

SSB 5599 - S AMD 1169

By Senator Short

NOT ADOPTED 02/15/2022

1 On page 1, beginning on line 6, strike all of Section 1 and  
2 insert the following:

3 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.191 and 2020 c 153 s 25 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review  
6 the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to  
7 take an examination for the master journey level electrician, journey  
8 level electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty  
9 electrician certificate of competency.

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

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

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

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

26 (ii) A person who provides evidence in a form prescribed by the  
27 department affirming that: (A) He or she was employed as of April 1,  
28 2003, by a factory-authorized equipment dealer or service company;  
29 and (B) he or she has worked in equipment repair for a minimum of  
30 four thousand hours.

31 (d) To be eligible to take the examination for a master journey  
32 level electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have

1 possessed a valid journey level electrician certificate of competency  
2 for four years.

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

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

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

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

23 (iii) Successfully completed an 8,000 hour electrical  
24 construction trade apprenticeship program in another jurisdiction  
25 equivalent to an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04  
26 RCW. Four thousand of the hours shall be new electrical installations  
27 in industrial or commercial facilities;

28 (iv) At least 16,000 hours experience in the electrical  
29 construction trade installing and maintaining electrical wiring and  
30 equipment in another jurisdiction. Eight thousand of the hours shall  
31 be new electrical installations in industrial or commercial  
32 facilities; or

33 (v) Eight thousand hours of experience in the electrical  
34 construction trade while serving in a construction battalion in the  
35 armed forces of the United States.

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

38 (A) Worked in the residential (as specified in WAC  
39 296-46B-920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC  
40 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)),

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

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

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

38 (ii) In meeting the training requirements for the pump and  
39 irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be  
40 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the same

1 time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW  
2 18.106.040(1)(d). After meeting the training requirements provided in  
3 this section, the individual may take the examination and upon  
4 passing the examination, meeting additional training requirements as  
5 may still be required for those seeking a pump and irrigation, or a  
6 domestic pump specialty certificate as defined by rule, and paying  
7 the applicable fees, the individual must be issued the appropriate  
8 certificate. The department may include an examination for specialty  
9 plumbing certificate defined in RCW 18.106.010(14)(c) with the  
10 examination required by this section. The department, by rule and in  
11 consultation with the electrical board, may establish additional  
12 equivalent ways to gain the experience requirements required by this  
13 subsection. The department shall establish a single document for  
14 those who have received both an electrical specialty certification as  
15 defined by this subsection and have also met the certification  
16 requirements for the specialty plumber as defined by RCW 18.106.010,  
17 showing that the individual has received both certifications. No  
18 other experience or training requirements may be imposed.

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

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

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

32 (h) 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  
35 colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade  
36 schools licensed by the workforce training and education coordinating  
37 board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may substitute up to two years of the  
38 technical or trade school program for two years of work experience  
39 under a master journey level electrician or journey level  
40 electrician. The applicant shall obtain the additional two years of

1 work experience required in industrial or commercial electrical  
2 installation prior to the beginning, or after the completion, of the  
3 technical school program. Any applicant who has received training in  
4 the electrical construction trade in the armed service of the United  
5 States may be eligible to apply armed service work experience towards  
6 qualification to take the examination for the journey level  
7 electrician certificate of competency.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 On page 6, beginning on line 31, strike all of sections 3 and 4  
21 and insert the following:

22 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The following acts or parts of acts are  
23 each repealed:

- 24 (1) 2020 c 153 s 26 and 2018 c 249 s 1;
- 25 (2) 2018 c 249 s 2;
- 26 (3) 2018 c 249 s 3;
- 27 (4) RCW 19.28.195 (Examination—Exception for equivalent training  
28 and experience) and 2018 c 249 s 4;
- 29 (5) 2020 c 153 s 30 (uncodified);
- 30 (6) 2018 c 249 s 5 (uncodified); and
- 31 (7) 2020 c 153 s 31 (uncodified)."

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32 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "19.28.195;" insert  
33 "repealing 2020 c 153 s 26 and 2018 c 249 ss 1, 2, and 3; repealing

1 2018 c 249 s 5 (uncodified) and 2020 c 153 ss 30 and 31 (uncodified);  
2 and providing an expiration date."

EFFECT: Repeals the requirement that, effective July 1, 2023, applicants for a journey level electrician certificate must complete an apprenticeship program. Repeals the corresponding statutory changes made to the statute to conform with the apprenticeship requirement. Removes provisions of the bill that amend sections repealed by the amendment. Adds the provisions regarding out of state and military applicants to current law, rather than the law set to take effect July 1, 2023.

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