



Plumbing Plan Review and Inspection unit Effects of 2007 legislation – plumbing

The 2007 Minnesota Legislature passed legislation that has significant impact on the plumbing industry in Minnesota. In part, this legislation has the following effects.

Plumber license required statewide

- Beginning Dec. 1, 2007, all people – statewide – working at the business of plumbing must be licensed plumbers or registered apprentices. The one exception is those people who install sewer or water service pipes outside buildings who are certified with pipe laying training and have a \$25,000 plumbing code compliance bond filed with the Department of Labor and Industry.

New “restricted” license established for cities with less than 5,000 population and rural areas

- People with restricted licenses may perform plumbing everywhere in the state except in cities with a population of more than 5,000.
- Unlicensed people with two or more years experience have until Dec. 31, 2007, to obtain a “restricted” license if they qualify and apply as described below.

Application requirements for restricted licenses

- Two years of experience is required for restricted journeyman plumber license.
- Four years of experience is required for restricted master plumber license.
- Applicants who are plumbing contractors must have been in compliance with plumbing code compliance bond requirements for contractor experience to count.
- Applicants who are or have been registered plumber apprentices also can apply.
- An application form must be submitted by Dec. 31, 2007, with:
 - a \$30 application fee;
 - evidence of workers’ compensation insurance (if applicant has any employees); and
 - proof of liability insurance (if applicant will be a plumbing contractor).
- Annual license fees are the same as for master and journeyman (\$120 and \$55, respectively).
- Visit www.doli.state.mn.us/pdf/pe_restricted_plumbing_licenses.pdf for more information.

Plumbing work and Plan Review -- legislative changes

Owners of public, commercial and licensed facilities will no longer be able to do plumbing in their facilities in areas of less than 5,000 population unless licensed to perform plumbing. Plans for installation of plumbing in these facilities must be prepared by a licensed engineer, or the licensed plumber who will do the installation. This is the same as currently required in cities of 5,000 or more. See above for description of new restricted licenses. All submitted plans must include the signature and license number of the designer.

Plumbing Board

- A state Plumbing Board was established consisting of:
 - industry and licensed individuals;
 - one public member; and
 - commissioners of the Department of Labor and Industry (voting) and the Department of Health (nonvoting) or their designee.

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- The Plumbing Board has authority to adopt:
 - plumbing code;
 - licensing and apprentice registration criteria; and
 - license reciprocity agreements.
- A two-thirds majority of members is needed for approval of code amendments.
- The commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry retains authority for licensing activities, enforcement of rules and laws, and inspections.
- The Plumbing Board has final interpretive authority of rules about written requests to the board.

Bonds

- Registering a bond with the state is the only option for complying with plumbing code compliance bond and insurance requirements (the option to post bond with local government was removed).
- Effective date: Dec, 1, 2007.

Apprentices

- The changes require unlicensed individuals to be registered with the department as apprentices.
- Apprentices are required to be directly supervised.
- Effective date: July 1, 2007.

Water conditioning

Registering a bond with the state is the only option for complying with plumbing code compliance bond and insurance requirements (the option to post bond with local government was removed).

Various changes effective Dec. 1, 2007

- The legislation establishes reciprocity language.
- It voids any sales contract provision for plumbing equipment or supplies that would waive a provision of this act or if the provision stipulates the contract is subject to the laws of another state.
- The legislation establishes in law Plumbing Plan Review Agreements with Municipalities that wish to perform plan review services.
- It prohibits air admittance valves and water-free urinals.

Other changes

- Starting in 2008, license numbers for master and journeyman will change under the new license program.

For more information, visit www.doli.state.mn.us/plumbing.html or call the Plumbing Plan Review and Inspection unit's general phone line at (651) 284-5067. Visitors may view and sign up for the *CCLD Review* newsletter at www.doli.state.mn.us/review.html.