (b) All apprentices and individuals learning the electrical  
10 construction trade shall obtain an electrical training certificate  
11 from the department. The certificate shall authorize the holder to  
12 learn the electrical construction trade while under the direct  
13 supervision of a master journey level electrician, journey level  
14 electrician, master specialty electrician working in that  
15 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that  
16 electrician's specialty. The certificate may include a photograph of  
17 the holder. The holder of the electrical training certificate shall  
18 renew the certificate biennially. At the time of renewal, the holder  
19 shall provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's  
20 employers in the electrical construction industry for the previous  
21 biennial period and the number of hours worked for each employer.  
22 The holder shall also provide proof of ~~((sixteen))~~forty-eight hours  
23 of: Approved classroom training covering this chapter, the national  
24 electrical code, or electrical theory; or equivalent classroom  
25 training taken as part of an approved apprenticeship program under  
26 chapter 49.04 RCW or an approved electrical training program under  
27 RCW 19.28.191(1)~~((h))~~(f). ~~((The number of hours of approved~~  
28 ~~classroom training required for certificate renewal shall increase~~  
29 ~~as follows: (a) Beginning on July 1, 2011, the holder of an~~  
30 ~~electrical training certificate shall provide the department with~~  
31 ~~proof of thirty-two hours of approved classroom training; and (b)~~  
32 ~~beginning on July 1, 2013, the holder of an electrical training~~  
33 ~~certificate shall provide the department with proof of))~~ forty-eight  
34 hours of approved classroom training. ~~((At the request of the chairs~~

1 ~~of the house of representatives commerce and labor committee and the~~  
2 ~~senate labor, commerce and consumer protection committee, or their~~  
3 ~~successor committees, the department of labor and industries shall~~  
4 ~~provide information on the implementation of the new classroom~~  
5 ~~training requirements for electrical trainees to both committees by~~  
6 ~~December 1, 2012.~~) A biennial fee shall be charged for the issuance  
7 or renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the fee by  
8 rule. The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of administering  
9 and enforcing the trainee certification and supervision requirements  
10 of this chapter.

11 (c)(i) Apprentices and individuals learning the electrical  
12 construction trade shall have their electrical training certificates  
13 in their possession at all times that they are performing electrical  
14 work. They shall show their certificates to an authorized  
15 representative of the department at the representative's request.

16 (ii) Apprentices and individuals learning the electrical  
17 construction trade must also have in their possession proof of  
18 apprenticeship or training program registration. They shall show  
19 their apprenticeship or training program registration documents to  
20 an authorized representative of the department at the  
21 representative's request. This subsection (2)(c)(ii) does not apply  
22 to individuals working in a specialty other than residential.

23 (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical training  
24 certificate under this chapter may work: (a) If that person is under  
25 supervision, and (b) unless working in a specialty other than  
26 residential, is: (i) Registered in an approved journey level or  
27 residential specialty apprenticeship program, as appropriate; or  
28 (ii) is learning the electrical construction trade in a program  
29 described in RCW 19.28.191(1) (f) or (g) for a journey level or  
30 residential specialty certificate of competency. Supervision shall  
31 consist of a person being on the same job site and under the control  
32 of either a certified master journey level electrician, journey  
33 level electrician, master specialty electrician working in that  
34 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that

1 electrician's specialty. Either a certified master journey level  
2 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician  
3 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician  
4 working in that electrician's specialty shall be on the same job  
5 site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five  
6 percent of each working day unless otherwise provided in this  
7 chapter.

8 (4) The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified master  
9 journey level electricians, journey level electricians, master  
10 specialty electricians, or specialty electricians on any one job  
11 site is as follows:

12 (a) When working as a specialty electrician, not more than two  
13 noncertified individuals for every certified master specialty  
14 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, specialty  
15 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, master journey  
16 level electrician, or journey level electrician, except that the  
17 ratio requirements are one certified master specialty electrician  
18 working in that electrician's specialty, specialty electrician  
19 working in that electrician's specialty, master journey level  
20 electrician, or journey level electrician working as a specialty  
21 electrician to no more than four students enrolled in and working as  
22 part of an electrical construction program at public community or  
23 technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited trade or  
24 technical schools licensed by the workforce training and education  
25 coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW. In meeting the ratio  
26 requirements for students enrolled in an electrical construction  
27 program at a trade school, a trade school may receive input and  
28 advice from the electrical board; and

29 (b) When working as a journey level electrician, not more than  
30 one noncertified individual for every certified master journey level  
31 electrician or journey level electrician, except that the ratio  
32 requirements shall be one certified master journey level electrician  
33 or journey level electrician to no more than four students enrolled  
34 in and working as part of an electrical construction program at

1 public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally  
2 accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the workforce  
3 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW.  
4 In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in an  
5 electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade school  
6 may receive input and advice from the electrical board.

7 An individual who has a current training certificate and who has  
8 successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved  
9 apprenticeship program or in an electrical construction program at  
10 public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally  
11 accredited technical or trade schools licensed by the workforce  
12 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW,  
13 may work without direct on-site supervision during the last six  
14 months of meeting the practical experience requirements of this  
15 chapter.

16 (5) For the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)),  
17 pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign  
18 (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited energy (as  
19 specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential maintenance (as  
20 specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), restricted nonresidential  
21 maintenance as determined by the department in rule, or other new  
22 nonresidential specialties, not including appliance repair, as  
23 determined by the department in rule, either a master journey level  
24 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician  
25 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician  
26 working in that electrician's specialty must be on the same job site  
27 as the noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five percent  
28 of each working day. Other specialties must meet the requirements  
29 specified in RCW 19.28.191(1)(~~(g)~~)(d)(ii). When the ratio of  
30 certified electricians to noncertified individuals on a job site is  
31 one certified electrician to three or four noncertified individuals,  
32 the certified electrician must:

33  
34

1 (a) Directly supervise and instruct the noncertified individuals  
2 and the certified electrician may not directly make or engage in an  
3 electrical installation; and

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

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

9

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.191 and 2014 c 156 s 2 are each amended to  
11 read as follows:

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

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

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

28 ~~(c) Before December 1, 2003, the following persons may obtain an  
29 equipment repair specialty electrician certificate of competency  
30 without examination:~~

31 ~~(i) A person who has successfully completed an apprenticeship  
32 program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the machinist trade;  
33 and~~

34

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;~~  
4 ~~and (B) he or she has worked in equipment repair for a minimum of~~  
5 ~~four thousand hours.~~

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

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

14 ~~((f))~~ (c) To be eligible to take the examination for a journey  
15 level certificate of competency, the applicant must have ~~((~~  
16 ~~+~~~~i))~~ successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved  
17 under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade in  
18 which the applicant worked in the electrical construction trade for  
19 a minimum of eight thousand hours ~~((, of which))~~. Four thousand of  
20 the hours shall be in industrial or commercial electrical  
21 installation under the supervision of a master journey level  
22 electrician or journey level electrician and not more than a total  
23 of four thousand hours in all specialties under the supervision of a  
24 master journey level electrician, journey level electrician, master  
25 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or  
26 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty.  
27 Specialty electricians with less than a four thousand hour work  
28 experience requirement cannot credit the time required to obtain  
29 that specialty towards qualifying to become a journey level  
30 electrician ~~((~~~~+~~~~or~~

31 ~~(ii) Successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved~~  
32 ~~under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade)). The~~  
33 ~~holder of a specialty electrician certificate of competency with a~~  
34 ~~four thousand hour work experience requirement shall be allowed to~~

1 credit the work experience required to obtain that certificate  
2 towards apprenticeship requirements for qualifying to take the  
3 examination for a journey level electrician certificate of  
4 competency.

5 ~~((g)(i))~~(d) To be eligible to take the examination for  
6 ~~((a))~~the following specialty electrician certificates of competency,  
7 the applicant must have:

8 ~~((A))~~(i) Worked in the ~~((residential (as specified in WAC 296-~~  
9 ~~46B-920(2)(a)),)~~ pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-  
10 920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited  
11 energy (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential  
12 maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), or other new  
13 nonresidential specialties as determined by the department in rule  
14 under the supervision of a master journey level electrician, journey  
15 level electrician, master specialty electrician working in that  
16 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that  
17 electrician's specialty for a minimum of four thousand hours;

18 ~~((B))~~(i) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as  
19 determined by the department in rule, restricted nonresidential  
20 maintenance as determined by the department in rule, the equipment  
21 repair specialty as determined by the department in rule, the pump  
22 and irrigation specialty other than as defined by  
23 ~~((g))~~(d)(i)~~((A))~~ of this subsection or domestic pump specialty  
24 as determined by the department in rule, or a specialty other than  
25 the designated specialties in ~~((g))~~(d)(i)~~((A))~~ of this  
26 subsection for a minimum of the initial ninety days, or longer if  
27 set by rule by the department. The restricted nonresidential  
28 maintenance specialty is limited to a maximum of 277 volts and 20  
29 amperes for lighting branch circuits and/or a maximum of 250 volts  
30 and 60 amperes for other circuits, but excludes the replacement or  
31 repair of circuit breakers. The initial period must be spent under  
32 one hundred percent supervision of a master journey level  
33 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician  
34 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician



1 working in that electrician's specialty. After this initial period,  
2 a person may take the specialty examination. If the person passes  
3 the examination, the person may work unsupervised for the balance of  
4 the minimum hours required for certification. A person may not be  
5 certified as a specialty electrician in the appliance repair  
6 specialty or in a specialty other than the designated specialties in  
7 ~~((g))~~(d)(i)~~((A))~~ of this subsection, however, until the person  
8 has worked a minimum of two thousand hours in that specialty, or  
9 longer if set by rule by the department; ~~((e~~  
10 ~~(e))~~(iii) Successfully completed an approved apprenticeship  
11 program under chapter 49.04 RCW for the applicant's specialty in the  
12 electrical construction trade~~((r))~~; or  
13 ~~((ii))~~(iv) In meeting the training requirements for the pump  
14 and irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be  
15 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the  
16 same time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW  
17 18.106.040(1)(c). After meeting the training requirements provided  
18 in this section, the individual may take the examination and upon  
19 passing the examination, meeting additional training requirements as  
20 may still be required for those seeking a pump and irrigation, or a  
21 domestic pump specialty certificate as defined by rule, and paying  
22 the applicable fees, the individual must be issued the appropriate  
23 certificate. The department may include an examination for specialty  
24 plumbing certificate defined in RCW 18.106.010(10)(c) with the  
25 examination required by this section. The department, by rule and in  
26 consultation with the electrical board, may establish additional  
27 equivalent ways to gain the experience requirements required by this  
28 subsection. Individuals who are able to provide evidence to the  
29 department, prior to January 1, 2007, that they have been employed  
30 as a pump installer in the pump and irrigation or domestic pump  
31 business by an appropriately licensed electrical contractor,  
32 registered general contractor defined by chapter 18.27 RCW, or  
33 appropriate general specialty contractor defined by chapter 18.27  
34 RCW for not less than eight thousand hours in the most recent six

1 calendar years shall be issued the appropriate certificate by the  
2 department upon receiving such documentation and applicable fees.  
3 The department shall establish a single document for those who have  
4 received both an electrical specialty certification as defined by  
5 this subsection and have also met the certification requirements for  
6 the specialty plumber as defined by RCW 18.106.010(10)(c), showing  
7 that the individual has received both certifications. No other  
8 experience or training requirements may be imposed.

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

15 ~~(A) The telecommunications work experience was obtained while  
16 employed by a contractor licensed under this chapter as a general  
17 electrical contractor (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(1)) or  
18 limited energy system specialty contractor (as specified in WAC 296-  
19 46B-920(2)(e)); and~~

20 ~~(B) Evidence of the telecommunications work experience is  
21 submitted in the form of an affidavit prescribed by the department.~~

22 ~~(h))~~ (e) To be eligible to take the examination for a  
23 residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)) specialty  
24 electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have  
25 successfully completed an approved apprenticeship program under  
26 chapter 49.04 RCW for the residential specialty electrical  
27 construction trade in which the applicant worked under the  
28 supervision of a master journey level electrician, journey level  
29 electrician, master residential specialty electrician, or  
30 residential specialty electrician working for a minimum of four  
31 thousand hours.

32 (f) Any applicant for a journey level electrician certificate of  
33 competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the  
34 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  
3 coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may substitute up to  
4 two years of the technical or trade school program for two years of  
5 work experience under a master journey level electrician or journey  
6 level electrician required under the apprenticeship program. The  
7 applicant shall obtain the additional two years of work experience  
8 required in industrial or commercial electrical installation prior  
9 to the beginning, or after the completion, of the technical school  
10 program. Any applicant who has received training in the electrical  
11 construction trade in the armed service of the United States may be  
12 eligible to apply armed service work experience towards  
13 qualification to complete an apprenticeship and take the examination  
14 for the journey level electrician certificate of competency.

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

33       (~~(j)~~)(h) The department must determine whether hours of  
34 training and experience in the armed services or school program are

1 in the electrical construction trade and appropriate as a substitute  
2 for hours of work experience. The department must use the following  
3 criteria for evaluating the equivalence of classroom electrical  
4 training programs and work in the electrical construction trade:

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

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

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

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

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

24 ~~((k))~~(i) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

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

31 (3) No noncertified individual may work unsupervised more than  
32 one year beyond the date when the trainee would be eligible to test  
33 for a certificate of competency if working on a full-time basis  
34 after original application for the trainee certificate. For the

1 purposes of this section, "full-time basis" means two thousand  
2 hours.

3

4 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.28.205 and 2013 c 23 s 32 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) An applicant for a journey level certificate of competency  
7 under RCW 19.28.191(1)((~~f~~))(c) or a specialty electrician  
8 certificate of competency under RCW 19.28.191(1)((~~g~~))(d) must  
9 demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department completion of in-  
10 class education as follows:

11 (a) Twenty-four hours of in-class education if two thousand  
12 hours or more but less than four thousand hours of work are required  
13 for the certificate;

14 (b) Forty-eight hours of in-class education if four thousand or  
15 more but less than six thousand hours of work are required for the  
16 certificate;

17 (c) Seventy-two hours of in-class education if six thousand or  
18 more but less than eight thousand hours of work are required for the  
19 certificate;

20 (d) Ninety-six hours of in-class education if eight thousand or  
21 more hours of work are required for the certificate.

22 (2) For purposes of this section, "in-class education" means  
23 approved classroom training covering this chapter, the national  
24 electric code, or electrical theory; or equivalent classroom  
25 training taken as part of an approved apprenticeship program under  
26 chapter 49.04 RCW or an approved electrical training program under  
27 RCW 19.28.191(1)((~~h~~))(f).

28 (3) Classroom training taken to qualify for trainee certificate  
29 renewal under RCW 19.28.161 qualifies as in-class education under  
30 this section.

31

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 19.28  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34

1 (1) The department may permit an applicant who obtained  
2 experience and training equivalent to a journey level or residential  
3 specialty apprenticeship program to take the examination if the  
4 applicant establishes that the applicant has the equivalent training  
5 and experience and demonstrates good cause for not completing the  
6 required minimum hours of work under standards applicable on the  
7 effective date of this section.

8 (2) This section expires July 1, 2023.

9

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act take  
11 effect July 1, 2021.

12

13 **Sec. 6.** RCW 19.28.191 and 2014 c 156 s 2 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

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

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

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

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

34

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

4 (ii) A person who provides evidence in a form prescribed by the  
5 department affirming that: (A) He or she was employed as of April 1,  
6 2003, by a factory-authorized equipment dealer or service company;  
7 and (B) he or she has worked in equipment repair for a minimum of  
8 four thousand hours.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (A) Worked in the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-  
2 920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-  
3 920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited  
4 energy (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential  
5 maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), or other new  
6 nonresidential specialties as determined by the department in rule  
7 under the supervision of a master journey level electrician, journey  
8 level electrician, master specialty electrician working in that  
9 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that  
10 electrician's specialty for a minimum of four thousand hours;

11 (B) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as determined by  
12 the department in rule, restricted nonresidential maintenance as  
13 determined by the department in rule, the equipment repair specialty  
14 as determined by the department in rule, the pump and irrigation  
15 specialty other than as defined by (g)(i)(A) of this subsection or  
16 domestic pump specialty as determined by the department in rule, or  
17 a specialty other than the designated specialties in (g)(i)(A) of  
18 this subsection for a minimum of the initial ninety days, or longer  
19 if set by rule by the department. The restricted nonresidential  
20 maintenance specialty is limited to a maximum of 277 volts and 20  
21 amperes for lighting branch circuits and/or a maximum of 250 volts  
22 and 60 amperes for other circuits, but excludes the replacement or  
23 repair of circuit breakers. The initial period must be spent under  
24 one hundred percent supervision of a master journey level  
25 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician  
26 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician  
27 working in that electrician's specialty. After this initial period,  
28 a person may take the specialty examination. If the person passes  
29 the examination, the person may work unsupervised for the balance of  
30 the minimum hours required for certification. A person may not be  
31 certified as a specialty electrician in the appliance repair  
32 specialty or in a specialty other than the designated specialties in  
33 (g)(i)(A) of this subsection, however, until the person has worked a  
34



1 minimum of two thousand hours in that specialty, or longer if set by  
2 rule by the department; or

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

6 (ii) In meeting the training requirements for the pump and  
7 irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be  
8 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the  
9 same time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW  
10 18.106.040(1)(c). After meeting the training requirements provided  
11 in this section, the individual may take the examination and upon  
12 passing the examination, meeting additional training requirements as  
13 may still be required for those seeking a pump and irrigation, or a  
14 domestic pump specialty certificate as defined by rule, and paying  
15 the applicable fees, the individual must be issued the appropriate  
16 certificate. The department may include an examination for specialty  
17 plumbing certificate defined in RCW 18.106.010(10)(c) with the  
18 examination required by this section. The department, by rule and in  
19 consultation with the electrical board, may establish additional  
20 equivalent ways to gain the experience requirements required by this  
21 subsection. Individuals who are able to provide evidence to the  
22 department, prior to January 1, 2007, that they have been employed  
23 as a pump installer in the pump and irrigation or domestic pump  
24 business by an appropriately licensed electrical contractor,  
25 registered general contractor defined by chapter 18.27 RCW, or  
26 appropriate general specialty contractor defined by chapter 18.27  
27 RCW for not less than eight thousand hours in the most recent six  
28 calendar years shall be issued the appropriate certificate by the  
29 department upon receiving such documentation and applicable fees.  
30 The department shall establish a single document for those who have  
31 received both an electrical specialty certification as defined by  
32 this subsection and have also met the certification requirements for  
33 the specialty plumber as defined by RCW 18.106.010(10)(c), showing  
34

1 that the individual has received both certifications. No other  
2 experience or training requirements may be imposed.

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

9 (A) The telecommunications work experience was obtained while  
10 employed by a contractor licensed under this chapter as a general  
11 electrical contractor (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(1)) or  
12 limited energy system specialty contractor (as specified in WAC 296-  
13 46B-920(2)(e)); and

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

16 (iv)(A) Before January 1, 2019, an applicant possessing an  
17 electrical training certificate issued by the department is eligible  
18 to apply one hour of every two hours of unsupervised work experience  
19 in the electrical trade toward eligibility for examination for a  
20 limited energy certificate of competency (as specified in WAC 296-  
21 46B-920(2)(e)), a HVAC/refrigeration systems certificate of  
22 competency (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(f)(v)), or a  
23 nonresidential maintenance certificate of competency (as specified  
24 in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)) if:

25 (I) The work experience was obtained while employed by a school  
26 district as defined in RCW 28A.315.025; and

27 (II) Evidence of the work experience is submitted in the form of  
28 an affidavit prescribed by the department.

29 (B) An applicant under this subsection (1)(g)(iv) may apply for  
30 more than one certificate of competency; however, each hour of work  
31 experience may be applied toward eligibility for only one  
32 certificate of competency.

33 (h) Any applicant for a journey level electrician certificate of  
34 competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the

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

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

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

1 criteria for evaluating the equivalence of classroom electrical  
2 training programs and work in the electrical construction trade:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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EFFECT: Changes dates by one year: completion of an apprenticeship program would be required beginning July 1, 2021 rather than July 1, 2020, and the authority of the Department of Labor and Industries to grant exceptions would expire on July 1, 2023 rather than July 1, 2022.

Adds provision effective July 1, 2021 requiring hours worked to obtain a 4,000 hour specialty electrician certificate to count as work experience in a journey level apprenticeship program.

Adds provision that before January 1, 2019, an individual employed by a school district may apply one hour for every two hours worked in the electrical trade toward taking the examination for the following specialty electrician certificates of competency: limited energy, HVAC/refrigeration systems, and nonresidential maintenance.

Makes technical change regarding placement of expiration clause.

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