

2021 -- H 5764

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- ELECTRICIANS

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, Newberry, Baginski, Tobon, Diaz, Serpa,
Cassar, Williams, Shanley, and Solomon

Date Introduced: February 24, 2021

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5-6-24 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-6 entitled "Electricians" is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-6-24. Apprentices -- Registration.**

4 (a) This chapter does not forbid the employment of one properly limited-registered
5 apprentice electrician working with and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed
6 journeyman electrician. Additionally, this chapter does not forbid the employment of: (1) One
7 properly registered apprentice journeyman working with and under the direct personal supervision
8 of a licensed journeyman; (2) One properly registered apprentice fire alarm installer working with
9 and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed fire alarm installer; (3) Two (2) properly
10 registered apprentice electrical sign installers working with and under the direct personal
11 supervision of a licensed electrical sign installer; (4) One properly registered apprentice
12 maintenance electrician working with and under the direct personal supervision of a valid Class C
13 or Class D license holder; or (5) One properly registered apprentice lightning-protection installer
14 working with and under the direct personal supervision of a licensed lightning-protection installer
15 (LPI). Apprentices are required to register with the division of professional regulation immediately
16 upon employment with a properly licensed electrical contractor or lightning-protection contractor.

17 (b) Indentured apprentice electricians are required to work a minimum of eight thousand
18 (8,000) hours over a period of time of not less than four (4) years and successfully complete one
19 hundred forty-four (144) hours of related instruction per year in an indentured apprenticeship

1 program approved by the Rhode Island department of labor and training, to qualify for the
2 journeyman "B" electrician examination; provided, however, apprentices may receive credit for
3 one hundred forty-four (144) hours of classroom training gained in a vocational school authorized
4 by the board of education, or two hundred eighty-eight (288) hours of classroom training gained
5 upon the successful completion of a course of study in a fully accredited trade school that has been
6 approved by the Rhode Island office of post-secondary commissioner and ~~approved~~ by the Rhode
7 Island department of labor and training apprenticeship council. Provided, that the test applicant has
8 possessed, for at least four (4) years prior to the filing of the application, a certificate of registration
9 in full force and effect from the department of labor and training of Rhode Island specifying the
10 person as an indentured apprentice, and the application of an applicant is accompanied by an
11 affidavit or affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other reasonably satisfactory
12 evidence showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in electrical work as an apprentice
13 in Rhode Island during those four (4) years; or the application is accompanied by an affidavit or
14 other reasonably satisfactory evidence showing that the applicant has successfully completed a
15 course of study in a recognized college or university and has pursued a course of electrical
16 technology for at least two (2) academic years or is the recipient of an associate degree in electrical
17 technology, and has thereafter been indentured by the department of labor and training as an
18 apprentice for at least ~~two (2)~~ four (4) years and employed as an indentured apprentice by a duly
19 licensed electrician master in this state for a period of ~~two (2)~~ four (4) years; or a showing that the
20 applicant possesses a certificate of license issued under the laws of another state, based on training
21 equal to that required by the state of Rhode Island. Limited-registered apprentice electricians shall
22 be required to work a minimum of four thousand (4,000) hours over a period of time of not less
23 than two (2) years.

24 (c) Indentured apprentice maintenance electricians are required to work a minimum of six
25 thousand (6,000) hours over a period of time of not less than three (3) years and successfully
26 complete one hundred forty-four (144) hours of related instruction per year in an indentured
27 apprenticeship program approved by the Rhode Island department of labor and training, to qualify
28 for the journeyman "M" electrician examination. Provided, however, that the test applicant has
29 possessed for at least three (3) years prior to the filing of the application a certificate of registration
30 in full force and effect from the department of labor and training specifying the person as an
31 indentured apprentice, and the application of an applicant is accompanied by an affidavit or
32 affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other reasonably satisfactory evidence
33 showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in electrical work as an apprentice in Rhode
34 Island during those three (3) years. Class M journeyman electricians may qualify to take the

1 journeyperson "B" electrician examination upon registering as a fourth-year apprentice and
2 becoming employed by a properly licensed Class A electrical contractor for that period of time.

3 (d) Apprentice lightning-protection installers are required to work a minimum of four
4 thousand (4,000) hours over a period of time of not less than two (2) years to qualify for the
5 lightning-protection installer (LPI) examination. Provided, that the test applicant has possessed for
6 at least two (2) years prior to the filing of the application a certificate of registration in full force
7 and effect from the department of labor and training specifying the person as an apprentice
8 lightning-protection installer, and the application of an applicant is accompanied by an affidavit or
9 affidavits of his or her employer or former employers or other reasonably satisfactory evidence
10 showing that the applicant has been actually engaged in lightning-protection work as an apprentice
11 during those two (2) years.

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 allow the test applicant to earn the required credits towards the qualification
2 for the journeyperson "B" electrical examination by completing two hundred eighty-eight (288)
3 hours of classroom training in a fully accredited trade school. This act would also increase the
4 required period of indentured apprenticeship with the department of labor and training and a
5 licensed electrician master, from two (2) to four (4) years.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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