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**SENATE BILL 5914**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** Senators King and Wagoner

Read first time 01/20/22. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to removing the requirement that an accredited  
2 technical or trade school program be not-for-profit to be an approved  
3 training program for purposes of journey level and specialty  
4 electrician certification; amending RCW 19.28.161, 19.28.161,  
5 19.28.191, and 19.28.191; providing an effective date; and providing  
6 an expiration date.

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

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

10 (1) No person may engage in the electrical construction trade  
11 without having a valid master journey level electrician certificate  
12 of competency, journey level electrician certificate of competency,  
13 master specialty electrician certificate of competency, or specialty  
14 electrician certificate of competency issued by the department in  
15 accordance with this chapter. Electrician certificate of competency  
16 specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential, pump and  
17 irrigation, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential maintenance,  
18 restricted nonresidential maintenance, and appliance repair. Until  
19 July 1, 2007, the department of labor and industries shall issue a  
20 written warning to any specialty pump and irrigation or domestic pump  
21 electrician not having a valid electrician certification. The warning

1 will state that the individual must apply for an electrical training  
2 certificate or be qualified for and apply for electrician  
3 certification under the requirements in RCW 19.28.191(1)(g) within  
4 thirty calendar days of the warning. Only one warning will be issued  
5 to any individual. If the individual fails to comply with this  
6 section, the department shall issue a penalty as defined in RCW  
7 19.28.271 to the individual.

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

1 senate labor, commerce and consumer protection committee, or their  
2 successor committees, the department of labor and industries shall  
3 provide information on the implementation of the new classroom  
4 training requirements for electrical trainees to both committees by  
5 December 1, 2012. A biennial fee shall be charged for the issuance or  
6 renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the fee by rule.  
7 The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of administering and  
8 enforcing the trainee certification and supervision requirements of  
9 this chapter. Apprentices and individuals learning the electrical  
10 construction trade shall have their electrical training certificates  
11 in their possession at all times that they are performing electrical  
12 work. They shall show their certificates to an authorized  
13 representative of the department at the representative's request.

14 (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical training  
15 certificate under this chapter may work if that person is under  
16 supervision. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same  
17 jobsite and under the control of either a certified master journey  
18 level electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty  
19 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty  
20 electrician working in that electrician's specialty. Either a  
21 certified master journey level electrician, journey level  
22 electrician, master specialty electrician working in that  
23 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that  
24 electrician's specialty shall be on the same jobsite as the  
25 noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each  
26 working day unless otherwise provided in this chapter.

27 (4) The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified master  
28 journey level electricians, journey level electricians, master  
29 specialty electricians, or specialty electricians on any one jobsite  
30 is as follows:

31 (a) When working as a specialty electrician, not more than two  
32 noncertified individuals for every certified master specialty  
33 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, specialty  
34 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, master journey  
35 level electrician, or journey level electrician, except that the  
36 ratio requirements are one certified master specialty electrician  
37 working in that electrician's specialty, specialty electrician  
38 working in that electrician's specialty, master journey level  
39 electrician, or journey level electrician working as a specialty  
40 electrician to no more than four students enrolled in and working as

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

8 (b) When working as a journey level electrician, not more than  
9 one noncertified individual for every certified master journey level  
10 electrician or journey level electrician, except that the ratio  
11 requirements shall be one certified master journey level electrician  
12 or journey level electrician to no more than four students enrolled  
13 in and working as part of an electrical construction program at  
14 public community or technical colleges, or (~~not-for-profit~~)  
15 nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the  
16 workforce training and education coordinating board under chapter  
17 28C.10 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled  
18 in an electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade  
19 school may receive input and advice from the electrical board.

20 An individual who has a current training certificate and who has  
21 successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved  
22 apprenticeship program or in an electrical construction program at  
23 public community or technical colleges, or (~~not-for-profit~~)  
24 nationally accredited technical or trade schools licensed by the  
25 workforce training and education coordinating board under chapter  
26 28C.10 RCW, may work without direct on-site supervision during the  
27 last six months of meeting the practical experience requirements of  
28 this chapter.

29 (5) For the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)),  
30 pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as  
31 specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited energy (as specified in  
32 WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified in  
33 WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), restricted nonresidential maintenance as  
34 determined by the department in rule, or other new nonresidential  
35 specialties, not including appliance repair, as determined by the  
36 department in rule, either a master journey level electrician,  
37 journey level electrician, master specialty electrician working in  
38 that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in  
39 that electrician's specialty must be on the same jobsite as the  
40 noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each

1 working day. Other specialties must meet the requirements specified  
2 in RCW 19.28.191(1)(g) ~~((i))~~ (i)(B). When the ratio of certified  
3 electricians to noncertified individuals on a jobsite is one  
4 certified electrician to three or four noncertified individuals, the  
5 certified electrician must:

6 (a) Directly supervise and instruct the noncertified individuals  
7 and the certified electrician may not directly make or engage in an  
8 electrical installation; and

9 (b) Be on the same jobsite as the noncertified individual for a  
10 minimum of one hundred percent of each working day.

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

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.28.161 and 2018 c 249 s 2 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (1) No person may engage in the electrical construction trade  
17 without having a valid master journey level electrician certificate  
18 of competency, journey level electrician certificate of competency,  
19 master specialty electrician certificate of competency, or specialty  
20 electrician certificate of competency issued by the department in  
21 accordance with this chapter. Electrician certificate of competency  
22 specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential, pump and  
23 irrigation, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential maintenance,  
24 restricted nonresidential maintenance, and appliance repair.

25 (2)(a) A person who is: (i) Registered in an apprenticeship  
26 program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW or equivalent apprenticeship  
27 program approved by the department for the electrical construction  
28 trade; (ii) learning the electrical construction trade while working  
29 in a specialty; or (iii) learning the electrical construction trade  
30 in a program described in RCW 19.28.191(1) (e) or (f) for a journey  
31 level certificate of competency may work in the electrical  
32 construction trade if supervised by a certified master journey level  
33 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician  
34 in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician in that  
35 electrician's specialty.

36 (b) All apprentices and individuals learning the electrical  
37 construction trade shall obtain an electrical training certificate  
38 from the department. The certificate shall authorize the holder to  
39 learn the electrical construction trade while under the direct

1 supervision of a master journey level electrician, journey level  
2 electrician, master specialty electrician working in that  
3 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that  
4 electrician's specialty. The certificate may include a photograph of  
5 the holder. The holder of the electrical training certificate shall  
6 renew the certificate biennially. At the time of renewal, the holder  
7 shall provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's  
8 employers in the electrical construction industry for the previous  
9 biennial period and the number of hours worked for each employer. The  
10 holder shall also provide proof of forty-eight hours of: Approved  
11 classroom training covering this chapter, the national electrical  
12 code, or electrical theory; or equivalent classroom training taken as  
13 part of an approved apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04 RCW or  
14 an approved electrical training program under RCW 19.28.191(1)(e). A  
15 biennial fee shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of the  
16 certificate. The department shall set the fee by rule. The fee shall  
17 cover but not exceed the cost of administering and enforcing the  
18 trainee certification and supervision requirements of this chapter.

19 (c)(i) Apprentices and individuals learning the electrical  
20 construction trade shall have their electrical training certificates  
21 in their possession at all times that they are performing electrical  
22 work. They shall show their certificates to an authorized  
23 representative of the department at the representative's request.

24 (ii) Unless working in a specialty, apprentices and individuals  
25 learning the electrical construction trade must also have in their  
26 possession proof of apprenticeship or training program registration.  
27 They shall show their apprenticeship or training program registration  
28 documents to an authorized representative of the department at the  
29 representative's request.

30 (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical training  
31 certificate under this chapter may work: (a) If that person is under  
32 supervision, and is (b) unless working in a specialty, (i) registered  
33 in an approved journey level apprenticeship program, as appropriate;  
34 or (ii) learning the electrical construction trade in a program  
35 described in RCW 19.28.191(1)(e) for a journey level certificate of  
36 competency. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same  
37 jobsite and under the control of either a certified master journey  
38 level electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty  
39 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty  
40 electrician working in that electrician's specialty. Either a

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

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

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

28 (b) When working as a journey level electrician, not more than  
29 one noncertified individual for every certified master journey level  
30 electrician or journey level electrician, except that the ratio  
31 requirements shall be one certified master journey level electrician  
32 or journey level electrician to no more than four students enrolled  
33 in and working as part of an electrical construction program at  
34 public community or technical colleges, or (~~not-for-profit~~)  
35 nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the  
36 workforce training and education coordinating board under chapter  
37 28C.10 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled  
38 in an electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade  
39 school may receive input and advice from the electrical board.

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

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

27 (a) Directly supervise and instruct the noncertified individuals  
28 and the certified electrician may not directly make or engage in an  
29 electrical installation; and

30 (b) Be on the same jobsite as the noncertified individual for a  
31 minimum of one hundred percent of each working day.

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

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

37 (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review  
38 the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to  
39 take an examination for the master journey level electrician, journey



1 level electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty  
2 electrician certificate of competency.

3 (a) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid  
4 journey level electrician certificate of competency in effect for the  
5 previous four years and a valid general administrator's certificate  
6 may apply for a master journey level electrician certificate of  
7 competency without examination.

8 (b) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid  
9 specialty electrician certificate of competency, in the specialty  
10 applied for, for the previous two years and a valid specialty  
11 administrator's certificate, in the specialty applied for, may apply  
12 for a master specialty electrician certificate of competency without  
13 examination.

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

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

19 (ii) A person who provides evidence in a form prescribed by the  
20 department affirming that: (A) He or she was employed as of April 1,  
21 2003, by a factory-authorized equipment dealer or service company;  
22 and (B) he or she has worked in equipment repair for a minimum of  
23 four thousand hours.

24 (d) To be eligible to take the examination for a master journey  
25 level electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have  
26 possessed a valid journey level electrician certificate of competency  
27 for four years.

28 (e) To be eligible to take the examination for a master specialty  
29 electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have  
30 possessed a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in  
31 the specialty applied for, for two years.

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

34 (i) Worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of  
35 eight thousand hours, of which four thousand hours shall be in  
36 industrial or commercial electrical installation under the  
37 supervision of a master journey level electrician or journey level  
38 electrician and not more than a total of four thousand hours in all  
39 specialties under the supervision of a master journey level  
40 electrician, journey level electrician, master specialty electrician

1 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician  
2 working in that electrician's specialty. Specialty electricians with  
3 less than a four thousand hour work experience requirement cannot  
4 credit the time required to obtain that specialty towards qualifying  
5 to become a journey level electrician; or

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

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

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

21 (B) Worked in the appliance repair specialty as determined by the  
22 department in rule, restricted nonresidential maintenance as  
23 determined by the department in rule, the equipment repair specialty  
24 as determined by the department in rule, the pump and irrigation  
25 specialty other than as defined by (g)(i)(A) of this subsection or  
26 domestic pump specialty as determined by the department in rule, or a  
27 specialty other than the designated specialties in (g)(i)(A) of this  
28 subsection for a minimum of the initial ninety days, or longer if set  
29 by rule by the department. The restricted nonresidential maintenance  
30 specialty is limited to a maximum of 277 volts and 20 amperes for  
31 lighting branch circuits and/or a maximum of 250 volts and 60 amperes  
32 for other circuits excluding the replacement or repair of circuit  
33 breakers. The department may alter the scope of work for the  
34 restricted nonresidential maintenance specialty by rule. The initial  
35 period must be spent under one hundred percent supervision of a  
36 master journey level electrician, journey level electrician, master  
37 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or  
38 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. After  
39 this initial period, a person may take the specialty examination. If  
40 the person passes the examination, the person may work unsupervised

1 for the balance of the minimum hours required for certification. A  
2 person may not be certified as a specialty electrician in the  
3 appliance repair specialty or in a specialty other than the  
4 designated specialties in (g)(i)(A) of this subsection, however,  
5 until the person has worked a minimum of two thousand hours in that  
6 specialty, or longer if set by rule by the department; or

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

10 (ii) In meeting the training requirements for the pump and  
11 irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be  
12 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the same  
13 time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW  
14 18.106.040(1)(d). After meeting the training requirements provided in  
15 this section, the individual may take the examination and upon  
16 passing the examination, meeting additional training requirements as  
17 may still be required for those seeking a pump and irrigation, or a  
18 domestic pump specialty certificate as defined by rule, and paying  
19 the applicable fees, the individual must be issued the appropriate  
20 certificate. The department may include an examination for specialty  
21 plumbing certificate defined in RCW 18.106.010(14)(c) with the  
22 examination required by this section. The department, by rule and in  
23 consultation with the electrical board, may establish additional  
24 equivalent ways to gain the experience requirements required by this  
25 subsection. The department shall establish a single document for  
26 those who have received both an electrical specialty certification as  
27 defined by this subsection and have also met the certification  
28 requirements for the specialty plumber as defined by RCW 18.106.010,  
29 showing that the individual has received both certifications. No  
30 other experience or training requirements may be imposed.

31 (iii) Before July 1, 2015, an applicant possessing an electrical  
32 training certificate issued by the department is eligible to apply  
33 one hour of every two hours of unsupervised telecommunications system  
34 installation work experience toward eligibility for examination for a  
35 limited energy system certificate of competency (as specified in WAC  
36 296-46B-920(2)(e)), if:

37 (A) The telecommunications work experience was obtained while  
38 employed by a contractor licensed under this chapter as a general  
39 electrical contractor (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(1)) or limited

1 energy system specialty contractor (as specified in WAC  
2 296-46B-920(2)(e)); and

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

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

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

36 (j) The department must determine whether hours of training and  
37 experience in the armed services or school program are in the  
38 electrical construction trade and appropriate as a substitute for  
39 hours of work experience. The department must use the following

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, indicating  
28 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 after  
32 original application for the trainee certificate. For the purposes of  
33 this section, "full-time basis" means two thousand hours.

34 **Sec. 4.** RCW 19.28.191 and 2020 c 153 s 26 are each amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review  
37 the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to  
38 take an examination for the master journey level electrician, journey

1 level electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty  
2 electrician certificate of competency.

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

7 (b) To be eligible to take the examination for a master specialty  
8 electrician certificate of competency, the applicant must have  
9 possessed a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in  
10 the specialty applied for, for two years.

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

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

35 (i) Worked in the residential (as specified in WAC  
36 296-46B-920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC  
37 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)),  
38 limited energy (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)),  
39 nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)),  
40 or other new nonresidential specialties as determined by the

1 department in rule under the supervision of a 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 for a minimum of four  
5 thousand hours;

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

32 (iii) Successfully completed an approved apprenticeship program  
33 under chapter 49.04 RCW for the applicant's specialty in the  
34 electrical construction trade; or

35 (iv) In meeting the training requirements for the pump and  
36 irrigation or domestic pump specialties, the individual shall be  
37 allowed to obtain the experience required by this section at the same  
38 time the individual is meeting the experience required by RCW  
39 18.106.040(1)(d). After meeting the training requirements provided in  
40 this section, the individual may take the examination and upon

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

17 (e) Any applicant for a journey level electrician certificate of  
18 competency who has successfully completed a two-year program in the  
19 electrical construction trade at public community or technical  
20 colleges, or (~~not-for-profit~~) nationally accredited technical or  
21 trade schools licensed by the workforce training and education  
22 coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may substitute up to two  
23 years of the technical or trade school program for two years of work  
24 experience under a master journey level electrician or journey level  
25 electrician required under the apprenticeship program. The applicant  
26 shall obtain the additional two years of work experience required in  
27 industrial or commercial electrical installation prior to the  
28 beginning, or after the completion, of the technical school program.  
29 Any applicant who has received training in the electrical  
30 construction trade in the armed service of the United States may be  
31 eligible to apply armed service work experience towards qualification  
32 to complete an apprenticeship and take the examination for the  
33 journey level electrician certificate of competency.

34 (f) An applicant for a specialty electrician certificate of  
35 competency who, after January 1, 2000, has successfully completed a  
36 two-year program in the electrical construction trade at a public  
37 community or technical college, or a (~~not-for-profit~~) nationally  
38 accredited technical or trade school licensed by the workforce  
39 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW,  
40 may substitute up to one year of the technical or trade school



1 program for one year of work experience under a 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. Any applicant who has  
5 received training in the electrical construction trade in the armed  
6 services of the United States may be eligible to apply armed service  
7 work experience towards qualification to take the examination for an  
8 appropriate specialty electrician certificate of competency.

9 (g) The department must determine whether hours of training and  
10 experience in the armed services or school program are in the  
11 electrical construction trade and appropriate as a substitute for  
12 hours of work experience. The department must use the following  
13 criteria for evaluating the equivalence of classroom electrical  
14 training programs and work in the electrical construction trade:

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

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

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

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

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

34 (h) No other requirement for eligibility may be imposed.

35 (2) The department shall establish reasonable rules for the  
36 examinations to be given applicants for certificates of competency.  
37 In establishing the rules, the department shall consult with the  
38 board. Upon determination that the applicant is eligible to take the  
39 examination, the department shall so notify the applicant, indicating  
40 instructions for taking the examination.

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

6           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 and 3 of this act expire July  
7 1, 2023.

8           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 6.** Sections 2 and 4 of this act take effect  
9 July 1, 2023.

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