

Chapter H 61

APPRENTICESHIP AND LICENSING OF PLUMBERS

H 61.001	Definitions	H 61.11	Practical training— restricted
H 61.01	Apprenticeship	H 61.12	Related instruction— restricted
H 61.02	Practical training	H 61.13	Fees, expiration of licenses, registration
H 61.03	Related instruction	H 61.14	Utility contractor license and registration of pipe layers
H 61.04	Engineering training	H 61.15	Certification, plumbing inspectors and independent inspection
H 61.05	Journeyman plumber licenses	H 61.16	Licensing of automatic fire sprinklerfitters and contractors
H 61.06	Examinations	H 61.17	Registration for the maintenance of automatic fire sprinklers
H 61.07	Temporary permits		
H 61.08	License renewal		
H 61.09	Exchange of licenses without examination		
H 61.10	Registered learners— restricted		

History: Chapter H 61 as it existed on October 31, 1970, was repealed and a new chapter H 61 was created effective November 1, 1970.

H 61.001 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) "Business establishment" means any industrial or commercial organization or enterprise operated for profit, including but not limited to a proprietorship, partnership, firm, business trust, joint venture, syndicate, corporation or association.

(2) "Department" means the department of industry, labor and human relations.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1982, No. 320, eff. 9-1-82.

H 61.01 Apprenticeship. (1) REGISTRATION. Every plumbing apprentice shall register with the department immediately. Registration forms will be furnished by the department which shall require the applicant to indicate his name, age, preliminary schooling, beginning date of indenture, name and address of employer and such other information as the department may require. Persons beginning an accredited plumbing trade school course may also register.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION. All applicants for registration as apprentices must have reached the age of 16 years and have completed the 12th grade in school or its equivalent. Applicants who have not completed the 12th grade or its equivalent shall be required to attend part-time school 4 hours per week during the entire period of their apprenticeship. In each case where the applicant seeks to establish the equivalency of completion of the 12th grade the matter shall be referred to the department.

(3) RESPONSIBILITY OF EMPLOYER. (a) Registration as an apprentice shall not be accepted unless the particular shop in which the apprentice is to work and the employing master plumber are equipped and qualified to have an apprentice and that the requirements as to both shop and school training will be complied with. Master plumbers employing registered apprentices shall report to the department any changes made in relation to the continued employment of such apprentices. Such changes shall be subject to the joint approval of the state departments having jurisdiction.

Register, August, 1982, No. 320

H 61

(b) Employing master plumbers shall be owners or co-owners with a monetary interest in a firm or corporation engaged in the installation of plumbing. Master plumbers in the employ of state agencies are to be considered employing master plumbers for the purpose of this section. Master plumbers shall be licensed by this state.

(4) **SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION.** (a) Whenever an apprenticeship ceases to exist or whenever a registration has been accepted under such conditions as would not have warranted an acceptance if the facts had been presented, or when there has been willful noncompliance with the shop and school training requirements, the department shall suspend such registration until the conditions shall have been remedied or cancel such registration if necessary.

(b) A registration which has lapsed either through suspension or cancellation may be renewed in the same manner as new registrations and the department may grant such credit toward completion of the 5-year apprenticeship as it may deem proper in each case.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1970, No. 178, eff. 11-1-70.

H 61.02 Practical training. (1) **INSTRUCTION AND EXPERIENCE.** The apprentice shall receive instruction and experience in all branches of plumbing.

(2) **FIRST 3 YEARS.** During the first 3 years the apprentice shall be given opportunity to install plumbing material as his skill will permit under the immediate supervision of a journeyman or master plumber licensed in Wisconsin.

(3) **FOURTH AND FIFTH YEARS.** During the 4th and 5th years any apprentice who is meeting the related instruction requirement may under general supervision of a licensed master plumber make plumbing installations as his acquired skill will permit. A graduate of a plumbing course of an accredited trade school having at least a 2-year course in plumbing may, upon registration as an apprentice perform the same class of work as a 4th and 5th year apprentice.

(4) **SCHOOL CREDITS.** Apprentice applicants who have attended the plumbing course in a recognized trade school in Wisconsin but who are not graduates of such school will be given credit for the work done in the trade school as a part of the required 5 years of experience. Any attendance of less than 3 months shall not receive recognition.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1970, No. 178, eff. 11-1-70.

H 61.03 Related instruction. (1) **TRADE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.** An apprentice who is not a graduate of an accredited trade school shall complete an approved day school course in plumbing of not less than 400 hours. In addition, an apprentice including graduates of a trade school shall complete an approved trade extension course of not less than 120 hours in night school.

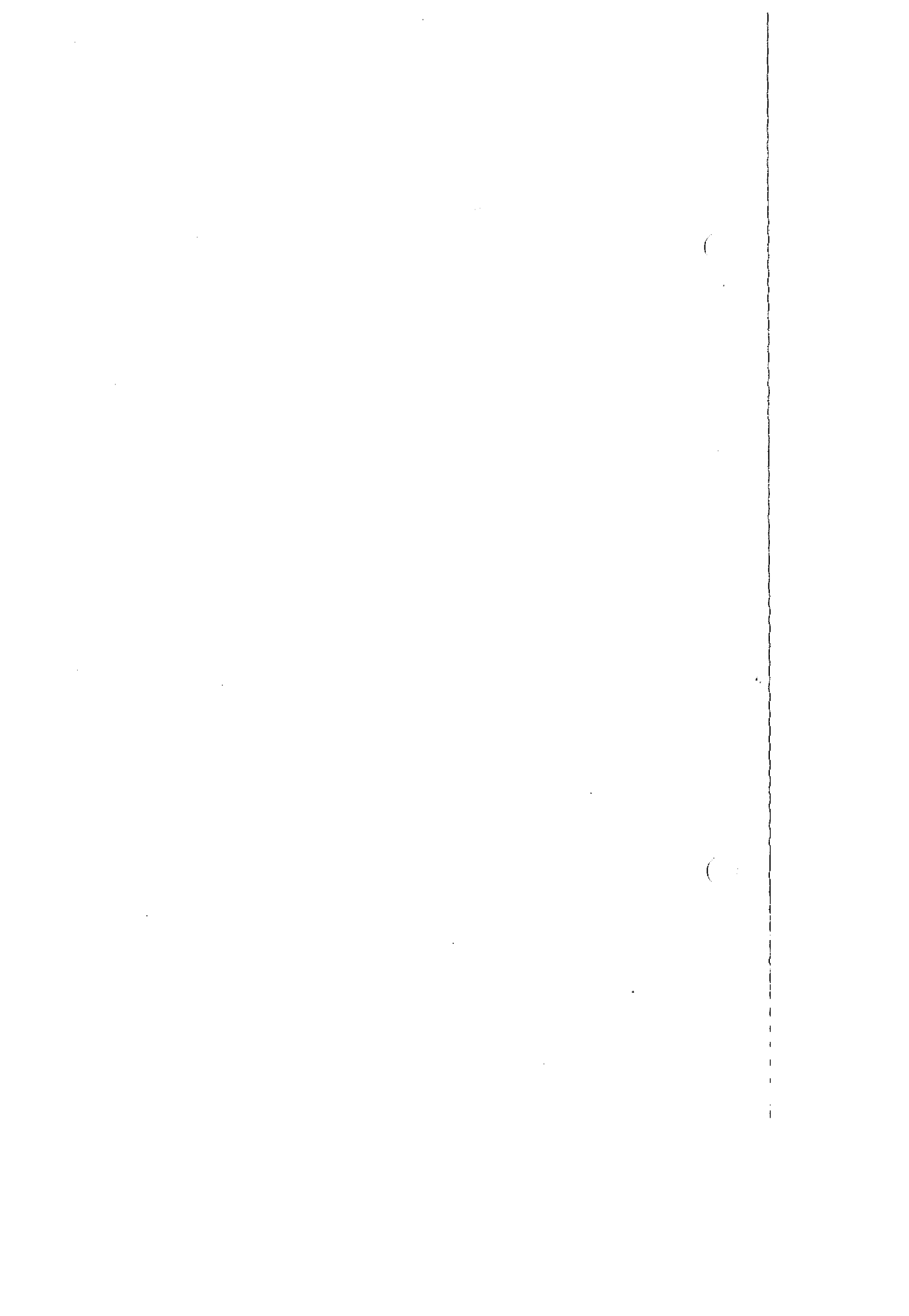
(2) **FAILURE TO COMPLETE CONTRACT.** An indentured apprentice who fails to complete his contract or who has not transferred with approval to another shop shall not be entitled to continue his vocational school plumbing course.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1970, No. 178, eff. 11-1-70.

Register, August, 1982, No. 320

H 61.04 Engineering training. Graduates of a college engineering course related to plumbing and those completing not less than one year of such a course who have had in addition plumbing installation experience shall receive such credit up to one year for each year of college as may be determined by the department. Each such applicant shall be considered as a separate case.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1970, No. 178, eff. 11-1-70.



b. Journeyman automatic fire sprinkler fitter license, \$30 and \$30 for each renewal of license if application is made prior to January 1 annually; after that date an additional fee of \$10.

c. Temporary permits pending examination and issuance of license for a journeyman automatic fire sprinkler fitter, \$50. The fee shall cover the examination fee prescribed and the license fee for the calendar year issued.

3. To establish a record of beginning, an automatic fire sprinkler system apprentice shall within 30 days after beginning the apprenticeship register with the department. A fee of \$15 shall be paid at the time of registration and for each subsequent calendar year during which the apprenticeship is active.

(d) *Expiration.* No license shall be issued for longer than one year and all licenses and registrations shall expire on December 31 of each year. They may be renewed upon application made prior to date of expiration. The department may renew licenses upon application made after January 1 if it is satisfied that the applicant has good cause for not making application within the month of December and upon payment of the renewal and additional fees prescribed.

(e) *Notice of examination.* Notice of the time and place of examination shall be sent by first class mail to those who have approved applications on file. Such notice shall be mailed to the address given on the application blank and shall be presented by the applicant to gain admittance to the examination room. Failure to receive the notice due to change in address shall not be the responsibility of the department.

(f) *Character of examinations.* 1. The examinations shall be conducted by the committee of examiners. They shall consist of written tests and may be practical or oral in part. The examination will cover the theory and practice of automatic fire sprinkler systems; the interpretation of charts and blueprints and plans of automatic fire sprinkler system installations; and such other tests as the committee may deem necessary.

2. Applicants shall participate in all portions of the examination and shall acquire a grade of 75%. Applicants who fail to acquire a passing grade will be required to rewrite the complete examination.

(g) *Materials used in examination.* Applicants shall furnish the necessary tools and materials for the examination as requested by the examiners.

(h) *Reexamination.* Applicants failing an initial examination may be reexamined within 3 months. Applicants shall not be eligible for a second reexamination until the expiration of 6 months after the first reexamination, and not for the third and subsequent reexaminations until the expiration of one year after the last reexamination.

(5) **TEMPORARY PERMITS.** Temporary permits shall become void upon the date of the first examination following issuance of permit and shall be surrendered to the department. Not more than 2 permits shall be issued to an individual or contractor in any 12-month period or more than 3 permits shall be issued in a 5-year period. Applicants for temporary permits shall comply with all other applicable rules and statutes.

(6) LICENSE RENEWAL. (a) *Annual notice for renewal of licenses.* Notice for the renewal of licenses shall be sent to all journeyman automatic fire sprinkler fitters and automatic fire sprinkler system contractors whose licenses were in force during the previous year. They shall be sent to the address given on the latest license renewal blank on file unless notice of another address is given. Failure to receive the notice for renewal of license shall not be an excuse for failure to renew.

(b) *Delinquent or elapsed licenses.* If a journeyman automatic fire sprinkler fitter or contractor fails to renew license for a period of 2 years, the department shall require evidence to show that he is competent to perform the work of either a contractor or journeyman fire sprinkler fitter before such license is renewed.

(7) ALLOWABLE MAINTENANCE. Weekly or monthly test of sprinkler alarm equipment, fire pumps, valves, or appurtenances and refilling of storage and pressure tanks, or replacement of automatic fire sprinkler heads under emergency conditions shall not require licensure under ch. 145, Stats.

History: Emerg. r. and recr. from H63, eff. 6-21-80; Cr. Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81.

H 61.17 Registration for the maintenance of automatic fire sprinklers. (1) **GENERAL.** Unless a temporary permit is secured in accordance with sub. (4), a business establishment shall obtain a registration certificate from the department prior to initiating any repair or maintenance activities to an existing automatic fire sprinkler system within its facilities.

(2) **APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.** A business establishment applying for an automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate shall:

(a) Submit to the department a completed application on forms furnished by the department;

Note: Application for registration certificate is to be on form SBD 6796.

(b) Submit to the department a \$100 registration fee; and

(c) Employ at least one person:

1. Who will be responsible for the repair and maintenance activities to the existing automatic fire sprinkler system; and

2. Who has demonstrated a knowledge of repairing and maintaining an automatic fire sprinkler system by passing a department examination.

(3) **DEPARTMENT EXAMINATION.** (a) At least 3 department examinations for a person of a business establishment which is seeking an automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate shall be conducted annually at such time and place as the department may direct.

(b) All applications for examination shall be on file in the office of the department's bureau of plumbing, platting and fire protection systems at least 4 weeks prior to the date of examination. Failure to have the application on file within the required time shall necessitate postponement of the applicant's appearance until the next examination. All applications shall expire after a period of one year from the date of filing.

Register, August, 1982, No. 320

(c) An examination fee for each applicant shall be submitted to and received by the department prior to the date of the examination. Examination fees are:

1. \$50.00 for the first examination; and
2. \$30.00 for each subsequent examination.

(d) Notice of the time and place of examination shall be sent by first class mail to those who have approved applications on file. Such notice shall be mailed to the address given on the application blank and shall be presented by the applicant to gain admittance to the examination room. Failure to receive the notice due to change in address shall not be the responsibility of the department.

(e) Applicants shall participate in all portions of the examination. A grade of 75% or better is required in order to pass the examination. Applicants who fail to acquire a passing grade shall be required to rewrite the complete examination.

(4) **TEMPORARY PERMIT.** (a) *General.* Prior to obtaining an automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate, the department may issue a temporary permit to a business establishment to engage in the repair and maintenance activities specified in sub. (5) upon submission of:

1. A completed application for an automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate;

2. Satisfactory evidence documenting the knowledge of automatic fire sprinkler systems of the person responsible for the repair and maintenance activities; and

3. A \$125.00 temporary permit fee, which includes the examination fee of \$50.00 for the first examination.

Note: Upon successful passage of the examination, the \$100.00 fee as specified in sub. (2) (b) must be submitted prior to the issuance of the registration certificate.

(b) *Expiration.* A temporary permit shall be void upon the date of the first examination following issuance of the permit.

(5) **REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES.** A business establishment possessing a valid automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate or a temporary permit may, within its facilities:

- (a) Replace or repair any component of an existing automatic fire sprinkler system including daily maintenance and emergency repairs to underground fire mains and fire pumps; and

- (b) Modify or extend an existing automatic fire sprinkler system by no more than 15 sprinkler heads per project.

Note: Section Ind 51.23, Wis. Adm. Code, requires that all installed automatic fire sprinkler systems be maintained for efficient service as specified in NFPA No. 18A-1981.

(6) **TERMINATION OF QUALIFYING PERSON.** If the person who is responsible for the repair and maintenance activities permitted under sub. (5) and who has qualified a business establishment for an automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate under sub. (2) (c) leaves the employment of the business establishment, the business establishment:

(a) Shall surrender to the department its automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate; and

(b) May apply for a new automatic fire sprinkler system registration certificate or a temporary permit.

(7) **EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.** No automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate issued to a business establishment may be valid for longer than one year and all registration certificates shall expire at midnight on December 31 of each year.

(a) An automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate may be renewed upon the submittal of an application and fee made to the department prior to the expiration of the certificate.

(b) The department may renew an automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate upon submission of an application made after December 31, if it is satisfied that the applicant has good cause for not filing prior to the expiration date and has submitted the renewal fee as specified in par. (c) 2.

(c) The renewal fee for an automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate shall be:

1. \$100 for each renewal, if the application is made on or prior to the registration certificate's expiration; or

2. \$125 for each renewal, if the application is made after the registration certificate's expiration.

(8) **FITTER MAINTENANCE REGISTRATION.** An employe of a business establishment possessing a valid automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate shall obtain from the department an automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate before engaging in any of the repair or maintenance activities specified in sub. (5).

(a) *Limitations of Registration Certificate.* 1. A person possessing a valid automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate may perform the repair and maintenance activities specified in sub. (5) for only one business establishment.

2. The automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate shall indicate the specific business establishment for which a person may perform the repair and maintenance activities specified in sub. (5).

3. Upon the expiration, revocation or nonrenewal of the automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate of the business establishment, all automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificates issued under that business establishment shall become invalid.

(b) *Application.* A person seeking an automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate shall submit to the department:

1. A completed application on forms furnished by the department; and

Note: Application for registration certificate is to be made on form SBD 6796.

2. A \$15 registration certificate fee.

(c) *Termination of Employment.* If for any reason an employe possessing a valid automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate leaves the employment of the business establishment for which the person may perform the repair and maintenance activities specified in sub. (5), the registration certificate shall expire on the day of termination.

(d) *Certificate Renewal.* No automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate issued to an individual shall be valid for longer than one year and all registration certificates shall expire at midnight on December 31 of each year.

1. An automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate may be renewed upon the submission of an application and a fee to the department made prior to the expiration of the certificate.

2. The department may renew an automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate upon submittal of an application made after December 31, if it is satisfied that the applicant has good cause for not filing prior to the expiration date and has submitted the renewal fee specified in par. (e) 2.

(e) *Renewal Fees.* The renewal fee for an automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate shall be:

1. \$15.00 for each renewal, if the application is made on or prior to the registration certificate's expiration; or

2. \$25.00 for each renewal, if the application is made after the registration certificate's expiration.

(9) **REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATES.** The department may revoke any automatic fire sprinkler maintenance registration certificate of a business establishment or any automatic fire sprinkler fitter maintenance registration certificate for any misrepresentation of facts on which the certificate was issued or for violations of this chapter.

(10) **TESTING AND EMERGENCY REPAIRS.** Weekly or monthly test of sprinkler alarm equipment, fire pumps, valves, or appurtenances and refilling of storage and pressure tanks, or replacement of automatic fire sprinkler heads under emergency conditions shall not require registration under this chapter.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1982, No. 320, eff. 9-1-82.