

## Chapter H 61

## APPRENTICESHIP AND LICENSING OF PLUMBERS

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**History:** Chapter H 61 as it existed on October 31, 1970, was repealed and a new chapter H 61 was created effective November 1, 1970.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 61.01 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.

(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.

**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 percent. 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:** Cr. Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81.

Emergency  
to record recd.  
from HB 31  
eff. 6/21/80