DIVISION 695
PLUMBING LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION

Part A — Licensing
OAR 918-695-0000

Authority, Scope and References
(1) The board’s licensing authority is in ORS Chapters 447, 670 and 693.
(2) These rules cover licensing requirements for plumbers.
(3) Cross References. Statutory licensing requirements are in:
   (a) ORS 693.030 for when individual plumbing licensing is required;
   (b) ORS 447.030 for when plumbing contractor licensing is required;
   (c) ORS 693.050 to 693.075 for plumbing journeyman certificates of competence; and
   (d) ORS 693.103 for limited specialty plumbing licensing.
(4) It shall be the obligation of every employer to comply with all applicable plumbing licensing
   laws. Registered plumbing businesses shall not allow an unlicensed employee to perform
   plumbing work.
(5) It shall be unlawful for any licensed person to allow the use of their plumbing license by
   others to install plumbing work, or for the purposes of obtaining a permit or inspection.
(6) Licenses required under this section shall be carried at all times when performing plumbing
   work and shall be displayed at the request of any administrative authority.

OAR 918-695-0020
License Exemptions
(1) A license is not required for:
   (a) A person to do the person’s own work on the person’s own residential building on
       the person’s own premises, if the person complies with OAR chapter 918, division
       690 and the plumbing requirements of the Oregon One- and Two-Family Dwelling
       Specialty Code; or
   (b) To test, repair, service, maintain, install or replace any new or existing potable water
       pump equipment not exceeding seven and one-half horsepower on residential
       property and piping between such pump and storage tanks for such pumps,
       provided the person complies with all other provisions of OAR chapter 918, division
       690.
(2) All plumbing installations, alterations or remodeling in a commercial or industrial building
   being constructed or being offered for sale, exchange, rent or lease shall be made by a
   licensed Oregon journeyman plumber or by a registered Oregon apprentice plumber.

OAR 918-695-0030
Journeyman Plumber Qualifications
Qualifications. The minimum qualifications to take the journeyman plumber’s certificate
examination are:
(1) Satisfactory completion of a minimum four year plumbing apprentice program in Oregon; or
(2) Equivalency requirements of at least four years academic training and on-the-job experience as an apprentice plumber, lawful journeyman plumber, or combination of both meeting the following minimum requirements:
   (a) General items. 144 hours of academic training per year for each of at least four years generally in the following as it applies to plumbing:
      (A) Materials, Tools, Equipment;
      (B) Mathematics, Science;
      (C) Soldering and Brazing;
      (D) Plumbing and Related Codes;
      (E) Drainage (DWV) Installations;
      (F) Water Systems, Installations;
      (G) Safety and First Aid;
      (H) Blueprint Reading;
      (I) Seismic Restraints.
   (b) Specific items: Subject — Hours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On-the-job Category</th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) Sewerage: Sanitary and Storm Piping, Disposal</td>
<td>300 hrs.</td>
<td>300 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) Drainage, Waste and Vent Piping (DWV)</td>
<td>1,300 hrs.</td>
<td>1,300 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Soldering, Brazing, Welding</td>
<td>200 hrs.</td>
<td>200 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) Water: Supply, Services, Mains, Appurtenances</td>
<td>1,110 hrs.</td>
<td>1,100 hrs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(E) Fixtures, Appliances, Trim and Supports</td>
<td>700 hrs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(F) Miscellaneous Plumbing, Piping, Repair and</td>
<td>250 hrs.</td>
<td>250 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Total Minimum Subject Hours</td>
<td>3,850 hrs.</td>
<td>3,850 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   (c) A person with more than the minimum hours in any one specific item category may substitute up to 20 percent of the excess hours to meet the related minimum residential or commercial experience requirements in the same category.

**OAR 918-695-0035**

**Medical Gas Installer License**

(1) All persons engaged in the installation, alteration or repair of medical gas and vacuum systems shall be certified in accordance with the requirements of this section. Installation and repair of electrical devices and other components not related or directly attached to the medical gas service equipment or distribution systems are exempt from the requirements of this section.

(2) Qualifications. The minimum qualifications to install medical gas systems are a current and valid:
   (a) Oregon journeyman plumber license or registration as an Oregon apprentice plumber; and
   (b) Certification for medical gas installer issued by a division approved certifying organization meeting the provisions of **ASSE 6010-1997 Professional Qualifications Standard for Medical Gas Systems Installers**; or
(c) Persons possessing special certification by the board to install medical gas and vacuum systems while in the employ of a business holding a special medical gas registration to install, repair and maintain medical gas systems and possessing a valid medical gas installer certification as defined under subsection (2)(b) of this rule.

OAR 918-695-0038

Special Business Registration and Installer Certification for Medical Gas Systems

(1) The State Plumbing Board shall issue a special registration to businesses that provide the following:

(a) Completed and signed division application for special business registration and evidence that demonstrates that the medical gas system installation, maintenance or repair activity of the business in Oregon was substantial during the two-year period commencing October 23, 1997, and ending October 23, 1999. “Substantial” activity under this subsection means documentary evidence in the form of two separate signed statements from an Oregon Certified Public Accountant and an Oregon business owner attesting that the company has done at least 40 medical gas piping projects or at least $75,000 of gross business installing medical gas systems during the two-year period commencing October 23, 1997, and ending October 23, 1999;

(b) The issuance fee of $50; and

(c) Names of all employees who are engaged in medical gas system installation, maintenance or repair of medical gas systems by the business.

(2) The division shall issue a special medical gas installer certification to qualified persons who provide the following:

(a) Completed and signed division application for special medical gas installer certification;

(b) The issuance fee of $50; and

(c) List of companies with which employed.

(3) All registrations and certifications issued under these rules shall be renewed annually and no registration or certificate shall be issued or active after July 1, 2006.

OAR 918-695-0040

Journeyman Examination

Examination requirements. An applicant for certification as a journeyman plumber shall pass an approved examination. The written examination shall cover, but not be limited to:

(1) Understanding of engineering and architectural drawings and plans sufficient to prepare a bill of materials and lay out a plumbing system;

(2) Ability to compute areas of regular plane figures, volumes of regular solids, slopes, offsets, clearances, and weights of piping;

(3) Selection and use of tools, materials and techniques commonly used in the plumbing trade;

(4) The Plumbing Specialty Code, administrative rules relating to plumbing and plumbers and general scientific principles covering hydraulics;

(5) A general knowledge of construction job safety and occupational safety standards; and
(6) A basic understanding of disabled access provisions of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code related to plumbing.

OAR 918-695-0100

Procedures for Submitting Training Proposals for Limited Specialty Plumbers
(1) The employer shall submit to the board a detailed description of the training program and the means of its administration for the branch of the plumbing trade which the employer will conduct under OAR 918-695-0100.

(2) Program description shall include:
   (a) The term of on-the-job training, including the minimum time required to learn, and the maximum time required by the employer to provide training, including any procedures for evaluating and crediting prior plumbing experience of the trainee;
   (b) A breakdown of the job experience into work processes, and the number of hours of on-the-job training to be devoted to each work process;
   (c) Provisions for related instructional training, including:
      (A) The total hours of related training in addition to the on-the-job training;
      (B) A breakdown of the related training into segments of instruction and hours to be devoted to each segment;
      (C) Where and during what hours the related training shall take place; and
      (D) The name of the related training instructor, if any, along with the instructor’s qualifications in subject matter by experience and training; or
      (E) The name of the correspondence course, together with any supplemental material to be used for related training; and
   (d) The type and degree of on-the-job supervision of the trainee, including provision for assigning trainees to work under the supervision of a licensed journeyman or limited specialty plumber to the full extent necessary to insure proper training.

(3) Procedures to provide for periodic evaluation and reporting of the trainee’s program effectiveness, and the maintenance of records of these evaluations shall be made available to the division and the board upon request.

(4) Methods of evaluating the trainee shall be established and the evaluations reported at least annually to the division and the board. Evaluations include rating of the trainee’s on-the-job progress by the trainee’s supervisor and testing of the trainee’s related training progress by the trainee’s instructor or through a correspondence school.

OAR 918-695-0110

Reciprocal Agreements
Acting under the authority of ORS 670.380, the administrator with the consent of the board:
(1) Establishes a list of states that have standards, qualifications and examinations for licensing or registration of journeyman plumbers substantially similar to that of Oregon; and
(2) Enters into reciprocal agreements to issue certifications of registration as journeyman plumbers without examination.
(3) A person licensed under a reciprocal agreement shall:
   (a) Pay required and timely registration and renewal fees; and
(b) Comply with continuing education requirements following the reciprocal licensing. Payment of fees and Oregon continuing education requirements are required for reciprocal licensing.

OAR 918-695-0120

Limited Specialty Plumber Classification for Limited Maintenance Electrical Contractors

(1) Authorization and Scope. This rule creates a limited specialty plumbing license to install and replace residential water heaters.

(2) Persons Eligible for Licensing. A registered plumbing contractor also licensed under ORS 479.630 as an electrical limited maintenance specialty contractor can apply for this license. This allows licensing of:
   (a) An individual holding a Limited Maintenance Specialty Contractor License;
   (b) Officers or employees designated by a corporate Limited Specialty Contractor; or
   (c) Any partner where a partnership is the Limited Specialty Contractor.

(3) Employees of a sole proprietor or of a partnership identified in subsections (2)(a) and (c) of this rule cannot be licensed under this rule.

(4) Procedure for Licensing. An applicant for licensing shall:
   (a) Pay applicable fees;
   (b) Have the application signed by the plumbing-electrical contractor;
   (c) Attend an approved eight-hour training class for limited specialty residential water heater plumbing installation; and
   (d) Pass a division-approved examination.

(5) Training Class and Examination Requirements.
   (a) A limited specialty residential water heater plumbing class shall cover the requirements for installation of residential water heaters and the related administrative and enforcement provisions in statutes, rules and codes to obtain Chief Plumbing Inspector approval.
   (b) The examination shall test applicant’s knowledge of the items covered in subsection (a) of this section.

(6) Scope of Plumbing Authorized. As used in ORS 693.103(2):
   (a) “Installation and replacement of one- or two-family dwelling residential water heaters” includes open (non-covered and not intended to be covered) plumbing work in a one- or two-family dwelling related to:
      (A) Replacement or fuel conversion of an existing water heater;
      (B) Installation of up to two nipples with no nipple exceeding six inches and flex piping not exceeding 24 inches for each of the cold and hot water connections; and
      (C) Installation of piping and related appurtenances applicable to the temperature pressure relief valve.
   (b) “Existing plumbing” means the exposed preinstalled approved cold water supply piping used or designed to connect to the water heater extending to the exposed cold water shut-off supply valve. If there is no cold water shut-off supply valve, “existing plumbing” extends to and includes the connected water heater and does not allow a replacement by a limited specialty plumbing licensee under these rules.
(c) “Alteration of existing plumbing” means any changes to existing plumbing and includes installation or replacement of a cold water shut-off supply valve regardless of whether one was initially installed. Alterations are not authorized under these rules and the limited specialty plumbing license.

OAR 918-695-0125
Limited Specialty Plumber Certificate of Competency for Solar Heating and Cooling System Installers

(1) Authorization and Scope. This rule creates a limited specialty plumbing certificate of competency to install and replace solar heating and cooling systems.

(2) Persons eligible for licensing. The experience and training requirements for licensure are:
   (a) A minimum of 2,000 hours on-the-job verifiable experience installing solar heating or cooling systems prior to July 1, 2002 if the application is received between July 1, 2002 and July 1, 2004; or
   (b) Satisfactory completion of a division-approved training program for Limited Specialty Plumber Solar Heating and Cooling Installers that includes the following:
      (A) A minimum of 288 hours of classroom training; and
      (B) A minimum of 2,000 hours of supervised on-the-job training; or
   (c) Equivalent lawfully obtained experience and training covering:
      (A) General items — 500 hours of experience and training in:
         (i) Materials, tools and equipment;
         (ii) Mathematics and science;
         (iii) Soldering and brazing;
         (iv) Safety and Basic first aid;
         (v) Blueprints and solar codes;
         (vi) Water piping systems;
         (vii) Basic electricity;
         (viii) Administrative rules.
      (B) Specific training or work experience in:
         (i) Plumbing of solar thermal systems — 500 hours;
         (ii) Installation of balance of system equipment — 500 hours;
         (iii) Roof mounting and equipment installation — 500 hours;
         (iv) Total Minimum — 2,000 hours.

(3) Procedure for Licensing. An applicant for licensing shall:
   (a) Complete and sign the division application;
   (b) Provide verification of the required training or equivalent experience; and
   (c) Pay applicable fees;

(4) Examination. All applicants must take and pass a division approved written examination testing the requirements for installation of solar heating and cooling systems, and the related administrative and enforcement provisions.

(5) Scope of Plumbing Authorized. The holder of a limited specialty plumber certificate of competency solar heating and cooling systems may:
   (a) Install and replace solar heating and cooling systems, including collectors, heat transfer systems, heat storage and associated piping related to:
(A) Replacement or solar conversion of an existing water heating or cooling system;
(B) Installation of collectors, heat transfer systems, storage tanks, pumps, valves and associated piping; and
(C) Installation of piping and related appurtenances applicable to the temperature pressure relief valve.

(b) May not connect a solar heating or cooling system to a potable water source. The connection of a solar heating or cooling system to a potable water source shall be made only by a licensed journeyman plumber.

(6) Nothing in these rules shall prohibit a licensed journeyman plumber from installing, replacing or repairing solar heating and cooling systems.

OAR 918-695-0130
Limited Specialty Plumber Classification for Water Treatment Installers

(1) Subject to permit requirements, a person holding this license is authorized to make connections to potable water systems and indirect waste connections to existing drain waste and vent systems.

(2) This license does not authorize installation, alteration or remodel of drain, waste and vent piping systems.

(3) Persons Eligible for Licensing. The requirements for licensing are:
   (a) Satisfactory completion of a minimum 18-month Oregon State Apprenticeship Program for Limited Specialty Plumber Water Treatment Installer; or
   (b) Equivalent lawful experience or training covering:
      (A) General items. 210 hours of experience and training in:
          (i) Materials, tools and equipment;
          (ii) Mathematics and science;
          (iii) Safety regulations — OSHA and state;
          (iv) Soldering and brazing;
          (v) Basic first aid;
          (vi) Blueprints and drawing training;
          (vii) Plumbing and related codes;
          (viii) Indirect waste piping;
          (ix) Water systems.
      (B) Specific training in: Subject — Hours:
          (i) Indirect Waste Piping — 250;
          (ii) Water Supply, Services and Appurtenances — 1,000;
          (iii) Pipe sizing;
          (iv) Fixture unit calculations;
          (v) Pumps and pressure systems;
          (vi) Design — Present and planned plumbing system;
          (vii) Water Treatment Equipment Installation and Service — 1,750;
          (viii) Backflow prevention;
          (ix) Cross connection prevention;
          (x) Total Minimum Hours — 3,000.
(4) Examination. Only a written examination shall be required for this license.

**OAR 918-695-0140**

**Apprentice Plumbers — Interpretations**

(1) Authority and Scope. This rule is adopted by the board under ORS 670.310 and defines the conditions under which an apprentice plumber is authorized to engage in the trade of plumbing.

(2) For the purposes of this rule the following shall apply, except where the context clearly means otherwise:

   (a) An “appropriate journeyman plumber” is one or more certified journeyman plumbers working for the same employing plumbing contractor as the apprentice.

   (b) “Employing plumbing contractor” is the apprentice’s employer who must be a registered plumbing contractor.

   (c) “Immediate work site” is the normal area in which an employing plumbing contractor’s employees are expected to be, within the company’s job assignment. In the case of a service call, “immediate work site” shall include the structure and adjacent grounds where plumbing is performed and immediate vicinity, such as where service vehicles are parked.

   (d) “Immediately available for advice and direction by voice communication mode” means that an appropriate journeyman plumber and apprentice have voice communication devices allowing two-way conversations.

   (e) “JATC” is the joint apprenticeship training committee that regulates the training for a specific apprentice.

(3) A person is an “apprentice plumber” in ORS 693.010(1) and works under the supervision of a journeyman plumber, within the scope of activities authorized by ORS 693.040, if an ORS Chapter 660 apprentice engages in the plumbing trade and any of the following conditions exist while a plumbing apprentice works at the trade of plumbing;

   (a) The apprentice works in the physical presence of an appropriate journeyman plumber. This requires an appropriate journeyman plumber’s physical presence at the immediate work site at all times, except for not more than a cumulative 30 minutes during any work shift, provided:

      (A) The 30 minutes referred to in subsection (a) of this section excludes time out for meals; and

      (B) An appropriate journeyman plumber is immediately available for advice and direction by voice communication during all absences.

   (b) The apprentice works subject to the supervision of an appropriate journeyman who is immediately available to the apprentice by voice communication but not necessarily physically present, provided:

      (A) An appropriate journeyman plumber meets with the apprentice at least once each day to go over work done by the apprentice, with the meeting taking place either at the immediate work site or away from the work site;

      (B) The activity is consistent with the JATC’s work requirements;

      (C) Only one apprentice plumber is working at a job site; and

      (D) The apprentice:
(i) Only engages in water heater replacement or conversion after completing at least six months of apprentice training; at least eight hours of related training in the type of work, and receiving documentation of training and successful evaluation from the JATC in the type of work.

(ii) Engages in work covered in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph and ordinary minor repairs as defined in OAR 918-780-0120 in a one- or two-family dwelling after completing at least three periods of apprentice training; receiving related training, and successful evaluation from the JATC in the type of work.

(iii) Engages in work covered by subparagraphs (i) to (ii) of this paragraph and general repairs maintenance and replacement of existing plumbing, after completing at least four periods of apprentice training; appropriate training, and successful evaluation from the JATC in the type of work.

(iv) Engages in work covered by subparagraphs (i) to (iii) of this paragraph and new or remodel installations after completing at least five periods of apprentice training; receiving appropriate training, and successful evaluation from the JATC in the type of work.

(4) Enforcement provisions.
   (a) For the purposes of building codes enforcement of apprenticeship requirements against a plumbing contractor, the following evidence shall be considered as sufficient proof to support compliance action alleging that an apprentice was not working under the supervision of a journeyman plumber:
      (A) An appropriate journeyman plumber was not available for advice and direction by voice communication mode to an apprentice, if the apprentice:
         (i) Does not know how to contact an appropriate journeyman plumber;
         (ii) Cannot within a 15-minute period reach an appropriate journeyman by voice communication mode; or
         (iii) Is not equipped with a voice communication device or does not have access to a telephone at the work site.
      (B) An appropriate journeyman plumber was not at the immediate work site if the apprentice:
         (i) Is only allowed to work in the physical presence of a journeyman under subsection (3)(a) of this rule; and
         (ii) The apprentice works alone at the immediate job site for more than 30 minutes, excluding time off for the apprentice’s normal meal break.
      (C) An appropriate journeyman plumber did not meet with the apprentice at least once each day, to review the apprentice’s work, if the apprentice:
         (i) Is not able to state the time, place and type of work that was reviewed for each of the last two working days; and
         (ii) Cannot identify or describe the journeyman who did the review for each of the dates covered by paragraph (A) of this section.
(b) For the purposes of building codes enforcement of apprenticeship requirements against a plumbing contractor, an apprentice shall be considered as one required to work only in the physical presence of a journeyman under subsection (3)(a) of this rule if the apprentice did not produce the documentation complying with paragraphs (A) to (C) or (D) of this subsection.

(A) Completion of a specific apprentice training segment;
(B) Training covering the specific work being reviewed;
(C) Successful evaluation report covering the specific work being reviewed;
(D) A document from the JATC designating all the conditions of paragraphs (A) to (C) of this subsection were met.

Part D — Certification of Plumbing Inspectors

OAR 918-695-0400
Rules Establishing Certification for Plumbing Inspectors

(1) Scope. To promote effective and uniform enforcement of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code by improving the competence of plumbing inspectors, this rule establishes minimum training and experience qualifications to make inspections for compliance with the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code.

(2) A plumbing inspector:
   (a) Inspects plumbing installations regulated by the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code;
   (b) Inspects plumbing installations regulated by the Oregon Residential Specialty Code;
   and
   (c) May do plumbing plan reviews as provided in OAR 918-780-0040.

(3) Limits on Municipalities. Nothing in the rules prohibits a local government from establishing additional requirements in the selection and hiring of plumbing inspectors. Nothing in OAR chapter 918, divisions 750 to 785 is intended to dictate the internal administrative organization of a city or county or to limit or otherwise affect the authority of a municipality to dismiss or suspend an inspector.

(4) Plumbing inspectors must meet continuing education requirements established by the division under OAR 918-098-1450.

(5) Application for Certification. A person seeking certification under this rule must apply for an Oregon Code Certification as provided in OAR 918-098-1025.

(6) Qualifications. An applicant will be certified as a plumbing inspector under this rule if the following minimum qualifications are met:
   (a) Experience and Training:
       (A) 3 years of employment and experience as a Journeyman Plumber, with an Oregon Journeyman Plumber's license or its equivalent;
       (B) A degree in mechanical engineering or certified professional registration with 2 years of work experience in plumbing design, installation, or inspection;
       (C) 4 years of work experience in the inspection of plumbing installations of which at least 2 years is of commercial, industrial, and multi-family structures, or if the 4 years of work experience is in the inspection of
residential installations, the completion of a division-approved plumbing inspector training program; or
(D) Experience and training equivalent to paragraphs (A), (B), and (C) of this subsection; or
(E) Persons certified as Oregon one and two family dwelling plumbing inspectors as of April 1, 1998 and completing five years of plumbing inspection experience are considered qualified to sit for examinations as a plumbing inspector.

(b) Examination: Passing a board-approved examination on the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code covering plumbing theory, inspection techniques, communication skills, public relations, design, installation, statutory rules, authority, and materials.

(7) Training:
(a) Upon application, the division may examine and evaluate any program or facility established by a municipality or educational institution for the training of plumbing inspectors.

(b) If the division finds that a training program meets the minimum requirements established pursuant to this rule, the division shall, in writing, certify the training program as qualified for such time and conditions as the division may prescribe. An individual complies with any minimum requirement for plumbing inspector established pursuant to classification and requirements in this rule after satisfactorily completing a training program certified under this rule.

(8) A person issued a plumbing inspector certification or a limited plumbing inspector building sewers certification under this rule must also possess a valid Oregon Inspector Certification issued under OAR 918-098-1025 prior to performing plumbing inspections or plan reviews.

(9) Special Certification:
(a) Limited Certification. The division, with board approval, may issue a limited certification for special types of inspections. Such limited certification will only be issued after the applicant passes an appropriate test of knowledge and ability;

(b) Limited Plumbing Inspector – Building Sewers. Limited certification for plumbing inspection of building sewers from five feet outside the building to the disposal terminal or connection with a main sewer line may be issued. To be certified, an applicant must have the following qualifications:
   (A) A Journeyman Plumber License;
   (B) Two years' experience in sewer design, installation, or inspection; or
   (C) Experience and training equivalent to paragraph (A) or (B) of this subsection approved by the board; and
   (D) Passing a board-approved examination on code, materials, and installation practices for building sewers and sewers.

(10) For purposes of this rule, one year of experience is equal to 2,000 hours.

OAR 918-695-0410
Certification for Medical Gas Plumbing Inspectors

(1) Scope. To promote effective and uniform enforcement of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code by improving the competence of plumbing inspectors, this rule establishes minimum
training and certification qualifications to make inspections for compliance with the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code. Persons employed for purposes of enforcing the requirements of other administrative agencies are exempt from this section.

(2) No person shall be appointed or employed as a medical gas plumbing inspector by any municipality without being currently certified under the provisions of this rule.

(3) Qualifications. Persons shall be certified as an Oregon plumbing inspector for inspections for compliance with the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code.

(4) Examination. Persons shall have a current and valid medical gas certification issued by a division-approved organization meeting the provisions of ASSE 6020-1997 Standard for Medical Gas Systems Inspectors Professional Qualifications.

**DIVISION 750**

**PLUMBING CODES**

**General**

OAR 918-750-0100

**Scope of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code**

(1) The Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code is applicable and uniform throughout the state and in all municipalities.

(2) Unless a local amendment request is approved by the division under ORS 455.040, a municipality may not enact or enforce any ordinance, rule or regulation in conflict with the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code.

(3) The Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code applies to all plumbing installations as addressed in ORS 447.020 and ORS chapter 455 including one- and two-family dwellings of three stories or less within the scope of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code.

OAR 918-750-0110

**Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code**

(1) The Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code is adopted pursuant to OAR chapter 918, division 8.

(2) Effective October 1, 2014, the 2014 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code is based upon the 2011 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code and as further amended by the division.

OAR 918-750-0115

**Amendments to the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code**

(1) The Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code is amended pursuant to OAR chapter 918, division 8. Amendments adopted for inclusion into the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code are placed in this rule, showing the section reference, a descriptive caption, and a short description of the amendment.

(2) Effective April 1, 2015, Section 707.4 of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code is amended to eliminate the use of removable fixture traps.

**DIVISION 780**

**PLUMBING FEES, PERMITS, INSPECTIONS**
OAR 918-780-0030

**Plumbing License Fees**

(1) Licenses required by ORS chapters 447 and 693 may be issued and renewed by the division to applicants who meet the requirements for the license and apply as established in OAR Chapter 918 division 30. The following license application and renewal fees are adopted:

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<tr>
<th>License Type</th>
<th>Application fee</th>
<th>Renewal fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plumbing business license</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journeyman plumber license</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$180 (including $30 fee to track continuing education)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited specialty plumber water treatment installer license</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited specialty plumber residential water heater installer license</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited specialty plumber solar heating and cooling installer license</td>
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OAR 918-780-0035

**Exempt Ordinary Minor Plumbing Repairs**

(1) Effective April 1, 2006, state building code provisions for permit or inspection of ordinary minor plumbing repairs follow:

(a) A registered plumbing contractor and any person exempt from licensing under ORS 693.020 are exempted from permit or inspection for ordinary minor plumbing repairs as defined in section (2) for residential and commercial structures;

(b) The term "any person" is defined by ORS 693.020 and includes but is not limited to individuals, corporations, partnerships, public and municipal corporations, political subdivisions, any Oregon state and federal government agencies.

(2) The term "ordinary minor plumbing repairs" is defined as follows:

(a) Includes repair, replacement or maintenance of existing plumbing fixtures, appliances, appurtenances and related water supply and drain attachments for the purpose of restoring a plumbing installation to a safe and sanitary operating condition.

(b) Does not include new construction, replacement of water heaters, or underground plumbing.

(3) In addition to the exemption in section (1), a registered plumbing contractor does not need a permit or inspection for emergency repair or replacement of the following: freeze-damaged, leaking-exposed, or concealed piping not exceeding five feet of new piping per structure for a period of 180 days, provided the repair or replacement does not involve any changes or alterations to the existing plumbing system.

OAR 918-780-0040

**Plumbing Plan Reviews**
(1) A jurisdiction providing plumbing code plan review services may only require plumbing plan review for a complex structure. For purposes of this rule, a “complex structure” is a plumbing system designed, constructed or reconstructed to accommodate any of the following:
   (a) The installation or alteration of a medical gas and vacuum system for health care facilities;
   (b) The installation or alteration of chemical drainage waste and vent systems containing chemical agents potentially detrimental to the integrity of a plumbing system;
   (c) The installation or alteration of wastewater pretreatment systems for building sewers;
   (d) The installation of vacuum drainage waste and vent systems;
   (e) The installation or alteration of reclaimed wastewater systems;
   (f) The installation of a commercial booster pump system needed to maintain a minimum residual water pressure in a structure supplied by a municipal source;
   (g) The installation of a plumbing system requiring a building water service line with an interior diameter or nominal pipe size of two inches or greater except those two inch systems which have been designed and stamped by a licensed engineer;
   (h) The installation of any multi-purpose sprinkler system under standards adopted by the department.
(2) If a jurisdiction providing plumbing code plan review services requires a plumbing code plan review as authorized by section (1) of this rule, the jurisdiction may require the submission of complete specifications, piping layout and fixture location drawings of the proposed system or alteration before issuing a permit. Plans and specifications must indicate the nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that the work will conform to provisions of the Plumbing Specialty Code.
(3) A jurisdiction requiring plumbing code plan review may not require plan review on more than one building or structure under construction or reconstruction at the same jobsite, as long as:
   (a) The plumbing systems of the buildings or structures are materially alike; and
   (b) A person obtains plumbing permits for the buildings or structures within a reasonable time.
(4) Any required plumbing code plan review service may be waived by a jurisdiction if the nature of the work applied for is such that reviewing of plans is not necessary to determine compliance with the Plumbing Specialty Code.
(5) When the plumbing plan review is completed by a qualified plumbing plan reviewer and a plumbing permit issued, the plans must be endorsed in writing and stamped “Approved.” The approved plans cannot be changed without authorization from the jurisdiction providing plumbing code plan review services.
(6) Issuance of a permit or approval of plans will not prevent the jurisdiction providing plumbing code plan review services from:
   (a) requiring the correction of errors in plans and specifications; or
   (b) preventing construction operations when in violation of the Plumbing Specialty Code or of any other ordinance; or
(c) revoking any certificate of approval when issued in error.

(7) Nothing in this rule prevents a jurisdiction from providing plan review services for utility systems situated outside the building exterior of a particular jobsite.

(8) Nothing in this rule prevents a jurisdiction from requiring information on grease processing equipment systems.

(9) Where applicable, the Department of Consumer and Business Services’ fees for plan review on complex structures will be based on the time required to review the plans, but must not exceed 30 percent of the total plumbing permit fee for the building or structure under review. When plans are incomplete or substantially changed to require additional plan review services, the department may charge an additional fee based on the time required for the additional review.

(10) Nothing in these rules shall prohibit the owner or owner’s agent from requesting and receiving a plan review for non-complex structures.

OAR 918-780-0045
Medical Gas System Plan Reviews

(1) The authority having jurisdiction shall require complete specifications and plans for medical gas system installations or proposed alterations prior to issuing a permit. Plans and specifications shall indicate the nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that the work will follow with the medical gas provisions of these rules. Sizing calculations may be requested by the administrative authority.

(2) Medical gas systems plan review may be waived by the authority having jurisdiction for small renovations, repairs or extensions to existing systems, if the nature of the work applied for is such that reviewing of plans is not necessary to determine compliance with the medical gas provisions of these rules.

(3) Where medical gas system plans, specifications or calculations are required by the authority having jurisdiction, such plans shall bear the seal and signature of an Oregon-registered professional engineer.

(4) When the medical gas systems plan review is completed by a qualified medical gas plan reviewer and a medical gas permit is issued, the plans shall be endorsed in writing and stamped “approved.” The approved plans shall not be changed without authorization from the inspecting authority having jurisdiction.

(5) Issuance of a permit or approval of plans shall not prevent the authority having jurisdiction from requiring the correction of errors in plans and specifications or from preventing construction operations when in violation of the Plumbing Specialty Code, or of any other ordinance or from revoking any certificate of approval when issued in error.

(6) The cost of plan review for medical gas systems work performed by the Building Codes Division shall be based on the time required to review the plans, but shall not exceed 30 percent of the total plumbing permit fee for the building or structure under review. When plans are incomplete or substantially changed so as to require additional plan review, additional plan review fees may be charged based on the additional time required.

OAR 918-780-0050
Qualifications for Persons Performing Plumbing and Medical Gas Systems Plan Reviews
Plumbing plan reviews shall be conducted only by persons with the appropriate division plumbing inspector or limited plumbing inspector certification. Medical gas systems plan reviews shall be conducted only by persons with the appropriate division plumbing-inspector certification and a current and valid medical gas inspector certification as defined in OAR 918-695-0410. Persons employed for purposes of enforcing the requirements of other administrative agencies are exempt from this rule.

OAR 918-780-0065
Permits Required
No person, firm, or corporation shall do plumbing or medical gas systems work in the State of Oregon without first obtaining a plumbing permit or minor label when required and paying the appropriate fees to the authorized permit issuing agency.

OAR 918-780-0080
Plumbing Permit Fees
The following inspection fees are established by the board for the Building Codes Division plumbing inspections under ORS 447.020 and 447.095. This rule does not apply to municipalities administering a plumbing program:
(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this rule, which could result in a lower fee, the minimum inspection fee is $46.
(2) One and Two Family Dwellings (Dwellings) Inspection Fees — Dwelling inspection fees for new construction, including drain, waste, vent and water distribution piping, and setting of plumbing fixtures and appliances, building sanitary, storm or combination sewer service piping, and potable water service piping. The plumbing permit fees for one- and two-family dwelling construction, remodeling or alterations are a flat fee based only on the square footage of the structure for new construction or the number of plumbing fixtures for remodeling or alterations, as follows:
   (a) Base fee (new construction 1800 square feet or less) — $210;
   (b) Additional square feet exceeding 1800 @ $.20 per square foot over 1800;
   (c) Remodel/alteration (each 10 fixtures or less) — $67.
(3) Manufactured Dwellings or Prefabricated Structures Inspection Fees — Manufactured dwelling or prefabricated structures inspection fees for connections to building sewer and water supply — $64.
(4) Recreational Vehicle and Manufactured Dwelling Parks Inspection Fees:
   (a) $320 for the first ten or fewer spaces; and
   (b) $275 for each 10 additional spaces.
(5) Commercial, Industrial, and dwellings, other than one- and two-family: Inspection Fee:
   (a) Base fee (includes up to 3 fixtures and the first 100’ for each exterior, sanitary sewer, storm sewer or water supply building utility piping) — $60;
   (b) $20 per each fixture over the first 3; and
   (c) Site utilities exceeding the first 100’ of each (water service, storm and sanitary sewer) $20 each additional 100’ of piping or part thereof.
(6) Miscellaneous Inspection Fees:
   (a) Charges for inspections requested by a governmental agency under ORS 190.003 to 190.110 are negotiable and subject to revisions project-to-project.
   (b) Include, but are not limited to, residential fire sprinkler systems (multi-purpose), indirect wastes, specialty fixtures and re-inspection — $46.
   (c) Specially requested inspections — $46 per hour or any portion of an hour.

(7) For the purposes of calculating the permit fees under this rule, “fixtures” includes but are not limited to the following:
   (a) Bathtubs;
   (b) Bidets;
   (c) Clothes washers;
   (d) Drinking fountains;
   (e) Laundry tubs;
   (f) Showers;
   (g) Sinks;
   (h) Urinals;
   (i) Water closets; and
   (j) Water heaters;

(8) Medical Gas System Inspection Fees — Inspection fees for medical gas systems are a combination of:
   (a) A $219 base fee; and
   (b) $1 per each inlet or outlet.

OAR 918-780-0085
License Required
Whenever any plumbing installation is being made by an unlicensed person contrary to the provisions of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code or OAR chapter 918, division 695, the building official must stop the installation through written notice. The building official may serve the notice on any person engaged in such an installation, or by posting a copy of the written notice at the site of the installation. No person may proceed with the installation until authorized by the building official.

OAR 918-780-0090
Requests for Inspection and Notice of Results
(1) Except as provided in section (2) of this rule, an inspecting jurisdiction shall inspect within 48 hours of a written request for inspection unless the time for inspection is extended to a set date by mutual agreement. The 48 hours excludes Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.
(2) The inspecting jurisdiction shall inspect an installation at a remote location within a reasonable time of the request.
   (a) For the purpose of this section, a “remote location” is:
      (A) An inspection location that is more than 60 miles one way using the most direct route, measured from the closest of the inspector’s station, inspection office or the inspecting jurisdiction’s primary offices; or
(B) An inspection location that requires more than one hour or normal driving, one way, using the most direct route from the closest point mentioned in paragraph (A) of this subsection.

(b) For the purposes of this section, “within a reasonable time” means a response time that takes into account the time, distance and number of inspection requests, but shall not exceed seven consecutive calendar days including the date the request was received unless the time for inspection is extended to a set date by mutual agreement. If the seventh calendar day falls on a weekend or holiday, this is extended to include the next business day.

(3) Reasonable procedures designed to provide actual notice of inspection results shall be used by all inspecting jurisdictions to notify the person requesting inspections, of the results of plumbing inspection. “Reasonable procedures designed to provide actual notice” shall include posting at the job site and:

(a) Nothing more when the installation is by an owner;
(b) Nothing more when the installation is approved;
(c) For other than for a one- or two-family dwelling, notification of any deficiencies on a specific permit by:
   (A) FAX transmittal to the plumbing contractor;
   (B) Personal delivery to the plumbing contractor;
   (C) Mailing;
   (D) Telephone followed by written notification; or
   (E) Other electronic or automated notification systems.

(d) By written confirmation of inspection approval if a permit holder requests confirmation.

(4) If the inspection mentioned in sections (1) and (2) of this rule involved a cover inspection and does not include any medical gas systems or components, the work cannot be covered unless:

(a) Inspection clearance is given; or
(b) The request for inspection is in writing communicated to the inspecting jurisdiction, with notice that a cover inspection is involved, no extensions are agreed to and the maximum time for making the required inspection under sections (1) and (2) of this rule are exceeded. For the purposes of this subsection:
   (A) Written request includes a letter, telegram or FAX transmittal; and
   (B) The burden of proof is on the person requesting the plumbing inspection to prove that a written request was communicated.

(5) Correction Notice for Violations. All deviations from the requirements of the statutes or rules shall be specified in writing and a copy of the notice furnished to the permittee. An additional copy of the notice may be posted at the site of the installation or mailed or delivered to the permittee or the permittee’s agent at the address shown on the permit. The division may provide information on the meaning or application of the statutes and rules but shall not design or lay out work for contractors, owners, or users. Refusal, failure, or neglect to correct deviations from the minimum standards specified in the notice within 30 days of receipt or of posting of notice of violation shall be considered a separate violation of these administrative rules.
**Plumbing Inspections**

**Minor Plumbing Installations Subject to Random Inspections**

**OAR 918-780-0130**

**Use of Minor Installation Labels**

(1) Plumbing contractors having a valid certificate of registration under ORS 447.030 and a verified Construction Contractors Board license, when using plumbers having a certificate of competency under ORS Chapter 693, may purchase and use minor labels as described by OAR 918-100-0000 through 918-100-0060; and

(2) Only permit requirements are deleted. The Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code and Oregon Residential Specialty Code plumbing installation provisions and plumbing product certification requirements shall be followed.

**OAR 918-780-0140**

**Scope of Plumbing Work Allowed with Minor Installation Label**

“Minor plumbing” for installations under the minor label programs permitted by OAR 918-100-0000 through 918-100-0060 shall be as follows:

(1) Commercial and industrial minor installation label programs include:
   - (a) Accessible plumbing repair and maintenance;
   - (b) Replacement of up to three accessible plumbing appliances, appurtenances or fixtures as defined in the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code; or
   - (c) Replacement of up to 20 feet of plumbing piping.

(2) One- and two-family dwelling minor installation label programs include:
   - (a) Repair, replacement, or maintenance of water heaters, including water heater conversions;
   - (b) Alteration of parts of an existing plumbing system not exceeding three fixtures, or 20 feet of new piping or both provided the work is “accessible” to an inspector; or
   - (c) Repair or replacement of concealed freeze-damaged or leaking parts of an existing plumbing system not exceeding three fixtures, or 20 feet of new piping or both.
   - (d) Plumbing fixtures as used in this section include, but are not limited to, bathtubs, bidets, showers, sinks, water closets and water heaters.

(3) Cross-connection control devices are not considered minor plumbing installations and are excluded under these rules.