

2024 -- S 2688

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, F. Lombardi, DiPalma, Britto, Zurier, Burke, and
Tikoian

Date Introduced: March 01, 2024

Referred To: Senate Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 5-6-8, 5-6-11 and 5-6-16 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-6 entitled

2 "Electricians" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-6-8. Contractor's certificates/licenses.**

4 (a) Electrical contractor's license. A Certificate A shall be issued to any person, firm, or
5 corporation, qualified under this chapter, engaging in, or about to engage in, the business of
6 installing, maintaining, servicing, and testing electrical wires, conduits, apparatus, fixtures, fire
7 alarm and safety communication systems, and other electrical appliances, excluding low-voltage
8 wiring for heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment. The certificate shall specify the
9 name of the person, firm, or corporation applying for it and the name of the person, who in the case
10 of a firm is one of its members, and in the case of a corporation, is one of its officers, passing the
11 examination by which he or she or it is authorized to enter upon, or engage in, business as prescribed
12 in the certificate. The holding of a Certificate A does not entitle the holder individually to engage
13 in or perform the actual work of installing, maintaining, servicing, and testing electric wires,
14 conduits, or appliances as previously described in this chapter, but entitles him or her to conduct
15 business as an electrical contractor.

16 (b) Burner contractor's license. A Certificate E shall be issued to any person, firm, or
17 corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to engage in, the business of a
18 burner contractor as defined in § 5-6-1. The certificate shall specify the name of the person, firm,
19 or corporation applying for it and the name of the person who, in the case of a firm is one of its

1 members, and in the case of a corporation is one of its officers, passing the examination, by which
2 he or she or it is authorized to enter upon, or engage in, business as prescribed in the certificate.
3 The holding of a Certificate E does not entitle the holder individually to engage in or perform any
4 work on, or in connection with, electric wires, conduits, and appliances as previously described in
5 this chapter, but entitles the holder to contract to do that work, to the extent permitted in this chapter,
6 through the employment of burnerpersons holding a Certificate F. A burner contractor who is the
7 holder of a Certificate A is not required to obtain a Certificate E.

8 (c) Fire alarm contractor's license. A Certificate AF shall be issued to any person, firm, or
9 corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to engage in, the business of a
10 fire alarm contractor as defined in § 5-6-1. The certificate shall specify the name of the person,
11 firm, or corporation applying for it and the person who, in the case of a firm is one of its members,
12 and in the case of a corporation is one of its officers, passing the examination by which he or she
13 or it is authorized to enter upon, or engage in, business as prescribed in the certificate. The holding
14 of a Certificate AF does not entitle the holder individually to engage in, or perform and work on,
15 or in connection with, electric wires, fire alarm wires, conduits, and appliances as previously
16 described in this chapter, but entitles the holder to contract to do that work to the extent permitted
17 in this chapter through the employment of fire alarm installers holding a Certificate BF. A
18 contractor who is the holder of a Certificate A is not required to obtain a Certificate BF.

19 (d) Electrical sign contractor's license. A Certificate SCF shall be issued to any person,
20 firm, or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in or about to engage in the business
21 of electrical sign installations, as defined in § 5-6-1.

22 (e) Lightning-protection contractor. A Certificate LPC shall be issued to any person, firm,
23 or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to engage in, the business of
24 lightning-protection contractor as defined in § 5-6-1. The Certificate LPC shall specify the name
25 of the person, firm, or corporation applying for it and the person, who in the case of a firm, is one
26 of its members, and in the case of a corporation, is one of its officers, passing the examination by
27 which he or she or it is authorized to enter upon or engage in business as prescribed in the certificate.
28 The holding of a Certificate LPC does not entitle the holder individually to engage in, or perform
29 and work on, or in connection with, the installation of lightning-protection equipment as defined in
30 § 5-6-1, unless that individual also holds a Certificate LPI, but entitles the holder to contract to do
31 that work to the extent permitted in this chapter through the employment of lightning-protection
32 installers holding a Certificate LPI.

33 (f) Sign renovation electrical license. A certificate SRL shall be issued to any person, firm,
34 or corporation qualified under this chapter and engaged in, or about to engage in, the business of

1 sign renovation or installation of signs when such renovation or installation requires the removal
2 or installation of no more than three (3) wires.

3 (g) Renewable energy professional. A Certificate REP shall be issued to any person, firm,
4 or corporation, qualified under this chapter, engaged in or about to engage in the business of
5 installing eligible renewable energy technologies as defined in § 39-26-5. All renewable energy
6 electrical work, including installing, connecting, maintaining, servicing, and testing all electrical
7 wires, conduits, and apparatus; mounting the modules to the mounting racks; mounting the
8 inverters; and tying the inverters into the main electrical panels, shall be done by a licensed
9 electrician. Ancillary non-electrical, renewable energy work, such as advertising services;
10 distribution of materials to final location of installation including photovoltaic modules to the
11 mounting racks; and installing the ground and rooftop support brackets and ballast for rack systems,
12 may be done by any person, ~~firm, or corporation~~ holding a Certificate REP. The Certificate REP
13 shall specify the name of the person, ~~firm, or corporation applying for it and the name of the person,~~
14 ~~who in the case of a firm is one of its members, and in the case of a corporation, is one of its officers,~~
15 meeting the requisite education and experience as established in § 5-6-11, by which he or she or it
16 is authorized to enter upon, or engage in, business as prescribed in the certificate. The holding of a
17 Certificate REP entitles the holder to contract to do that work to the extent permitted in this chapter.

18 The installation, mechanical fastening, and conjoining of listed solar sheathing systems
19 that are ten kilowatts (10 kw) or less on residential structures as defined by the Rhode Island one-
20 and two-family dwelling code may be performed by a registered contractor who or that has been
21 issued a renewable energy professional certificate (Certificate REP) as defined in § 5-6-11(e) and
22 above referenced. However, said residential solar sheathing system shall be connected to the
23 electrical system from the roof edge and energized by a Rhode Island licensed electrician working
24 in compliance with this chapter. Additionally, the residential solar sheathing systems noted must
25 be listed and labeled by UL or other recognized electrical device certification organization,
26 identified and acceptable by the authority having jurisdiction.

27 **5-6-11. Certificate/license of burnerperson, fire alarm installer, electrical sign**
28 **installer, lightning-protection installer, and renewable energy professional.**

29 (a) Burnerperson's license. A Certificate F shall be granted to any person who has passed
30 an examination before the division of professional regulation. The certificate shall specify the name
31 of the person authorized to install, work on, and repair electric wiring and equipment located in or
32 on burners and other equipment serviced by burner contractors, to the extent only as is necessary
33 to install, service, maintain, and repair those burners and equipment. The license shall limit the
34 holder of a Certificate F to do work on electric wiring or equipment located on those burners and

1 equipment and related components, but in no event to do any electrical work on oil burners burning
2 No. 3, 4, 5, or 6 fuel oil.

3 (b) Fire alarm installer's license. A Certificate BF shall be granted to any person who has
4 passed an examination before the division of professional regulation. The certificate shall specify
5 the name of the person authorized to work on, install, maintain, and test fire alarm systems.

6 (c) Electrical sign installer's license. A Certificate CF shall be granted to any person who
7 has passed an examination before the division of professional regulation. The certificate shall
8 specify the name of the person authorized to install, maintain, work on, and repair electrical signs.

9 (d) Lightning-protection installer's license. A Certificate LPI shall be granted to any person
10 who has passed an examination before the division of professional regulation. The certificate shall
11 specify the name of the person authorized to install, maintain, work on, and repair lightning-
12 protection systems as defined in § 5-6-1.

13 (e) Renewable energy professional's certificate. The Rhode Island department of labor and
14 training shall issue a certificate of competency in the design and installation of renewable energy
15 systems to any person, ~~firm, or corporation~~ who ~~or that~~ has:

16 [\(1\) Passed an examination on proficiency in solar technology, solar financing and tax](#)
17 [incentive programs; and has](#)

18 [\(2\) Received](#) ~~received~~ a certification from a nationally recognized, or equivalent, renewable
19 energy certification training program and has demonstrated proof of such certification to the Rhode
20 Island office of energy resources.

21 **5-6-16. License fees.**

22 (a) All licenses issued by the division of professional regulation for master electricians, all
23 limited-license electricians, and all journeyman electricians born in odd years shall expire on the
24 birthday of the individual qualifying for the license in odd years and all licenses of master
25 electricians, all limited-license electricians, and all journeyman electricians born in even years
26 shall expire on the birthday of the individual qualifying for the license in even years and all licenses
27 may be renewed on or before their expiration date upon payment of the appropriate, biennial
28 renewal fee.

29 (b) A fee of two hundred forty dollars (\$240) shall be paid by each applicant for an
30 electrical contractor's license Class A; seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) for a journeyman
31 electrician's license Class B; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for a limited-premises license Class
32 C; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for a burner contractor's license Class E; seventy-two dollars
33 (\$72.00) for a burnerperson's license Class F; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for a fire alarm
34 contractor's license Class AF; seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) for a fire alarm installer's license Class

1 BF; two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for an electrical sign contractor's license SCF; seventy-two
2 dollars (\$72.00) for a sign installer's license Class CF; and two hundred forty dollars (\$240) for a
3 limited-maintenance license Class D.

4 (c) A fee of two hundred forty dollars (\$240) shall be paid by each applicant for a lightning-
5 protection contractor's license Class LPC.

6 (d) A fee of seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) shall be paid by each applicant for a lightning-
7 protection installer's license LPI.

8 (e) A fee of seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) shall be paid by each applicant for a sign
9 renovation electrical license.

10 (f) A fee of seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) shall be paid by each applicant for a renewable
11 energy professional's certificate.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would mandate a burnerperson professional to pass an examination on proficiency
2 in solar technology, solar financing and tax incentive programs upon a renewal of the professional's
3 certificate. Additionally, this act would establish a fee of seventy-two dollars (\$72.00) for a
4 renewable energy professional's certificate.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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