
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that with the growing
2 trend and necessity for water conservation, building codes are
3 changing to reduce water flow and encourage the safe use of
4 reclaimed non-potable water. The legislature further finds that
5 with the newly created non-potable water technologies and
6 processes, it is necessary to provide the public with assurances
7 that properly trained and experienced individuals can install,
8 maintain, and repair air conditioning, refrigeration, and fire
9 sprinkler systems that are in compliance with national codes and
10 guidelines intended to protect public health and safety.

11 Currently, only potable water is piped into residential and
12 commercial buildings; however, the 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code
13 opens the door for the use of reclaimed water in buildings.

14 This Act is not intended to require licensure for workers
15 of any trade other than air conditioning and refrigeration or
16 fire sprinkler and does not include the work customarily
17 performed by the sheet metal industry. This Act is also not
18 intended to require licensure for all workers performing



1 pipefitting; rather it focuses on the pipefitting associated
2 with plumbing, air conditioning and refrigeration, or fire
3 sprinkler work and does not preclude other properly licensed
4 contractors from performing pipefitting work within the scope of
5 their license.

6 The intent of this Act, as it relates to the licensing of
7 tradespersons to perform air conditioning and refrigeration or
8 fire sprinkler work, is to prepare and train the workforce to
9 handle the changes and innovations related to non-potable water
10 technologies and processes. This will ensure consumer health
11 and safety and minimize the risks and hazards of potentially
12 life threatening incidents of cross contamination.

13 SECTION 2. Section 448E-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended as follows:

15 1. By adding two new definitions to be appropriately
16 inserted and to read:

17 "Journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration
18 plumber" means any person licensed by the board as a journey
19 worker air conditioning and refrigeration plumber to direct,
20 supervise, and perform air conditioning and refrigeration work
21 and any associated pipefitting, to install, maintain, repair,
22 and modify heating, cooling, and refrigeration systems; provided



1 that this shall not preclude properly licensed contractors from
2 performing pipefitting work within the scope of the contractor's
3 license.

4 "Journey worker fire sprinkler plumber" means any person
5 licensed by the board as a journey worker fire sprinkler plumber
6 to direct, supervise, and perform fire sprinkler work and any
7 associated pipefitting, to install, maintain, repair, and modify
8 fire sprinkler systems; provided that this shall not preclude
9 properly licensed contractors from performing pipefitting work
10 within the scope of the contractor's license."

11 2. By amending the definitions of "journey worker plumber"
12 and "master plumber" to read:

13 "Journey worker plumber" means any person who has been
14 licensed by the board as a journey worker plumber to direct [and
15 supervise the performance of plumbing work and to], supervise,
16 and perform plumbing work[-], and any associated pipefitting;
17 provided that this shall not preclude properly licensed
18 contractors from performing pipefitting work within the scope of
19 their license.

20 "Master plumber" means any person who has been licensed by
21 the board as a master plumber to direct [~~and supervise the~~
22 ~~performance of plumbing work and to~~], supervise, and perform



1 plumbing work, and who provides overall supervision and general
2 direction, and is responsible for the proper installation of
3 plumbing work[-], and any associated pipefitting; provided that
4 this shall not preclude properly licensed contractors from
5 performing pipefitting work within the scope of their license."

6 SECTION 3. Section 448E-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "**§448E-4 Powers and duties of board.** In addition to any
9 other powers and duties authorized by law, the board shall have
10 all the powers and duties necessary or convenient to carry out
11 and effectuate this chapter, including but not limited to the
12 following powers and duties:

- 13 (1) To grant licenses [~~which~~] that shall be renewable for:
- 14 (A) Journey worker electricians;
- 15 (B) Journey worker specialty electricians;
- 16 (C) Supervising electricians;
- 17 (D) Supervising specialty electricians;
- 18 (E) Master plumbers;
- 19 (F) Journey worker plumbers;
- 20 (G) Maintenance electricians;
- 21 (H) Journey worker industrial electricians; [~~and~~]
- 22 (I) Supervising industrial electricians;



1 (J) Journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration
2 plumbers; and

3 (K) Journey worker fire sprinkler plumbers;

4 (2) To adopt, amend, or repeal rules in accordance with
5 chapter 91 as it may deem proper to effectuate this
6 chapter and to [~~insure~~] ensure the safety and welfare
7 of the general public; provided that the rules may
8 forbid acts or practices deemed by the board to be
9 detrimental to the accomplishment of the purpose of
10 this chapter;

11 (3) To enforce this chapter and rules adopted pursuant to
12 this chapter and chapter 91, including the denial,
13 suspension, or revocation of any license; and

14 (4) To examine all applicants and licensees to determine
15 their qualifications prior to the issuance or renewal
16 of licenses."

17 SECTION 4. Section 448E-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 "**§448E-5 Minimum requirements.** (a) Except as otherwise
20 provided in subsection (b), an applicant shall possess the
21 following minimum qualifications:



- 1 (1) Journey worker electrician: To be eligible for the
2 journey worker electrician examination, an applicant
3 shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall
4 provide satisfactory evidence of experience in
5 residential or commercial wiring of at least five
6 years of full-time or its equivalent, but not less
7 than ten thousand hours, in the trade under the
8 supervision of a journey worker electrician or
9 supervising electrician;
- 10 (2) Journey worker specialty electrician: To be eligible
11 for the journey worker specialty electrician
12 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
13 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
14 of at least five [~~years' experience in the trade,~~]
15 years of full-time or its equivalent, but not less
16 than ten thousand hours, in the trade under the
17 supervision of a journey worker specialty electrician,
18 supervising specialty electrician, journey worker
19 industrial electrician, supervising industrial
20 electrician, journey worker electrician, or
21 supervising electrician;



- 1 (3) Supervising electrician: To be eligible for the
2 supervising electrician examination, an applicant
3 shall have been registered with the board as a journey
4 worker electrician for at least a period of four years
5 or shall have equivalent experience in the trade;
- 6 (4) Supervising specialty electrician: To be eligible for
7 the supervising specialty electrician examination, an
8 applicant shall have been registered with the board as
9 a journey worker specialty electrician for at least a
10 period of four years or shall have equivalent
11 experience in the trade;
- 12 (5) Journey worker plumber: To be eligible for the
13 journey worker plumber examination, an applicant shall
14 provide satisfactory evidence of experience of at
15 least five [~~years~~] years of full-time or its
16 equivalent, but not less than ten thousand hours, [~~as~~
17 in the trade under the supervision of a journey
18 ~~worker's~~] worker plumber or master [~~plumber's~~
19 ~~helper,~~] plumber;
- 20 (6) Master plumber: To be eligible for the master plumber
21 examination, an applicant shall have been registered
22 with the board as a journey worker plumber for at



1 least two years or shall have equivalent experience in
2 the trade;

3 (7) Maintenance electrician: To be eligible for the
4 maintenance electrician examination, an applicant
5 shall be not less than eighteen years of age and shall
6 provide satisfactory evidence of at least one year of
7 experience in performing electrical maintenance work
8 or two years of schooling in the electrical trade;

9 (8) Journey worker industrial electrician: To be eligible
10 for the journey worker industrial electrician
11 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
12 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
13 of experience in industrial electrical work of at
14 least five years of full-time or its equivalent, but
15 not less than ten thousand hours[+] in the trade under
16 the supervision of a journey worker industrial
17 electrician, supervising industrial electrician,
18 journey worker electrician, or supervising
19 electrician; and

20 (9) Supervising industrial electrician: To be eligible
21 for the supervising industrial electrician
22 examination, an applicant shall have been registered



1 with the board as a journey worker industrial
2 electrician for a period of at least four years or
3 shall have equivalent experience in the trade.

4 (b) Effective July 1, 2013, an applicant for licensing
5 pursuant to this chapter shall possess the following minimum
6 qualifications:

7 (1) Journey worker electrician: To be eligible for the
8 journey worker electrician examination, an applicant
9 shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall
10 provide satisfactory evidence of:

11 (A) Experience in residential or commercial wiring of
12 at least five years of full-time or its
13 equivalent, but not less than ten thousand hours,
14 in the trade under the supervision of a journey
15 worker electrician or supervising electrician;
16 and

17 (B) Satisfactory completion, accepted by a University
18 of Hawaii community college offering an
19 appropriate program of study, of two hundred
20 forty hours of electrical academic coursework;

21 (2) Journey worker specialty electrician: To be eligible
22 for the journey worker specialty electrician



1 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
2 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
3 of:

4 (A) Experience of at least three years of full-time
5 or its equivalent, but not less than six thousand
6 hours, in the trade under the supervision of a
7 journey worker electrician, supervising
8 electrician, journey worker specialty
9 electrician, [~~or~~] supervising specialty
10 electrician[~~and~~], journey worker industrial
11 electrician, or supervising industrial
12 electrician; and

13 (B) Satisfactory completion, accepted by a University
14 of Hawaii community college offering an
15 appropriate program of study, of one hundred
16 twenty hours of electrical academic coursework;

17 (3) Supervising electrician: To be eligible for the
18 supervising electrician examination, an applicant
19 shall have been registered with the board as a journey
20 worker electrician for at least a period of four years
21 or shall have equivalent experience in the trade;



- 1 (4) Supervising specialty electrician: To be eligible for
2 the supervising specialty electrician examination, an
3 applicant shall have been registered with the board as
4 a journey worker specialty electrician for at least a
5 period of two years or shall have equivalent
6 experience in the trade;
- 7 (5) Journey worker plumber: To be eligible for the
8 journey worker plumber examination, an applicant shall
9 be at least eighteen years of age and shall provide
10 satisfactory evidence of experience of at least five
11 [years-] years of full-time or its equivalent, but not
12 less than ten thousand hours, [as] in the trade under
13 the supervision of a journey [worker's] worker plumber
14 or master [plumber's helper,] plumber;
- 15 (6) Master plumber: To be eligible for the master plumber
16 examination, an applicant shall have been registered
17 with the board as a journey worker plumber for at
18 least two years or shall have equivalent experience in
19 the trade;
- 20 (7) Maintenance electrician: To be eligible for the
21 maintenance electrician examination, an applicant



1 shall be not less than eighteen years of age and shall
2 provide satisfactory evidence of:

3 (A) At least one year of experience in performing
4 electrical maintenance work plus satisfactory
5 completion, accepted by a University of Hawaii
6 community college offering an appropriate program
7 of study, of at least eighty hours of electrical
8 academic coursework; or

9 (B) Two years of schooling in the electrical trade
10 with not less than one thousand hours of hands-on
11 lab exercises;

12 (8) Journey worker industrial electrician: To be eligible
13 for the journey worker industrial electrician
14 examination, an applicant shall be at least eighteen
15 years of age and shall provide satisfactory evidence
16 of:

17 (A) Experience in industrial electrical work of at
18 least four years of full-time or its equivalent,
19 but not less than eight thousand hours in the
20 trade under the supervision of a journey worker
21 electrician, supervising electrician, journey



1 worker industrial electrician, or supervising
2 industrial electrician; and

3 (B) Satisfactory completion, as accepted by a
4 University of Hawaii community college offering
5 an appropriate program of study, of two hundred
6 hours of electrical academic coursework; and

7 (9) Supervising industrial electrician: To be eligible
8 for the supervising industrial electrician
9 examination, an applicant shall have been registered
10 with the board as a journey worker industrial
11 electrician for a period of at least three years or
12 shall have equivalent experience in the trade.

13 (c) Effective July 1, 2016, an applicant for licensing
14 pursuant to this chapter shall possess the following minimum
15 qualifications:

16 (1) Journey worker plumber: To be eligible for the
17 journey worker plumber examination, an applicant shall
18 be at least eighteen years of age and:

19 (A) If the applicant is not licensed as a journey
20 worker air conditioning and refrigeration plumber
21 or journey worker fire sprinkler plumber, the
22 applicant shall provide satisfactory evidence of

1 experience of at least five years of full-time or
2 its equivalent, but not less than ten thousand
3 hours, in the trade under the supervision of a
4 journey worker plumber or master plumber; or

5 (B) If the applicant is licensed as a journey worker
6 air conditioning and refrigeration plumber or
7 journey worker fire sprinkler plumber, the
8 applicant shall provide satisfactory evidence of
9 experience of at least three years of full-time
10 or its equivalent, but not less than six thousand
11 hours, in the trade under the supervision of a
12 journey worker plumber or master plumber;

13 (2) Journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration
14 plumber: To be eligible for the journey worker air
15 conditioning and refrigeration plumber examination, an
16 applicant shall be not less than eighteen years of age
17 and:

18 (A) If the applicant is not licensed as a journey
19 worker plumber, master plumber, or journey worker
20 fire sprinkler plumber, the applicant shall
21 provide satisfactory evidence of experience of at
22 least five years of full-time or its equivalent,

1 but not less than ten thousand hours, in the
2 trade under the supervision of a journey worker
3 air conditioning and refrigeration plumber;
4 provided that:

5 (i) For six years, beginning July 1, 2015, a
6 licensed ventilating and air conditioning
7 contractor or refrigeration contractor shall
8 be deemed qualified to verify an applicant's
9 experience; and

10 (ii) Thereafter, only a licensed journey worker
11 air conditioning and refrigeration plumber
12 shall be deemed qualified to verify an
13 applicant's experience; or

14 (B) If the applicant is licensed as a journey worker
15 plumber, master plumber, or journey worker fire
16 sprinkler plumber, the applicant shall provide
17 satisfactory evidence of experience of at least
18 two years of full-time or its equivalent, but not
19 less than four thousand hours, in the trade under
20 the supervision of a journey worker air
21 conditioning and refrigeration plumber,



1 performing air conditioning and refrigeration
2 work; provided that:

3 (i) For six years, beginning July 1, 2015, a
4 licensed ventilating and air conditioning
5 contractor or refrigeration contractor shall
6 be deemed qualified to verify an applicant's
7 experience; and

8 (ii) Thereafter, only a licensed journey worker
9 air conditioning and refrigeration plumber
10 shall be deemed qualified to verify an
11 applicant's experience;

12 (3) Journey worker fire sprinkler plumber: To be eligible
13 for the journey worker fire sprinkler plumber
14 examination, an applicant shall be not less than
15 eighteen years of age and:

16 (A) If the applicant is not licensed as a journey
17 worker plumber, master plumber, or journey worker
18 air conditioning and refrigeration plumber, the
19 applicant shall provide satisfactory evidence of
20 experience of at least five years of full-time or
21 its equivalent, but not less than ten thousand
22 hours, in the trade under the supervision of a



1 journey worker fire sprinkler plumber; provided
2 that:

3 (i) For six years, beginning July 1, 2015, a
4 licensed fire protection contractor shall be
5 deemed qualified to verify an applicant's
6 experience; and

7 (ii) Thereafter, only a licensed journey worker
8 fire sprinkler plumber shall be deemed
9 qualified to verify an applicant's
10 experience; or

11 (B) If the applicant is licensed as a journey worker
12 plumber, master plumber, or journey worker air
13 conditioning and refrigeration plumber, the
14 applicant shall provide evidence of experience of
15 not less than two years of full-time or its
16 equivalent, but not less than four thousand
17 hours, in the trade under the supervision of a
18 journey worker fire sprinkler plumber performing
19 fire sprinkler work; provided that:

20 (i) For six years, beginning July 1, 2015, a
21 licensed fire protection contractor shall be



1 deemed qualified to verify an applicant's
2 experience; and
3 (ii) Thereafter, only a licensed journey worker
4 fire sprinkler plumber shall be deemed
5 qualified to verify an applicant's
6 experience."

7 SECTION 5. Section 448E-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "**§448E-8 Fees; renewals.** (a) Renewal fees shall be paid
10 to the board before July 1.

11 (b) Plumbers shall renew the license every three years
12 effective June 30, 2006, and shall pay all required fees. Prior
13 to the June 30, 2009, renewal of the license, and prior to every
14 license renewal thereafter, the applicant shall:

- 15 (1) Pay all required fees; and
- 16 (2) Meet the requirements prescribed in section 448E-8.5.

17 (c) Electricians shall renew the license every three years
18 effective with the July 1, 1996, renewal; provided that prior to
19 the renewal of the license the applicant shall:

- 20 (1) Pay all required fees; and
- 21 (2) Meet the requirements prescribed in section 448E-8.5.



1 (d) Journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration
 2 plumbers and journey worker fire sprinkler plumbers shall renew
 3 their license every three years effective June 30, 2018, and
 4 shall pay all required fees. Prior to the June 30, 2021,
 5 renewal of the license, and prior to every license renewal
 6 thereafter, the applicant shall:

- 7 (1) Pay all required fees; and
- 8 (2) Meet the requirements prescribed in section 448E-8.5.

9 [~~d~~] (e) Failure, neglect, or refusal of any licensee to
 10 pay the renewal fee or meet the requirements of section 448E-8.5
 11 before the renewal date shall constitute a forfeiture of the
 12 license. Any license so forfeited may be restored upon written
 13 application within one year from the date of forfeiture, upon
 14 payment of the required renewal fee plus penalty fees and upon
 15 meeting the requirements in section 448E-8.5."

16 SECTION 6. Section 448E-8.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 17 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

18 "(b) Prior to each license renewal, all licensed plumbers
 19 shall:

- 20 (1) Furnish the board with proof of attendance at an
 21 educational course related to current updates of the

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~~[Uniform Plumbing Code]~~ following codes conducted or approved by the community colleges ~~[+or]~~:

- (A) Uniform Plumbing Code for journey worker plumbers and master plumbers;
- (B) Uniform Mechanical Code for journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration plumbers; or
- (C) Applicable codes published by the National Fire Prevention Association for journey worker fire sprinkler plumbers as prescribed in the rules of the board; or

(2) Successfully complete an examination prescribed by the board on current updates to the ~~[Uniform Plumbing Code.]~~ following codes:

- (A) Uniform Plumbing Code for journey worker plumbers and master plumbers;
- (B) Uniform Mechanical Code for journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration plumbers; or
- (C) Applicable codes published by the National Fire Prevention Association for journey worker fire sprinkler plumbers as prescribed in the rules of the board.

1 The board shall contract with a professional testing
2 agency to prepare, administer, and grade the
3 examination. A licensee shall pay all fees related to
4 the examination directly to the professional testing
5 agency."

6 SECTION 7. Section 448E-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

8 "(a) No person shall act or assume to act as a journey
9 worker electrician, journey worker specialty electrician,
10 supervising electrician, supervising specialty electrician,
11 journey worker plumber, master plumber, maintenance electrician,
12 journey worker industrial electrician, [øæ] supervising
13 industrial electrician, journey worker air conditioning and
14 refrigeration plumber, or journey worker fire sprinkler plumber,
15 or advertise or hold the person's self out as an electrician or
16 plumber, without a license previously obtained in compliance
17 with this chapter and the rules of the board; provided that any
18 person may perform emergency plumbing repair work in the
19 person's principal place of residence when such repairs do not
20 involve or require rearrangement of valves, pipes, or fixtures;
21 provided further that no such emergency repairs may be performed
22 on sewer lines, drains, gas lines, and on fixtures being served



1 with backflow devices which include heaters, water closets,
2 dishwashers, and garbage disposal units.

3 For purposes of this subsection:

4 "Electrician" means any person who performs electrical work
5 and includes but is not limited to any person who acts as a
6 journey worker electrician, journey worker specialty
7 electrician, supervising electrician, supervising specialty
8 electrician, maintenance electrician, journey worker industrial
9 electrician, or supervising industrial electrician.

10 "Plumber" means any person who performs plumbing work and
11 includes but is not limited to any person who acts as a journey
12 worker plumber [øæ], master plumber[-], journey worker air
13 conditioning and refrigeration plumber, or journey worker fire
14 sprinkler plumber."

15 SECTION 8. Section 448E-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 "**§448E-11 Injunction.** The board may, in addition to any
18 other remedy available, apply to a circuit court judge for a
19 temporary restraining order or preliminary or permanent
20 injunction restraining any person from acting, or assuming to
21 act, as a journey worker electrician, journey worker specialty
22 electrician, supervising electrician, supervising specialty



1 electrician, maintenance electrician, journey worker industrial
2 electrician, supervising industrial electrician, journey worker
3 plumber, [~~or~~] master plumber, journey worker air conditioning
4 and refrigeration plumber, or journey worker fire sprinkler
5 plumber without a license previously obtained in compliance with
6 this chapter and the rules of the board, and upon hearing and
7 for cause shown, the judge may grant the temporary restraining
8 order or preliminary or permanent injunction."

9 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

12



Report Title:

Electricians and Plumbers; Journey Worker Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Plumber; Journey Worker Fire Sprinkler Plumber; Licensing; Continuing Education

Description:

Authorizes the board of electricians and plumbers to regulate journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration plumbers and journey worker fire sprinkler plumbers. Establishes minimum qualifications for licensure beginning July 1, 2016. Establishes that journey worker air conditioning and refrigeration plumbers and journey worker fire sprinkler plumbers shall renew their license every three years effective June 30, 2018, and shall meet new requirements for licensure prior to the June 30, 2021, renewal deadline. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD1)

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