
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2546

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By House Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Van De Wege, Conway, Morrell, Angel, Dunshee, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/10.

1 AN ACT Relating to classroom training for electrical trainees;
2 amending RCW 19.28.161; and providing an effective date.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.28.161 and 2009 c 36 s 7 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) No person may engage in the electrical construction trade
7 without having a valid master journeyman electrician certificate of
8 competency, journeyman electrician certificate of competency, master
9 specialty electrician certificate of competency, or specialty
10 electrician certificate of competency issued by the department in
11 accordance with this chapter. Electrician certificate of competency
12 specialties include, but are not limited to: Residential, pump and
13 irrigation, limited energy system, signs, nonresidential maintenance,
14 restricted nonresidential maintenance, and appliance repair. Until
15 July 1, 2007, the department of labor and industries shall issue a
16 written warning to any specialty pump and irrigation or domestic pump
17 electrician not having a valid electrician certification. The warning
18 will state that the individual must apply for an electrical training
19 certificate or be qualified for and apply for electrician certification

1 under the requirements in RCW 19.28.191(1)(g) within thirty calendar
2 days of the warning. Only one warning will be issued to any
3 individual. If the individual fails to comply with this section, the
4 department shall issue a penalty as defined in RCW 19.28.271 to the
5 individual.

6 (2) A person who is indentured in an apprenticeship program
7 approved under chapter 49.04 RCW for the electrical construction trade
8 or who is learning the electrical construction trade may work in the
9 electrical construction trade if supervised by a certified master
10 journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty
11 electrician in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician
12 in that electrician's specialty. All apprentices and individuals
13 learning the electrical construction trade shall obtain an electrical
14 training certificate from the department. The certificate shall
15 authorize the holder to learn the electrical construction trade while
16 under the direct supervision of a master journeyman electrician,
17 journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician working in that
18 electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician working in that
19 electrician's specialty. The certificate may include a photograph of
20 the holder. The holder of the electrical training certificate shall
21 renew the certificate biennially. At the time of renewal, the holder
22 shall provide the department with an accurate list of the holder's
23 employers in the electrical construction industry for the previous
24 biennial period and the number of hours worked for each employer(~~(~~
25 ~~and~~)). The holder shall also provide proof of sixteen hours of:
26 Approved classroom (~~(electrical continuing education courses)~~) training
27 covering this chapter, the national electrical code, or electrical
28 theory(~~(~~); or (~~(the)~~) equivalent (~~(electrical)~~) classroom training
29 (~~(courses)~~) taken as part of an approved apprenticeship program under
30 chapter 49.04 RCW or an approved electrical training program under RCW
31 19.28.191(1)(h). (~~(This education requirement is effective July 1,~~
32 2007-)) The number of hours of approved classroom training required
33 for certificate renewal shall increase as follows: (a) Beginning on
34 July 1, 2011, the holder of an electrical training certificate shall
35 provide the department with proof of thirty-two hours of approved
36 classroom training; and (b) beginning on July 1, 2013, the holder of an
37 electrical training certificate shall provide the department with proof
38 of forty-eight hours of approved classroom training. At the request of

1 the chairs of the house of representatives commerce and labor committee
2 and the senate labor, commerce and consumer protection committee, or
3 their successor committees, the department of labor and industries
4 shall provide information on the implementation of the new classroom
5 training requirements for electrical trainees to both committees by
6 December 1, 2012. A biennial fee shall be charged for the issuance or
7 renewal of the certificate. The department shall set the fee by rule.
8 The fee shall cover but not exceed the cost of administering and
9 enforcing the trainee certification and supervision requirements of
10 this chapter. Apprentices and individuals learning the electrical
11 construction trade shall have their electrical training certificates in
12 their possession at all times that they are performing electrical work.
13 They shall show their certificates to an authorized representative of
14 the department at the representative's request.

15 (3) Any person who has been issued an electrical training
16 certificate under this chapter may work if that person is under
17 supervision. Supervision shall consist of a person being on the same
18 job site and under the control of either a certified master journeyman
19 electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty electrician
20 working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty electrician
21 working in that electrician's specialty. Either a certified master
22 journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master specialty
23 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or specialty
24 electrician working in that electrician's specialty shall be on the
25 same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of seventy-
26 five percent of each working day unless otherwise provided in this
27 chapter.

28 (4) The ratio of noncertified individuals to certified master
29 journeymen electricians, journeymen electricians, master specialty
30 electricians, or specialty electricians on any one job site is as
31 follows:

32 (a) When working as a specialty electrician, not more than two
33 noncertified individuals for every certified master specialty
34 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, specialty
35 electrician working in that electrician's specialty, master journeyman
36 electrician, or journeyman electrician, except that the ratio
37 requirements are one certified master specialty electrician working in
38 that electrician's specialty, specialty electrician working in that

1 electrician's specialty, master journeyman electrician, or journeyman
2 electrician working as a specialty electrician to no more than four
3 students enrolled in and working as part of an electrical construction
4 program at public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit
5 nationally accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the
6 workforce training and education coordinating board under chapter
7 28C.10 RCW. In meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in
8 an electrical construction program at a trade school, a trade school
9 may receive input and advice from the electrical board; and

10 (b) When working as a journeyman electrician, not more than one
11 noncertified individual for every certified master journeyman
12 electrician or journeyman electrician, except that the ratio
13 requirements shall be one certified master journeyman electrician or
14 journeyman electrician to no more than four students enrolled in and
15 working as part of an electrical construction program at public
16 community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally
17 accredited trade or technical schools licensed by the workforce
18 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW. In
19 meeting the ratio requirements for students enrolled in an electrical
20 construction program at a trade school, a trade school may receive
21 input and advice from the electrical board.

22 An individual who has a current training certificate and who has
23 successfully completed or is currently enrolled in an approved
24 apprenticeship program or in an electrical construction program at
25 public community or technical colleges, or not-for-profit nationally
26 accredited technical or trade schools licensed by the workforce
27 training and education coordinating board under chapter 28C.10 RCW, may
28 work without direct on-site supervision during the last six months of
29 meeting the practical experience requirements of this chapter.

30 (5) For the residential (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(a)),
31 pump and irrigation (as specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(b)), sign (as
32 specified in WAC 296-46B-920(2)(d)), limited energy (as specified in
33 WAC 296-46B-920(2)(e)), nonresidential maintenance (as specified in WAC
34 296-46B-920(2)(g)), restricted nonresidential maintenance as determined
35 by the department in rule, or other new nonresidential specialties, not
36 including appliance repair, as determined by the department in rule,
37 either a master journeyman electrician, journeyman electrician, master
38 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty, or

1 specialty electrician working in that electrician's specialty must be
2 on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a minimum of
3 seventy-five percent of each working day. Other specialties must meet
4 the requirements specified in RCW 19.28.191(1)(g)(ii). When the ratio
5 of certified electricians to noncertified individuals on a job site is
6 one certified electrician to three or four noncertified individuals,
7 the certified electrician must:

8 (a) Directly supervise and instruct the noncertified individuals
9 and the certified electrician may not directly make or engage in an
10 electrical installation; and

11 (b) Be on the same job site as the noncertified individual for a
12 minimum of one hundred percent of each working day.

13 (6) The electrical contractor shall accurately verify and attest to
14 the electrical trainee hours worked by electrical trainees on behalf of
15 the electrical contractor.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect July 1, 2011.

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