

24.12.120 Examining Board of Plumbers.

- a. **Creation.** There is hereby created and established an Examining Board for Plumbers which shall consist of seven members and shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Examining Board." Members of the Examining Board shall consist of the Authority Having Jurisdiction, one registered professional engineer who has passed the mechanical examination of the State of Nebraska, the Chief Plumbing Inspector of the City of Lincoln, two master plumber contractors registered with the City of Lincoln, one master gas fitter, and one registered water conditioning contractor. The plumbers, professional engineer, master gas fitter, and registered water conditioning contractor shall be appointed by the Mayor with the concurrence of the City Council for staggered terms of three years each. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term only. The Chief Plumbing Inspector shall be the Permanent Secretary of the Examining Board and shall keep a record of all meetings.
- b. **Authority.** Unless authority is specifically delegated to other boards provided by this code, the Examining Board shall, subject to the approval of the Mayor, adopt rules and regulations consistent with the provisions of this code and the Lincoln Gas Piping Systems Code for the qualifications for all categories and classifications of plumbers and gas fitters and the examination of applicants for registration under the provisions of this code and the Lincoln Gas Piping Systems Code. The Plumbing Code Board of Appeals shall review any written requests of an aggrieved party to the Authority Having Jurisdiction. Decisions of the Plumbing Code Board of Appeals may be appealed as provided by law. The Examining Board shall determine minimum qualifications for applicants for registration and as part of the rules and regulations shall determine the nature of the examination to be given applicants for registration.
- c. **Meeting.** The Examining Board shall meet on the Tuesday following the February, May, August, and November exams of each year. Special meetings may be held when deemed necessary at the call of the chairman. (Ord. 20525 §23, August 21, 2017).

24.12.125 Registration of Plumbers.

- a. **Classification.** There shall be four classes of registrations as follows:
1. Master plumber contractor is hereby defined to be any person skilled in the planning, superintending, and material installation of plumbing and drainage and gas piping, and who is familiar with the ordinances and regulations governing the same, and who is competent to install, repair, alter, or remove plumbing or drainage or gas piping with the full responsibility of supervision, whether doing such work by himself or herself or employing journeyman plumbers and plumbing apprentices to assist him or her. A master plumber contractor may supervise a maximum of three apprentices at a job site address.
 2. Master plumber is hereby defined to be any person skilled in the planning, superintending, and material installation of plumbing and drainage and gas piping, and who is familiar with the ordinances and regulations governing the same, and who is competent to install, repair, alter, or remove plumbing or drainage or gas piping with the full responsibility of supervision, whether doing such work by himself or herself or employing journeyman plumbers and plumbing apprentices to assist him or her. However, said master plumber cannot take out permits except as provided under Section 24.12.065, 104.1 for owner occupants. A master plumber may supervise a maximum of three apprentices at a job site address.
 3. Journeyman plumber is hereby defined to be any person employed by a master plumber, other than a plumber's apprentice, who as his or her principal occupation is engaged in the practical installation, alteration, repair, or removal of plumbing and drainage or gas piping. A journeyman plumber may supervise a maximum of three apprentices at a job site address.
 4. Plumber's apprentice is hereby defined to be a person, other than a master plumber or journeyman plumber, who as his or her principal occupation is engaged in learning and assisting in the installation, repair, alteration, or removal of plumbing and drainage or gas piping as an employee under the direct supervision and on the same job site of a master plumber or journeyman plumber. Applications for registration shall show compliance with state and federal labor laws.
- No person shall engage in or hold himself or herself out as engaging in the plumbing business in the city, or within three miles thereof, or install any piping, fixtures, or other apparatus for supplying water or install any plumbing fixtures, drainage, vents, and water distribution systems except as provided in Section 24.12.065 herein, or install any gas piping system, unless he or she shall have been duly authorized to do so by registration in one of the

classifications above described; except that gas piping systems may also be installed by any person holding an appropriate registration under Chapter 24.05 of the Lincoln Gas Piping Code.

The Authority Having Jurisdiction with the approval of the Examining Board shall have sole power to grant certificates to those duly qualified to be registered. It shall be unlawful for any person to perform any plumbing or gas piping work not authorized by the registration certificates issued to him or her.

- b. **Application for Registration.** Application for registration as a master plumber contractor, master plumber, journeyman plumber, or plumber's apprentice shall be made in writing to the Authority Having Jurisdiction on a form furnished for such purpose. Such form shall require the name and address of the applicant, the business location of the applicant, a statement of the practical experience of the applicant, and such other relevant information as may be required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.
- c. **Examination for Registration.** Before any applicant shall be registered as a master plumber contractor, master plumber or journeyman plumber, he or she shall pay an examination fee and shall be required to submit to and pass a written examination to determine his or her qualifications and fitness for executing the class of work under this Code and the Lincoln Gas Piping Systems Code covered by the registration for which application is made. Such examination shall normally be given the third Thursday of February, May, August, and November under the direction of the Examining Board. The examination date may be changed by majority approval of the Examining Board and notification of the master plumbing contractors. Any applicant who fails to pass the required examination shall not be eligible to take another examination until at least six months shall have elapsed from the date of last examination.
- d. **Fees.** Each applicant for master plumber contractor, master plumber registration, or journeyman plumber registration shall pay to the Authority Having Jurisdiction an examination fee as set by City Council.
- e. **Exemption.** Any person dealing in plumbing materials or supplies, but not engaged in the installation, alteration, repair, or removal of plumbing or drainage systems shall not be required to register hereunder.

Any person duly registered at the time of the adoption of this code shall be automatically registered under the appropriate classification of registration without submitting to an examination.

- f. **Registration of Corporation, Firm, or Partnership.** Any corporation, firm, or partnership may be registered hereunder as a master plumber contractor in the name of such corporation, firm, or partnership, provided that such corporation, firm, or partnership must have a master plumber contractor as a bona fide employee or partner who has submitted to the examination given by the Examining Board of Plumbers and has thereby shown himself or herself fit, competent, and qualified to engage in the business, trade, or calling of a master plumber contractor, and who shall at all times be in actual charge of and responsible for all installation, removal, or repair of plumbing or drainage systems performed by such corporation, firm, or partnership. The registration certificate shall also be issued in the name of the employee or partner registered as a master plumber contractor. In the event the master plumber contractor employee or partner of a corporation, firm, or partnership possessing a certificate of registration shall withdraw therefrom and cease to be connected therewith, then and in such event he or she shall immediately notify the Authority Having Jurisdiction, who shall forthwith recommend to the Examining Board that the certificate of registration of such corporation, firm, or partnership be revoked. A master plumber contractor working for and covered by the insurance of a corporation, firm, or partnership registered under this section is not required to duplicate such coverage under his or her own insurance policy.

No registered master plumber contractor or journeyman plumber shall allow his or her name to be used by another person, firm, partnership, or corporation, directly or indirectly, to obtain a permit for the installation of new plumbing as defined in the plumbing code.

No work for which a permit has been issued shall be performed on behalf of the master plumber contractor, under whose registration the permit was issued, by any subcontractor unless such subcontractor is also registered under the provisions of this code.

EXCEPTION: Utility contractors doing private sewer, water, and storm sewer mains under a plumber's permit.

Violations of this section shall be sufficient grounds for suspension or revocation of said certificate of registration as provided in this Chapter.

- g. **Expiration.** Registrations shall expire on the thirty-first day of May following the date of issuance. Registration shall not be assignable.

h. Renewal.

1. In order to renew a Master plumber or Master plumber contractor certificate or registration issued by the Building and Safety Department of the City of Lincoln, proof of 10 hours of continuing education annually shall be required. The continuing education may consist of training programs, courses, and seminars approved by the Examining Board.
2. In order to renew a journeyman plumber's certificate or registration issued by the Building and Safety Department of the City of Lincoln, proof of 6 hours of continuing education annually shall be required. The continuing education may consist of training programs, courses, and seminars approved by the Examining Board.
3. Certificates of registration for plumber's apprentice may be renewed upon payment of the required annual registration fee.

Any person registered under the provisions of this code as a master plumber contractor, master plumber, or journeyman plumber who does not renew his or her certificate of registration within a period of sixty days after the expiration of same shall pay the examination fee required by this code for a master plumber contractor, master plumber, or journeyman plumber, as the case may be, and shall submit himself or herself to and pass the regularly scheduled examination given by the Examining Board before such person can be again registered hereunder.

No registered master plumber contractor, master plumber, or journeyman plumber shall employ any person as a plumber's apprentice who is not registered as a plumber's apprentice within the City of Lincoln. No plumber's apprentice shall be permitted to work at the installation, alteration, repair, or removal of any plumbing or drainage except under the direct supervision and on the same job site of a duly registered master plumber contractor, master plumber, or journeyman plumber.

- i. Suspension or Revocation of Certificate of Registration.** The Examining Board of Plumbers, after hearing as hereinafter specified and upon the recommendations of the Authority Having Jurisdiction, shall have the power to suspend or revoke any master plumber contractor, master plumber, or journeyman plumber certificate of registration if the same was obtained by error or fraud, or if the holder thereof is shown to be no longer qualified, or if such holder fails, neglects, or refuses to comply with the provisions of this code.

If suspension or revocation of a master plumber contractor, master plumber, or journeyman plumber certificate of registration is recommended as above provided, the Examining Board shall cause written notice to be served upon the registered plumber whose registration is recommended for suspension or revocation, setting forth a time and place for a public hearing. Upon the conclusion of such hearing, the Examining Board shall within thirty days thereafter render a written decision to such registered plumber regarding suspension or revocation of the registration. Such written decision shall be served by mailing it to such registered plumber by certified mail at the last known business address or by personal service. If a certificate of registration is revoked, the holder of the same shall not apply for registration until one year after the date of such revocation. Decisions of the Examining Board concerning suspension or revocation of registration may be appealed as provided by law.

It shall be unlawful for any registered plumber to allow his or her name to be used by another person, directly or indirectly, to obtain a permit for the installation, alteration, or repair of any plumbing or drainage system. Violation of this section shall be sufficient grounds for suspension or revocation of said certificates of registration as herein provided.

(Ord. 21176 §18; December 13, 2021; Ord. 20807 §1; July 01, 2019; Ord. 20525 §24, August 21, 2017).