

CHAPTER 19.28 RCW

ELECTRICIANS AND ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

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individual fails to comply with this section, the department shall issue a penalty as defined in RCW 19.28.271 to the individual.

- (2) A person who is indentured in an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade or who is learning the electrical construction trade may work in the electrical construction trade if supervised by a certified master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician in that electrician's specialty. All apprentices and individuals learning the electrical construction trade shall obtain an electrical training certificate from the department. The certificate shall authorize the holder to learn the electrical construction trade while under the direct supervision of a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. The certificate may include a photograph of the holder. The holder of the electrical training certificate shall renew the certificate biennially. At the time of renewal, the holder shall provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's employers in the electrical construction industry for the previous biennial period and the number of hours worked for each employer. The holder shall also provide proof of sixteen hours of: Approved classroom training covering this chapter, the national electrical code, or electrical theory; or equivalent classroom training taken as part of an approved apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04 RCW or an approved electrical training program under RCW 19.28.191(1)(h). The number of hours of approved classroom training required for certificate renewal shall increase as follows: (a) Beginning on July 1, 2011, the holder of an electrical training certificate shall provide the department with proof of thirty-two hours of approved classroom training; and (b) beginning on July 1, 2013, the holder of an electrical training certificate shall provide the department with proof of forty-eight hours of approved classroom training. At the request of the chairs of the house of representatives commerce and labor committee and the senate labor, commerce and consumer protection committee, or their successor committees, the department of labor and industries shall provide information on the implementation of the new classroom training requirements for electrical trainees to both committees by December 1, 2012. A biennial fee shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the fee by rule. The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of administering and enforcing the trainee certification and supervision requirements of this chapter. Apprentices and individuals learning the electrical construction trade shall have their electrical training certificates in their possession at all times that they are performing electrical work. They shall show their certificates to an authorized representative of the department at the representative's request.
- (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical training certificate under this chapter may work if that person is under supervision. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same job site and under the control of either a certified master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. Either a certified master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty shall be on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each working day unless otherwise provided in this chapter.
- (4) The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified master journeymen electricians, journeymen electricians, master specialty electricians, or specialty electricians on any one job site is as follows:
 - (a) When working as a specialty electrician, not more than two noncertified individuals for every certified master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, master journeyman electrician, or journeyman electrician, except that the ratio requirements are one certified master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, master journeyman electrician, or journeyman electrician working as a specialty electrician to no more than four students enrolled in and working as part of an electrical construction program at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the work force training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in an electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade school may receive input and advice from the electrical board; and
 - (b) When working as a journeyman electrician, not more than one noncertified individual for every certified master journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician, except that the ratio requirements shall be one certified master journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician to no more than four students enrolled in and working as part of an electrical construction program at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the work force training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in an electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade school may receive input and advice from the electrical board.

An individual who has a current training certificate and who has successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved apprenticeship program or in an electrical construction program at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally accredited technical or trade schools licensed by the work force training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may work without direct on-site supervision during the last six months of meeting the practical experience requirements of this chapter.
- (5) For the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited energy (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(g)), restricted nonresidential maintenance as determined by the department in rule, or other new nonresidential specialties, not including appliance repair, as determined by the department in rule, either a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty must be on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-five percent of each working day. Other specialties must meet the requirements specified in RCW 19.28.191(1)(g)(ii). When the ratio of certified electricians to noncertified individuals on a job site is one certified electrician to three or four noncertified individuals, the certified electrician must:

- (a) Directly supervise and instruct the noncertified individuals and the certified electrician may not directly make or engage in an electrical installation; and
 - (b) Be on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of one hundred percent of each working day.
- (6) The electrical contractor shall accurately verify and attest to the electrical trainee hours worked by electrical trainees on behalf of the electrical contractor.

RCW 19.28.171 Electrical trainee hours -- Audit -- Rules -- Confidentiality.

The department may audit the records of an electrical contractor that has verified the hours of experience submitted by an electrical trainee to the department under RCW 19.28.161(2) in the following circumstances: Excessive hours were reported; hours reported outside the normal course of the contractor's business; the type of hours reported do not reasonably match the type of permits purchased; or for other similar circumstances in which the department demonstrates a likelihood of excessive hours being reported. The department shall limit the audit to records necessary to verify hours. The department shall adopt rules implementing audit procedures. Information obtained from an electrical contractor under the provisions of this section is confidential and is not open to public inspection under chapter 42.17 RCW.

RCW 19.28.181 Application for certificate of competency.

Any person desiring to be issued a certificate of competency as provided in this chapter shall deliver evidence in a form prescribed by the department affirming that said person has met the qualifications required under RCW 19.28.191. An electrician from another jurisdiction applying for a certificate of competency must provide evidence in a form prescribed by the department affirming that the person has the equivalent qualifications to those required under RCW 19.28.191.

RCW 19.28.191 Certificate of competency -- Eligibility for examination -- Rules.

- (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall review the application and determine whether the applicant is eligible to take an examination for the master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician, or specialty electrician certificate of competency.
 - (a) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid journeyman electrician certificate of competency in effect for the previous four years and a valid general administrator's certificate may apply for a master journeyman electrician certificate of competency without examination.
 - (b) Before July 1, 2005, an applicant who possesses a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in the specialty applied for, for the previous two years and a valid specialty administrator's certificate, in the specialty applied for, may apply for a master specialty electrician certificate of competency without examination.
 - (c) Before December 1, 2003, the following persons may obtain an equipment repair specialty electrician certificate of competency without examination:
 - (i) A person who has successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the machinist trade; and
 - (ii) A person who provides evidence in a form prescribed by the department affirming that:
 - (A) He or she was employed as of April 1, 2003, by a factory-authorized equipment dealer or service company; and
 - (B) he or she has worked in equipment repair for a minimum of four thousand hours.
 - (d) To be eligible to take the examination for a master journeyman electrician certificate of competency the applicant must have possessed a valid journeyman electrician certificate of competency for four years.
 - (e) To be eligible to take the examination for a master specialty electrician certificate of competency the applicant must have possessed a valid specialty electrician certificate of competency, in the specialty applied for, for two years.
 - (f) To be eligible to take the examination for a journeyman certificate of competency the applicant must have:
 - (i) Worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of eight thousand hours, of which four thousand hours shall be in industrial or commercial electrical installation under the supervision of a master journeyman electrician or journeyman electrician and not more than a total of four thousand hours in all specialties under the supervision of a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty. Specialty electricians with less than a four thousand hour work experience requirement cannot credit the time required to obtain that specialty towards qualifying to become a journeyman electrician; or
 - (ii) Successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade.
 - (g) To be eligible to take the examination for a specialty electrician certificate of competency the applicant must have:
 - (i) Worked in the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)), pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited energy (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC 296-46A-920(2)(g)), or other new nonresidential specialties as determined by the department in rule under the supervision of a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty for a minimum of four