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103CSR5-Electricians Licensing Rule-amended 7-22-2022

1 message

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To: Kathryn Burns <kathryn.l.burns@wv.gov>

Fri, Jul 22, 2022 at 11:27 AM

Disregard the first submission for this rule. See below for the additional changes.

To the State Fire Marshal,

Please see the following suggested changes(highlighted) to this rule that is currently under the LMRC review for consideration. It is imperative that the Fire Marshal be able to outsource the Electricians Licensing examinations to a private approved testing agency. This will provide the public/examinees with better options to take the examination on their own schedule and thus would allow the examinee, if they pass the exam, to start working faster. Currently the testing process can take anywhere from 2 months to 6 months for a person to sign up/apply for and take the examination due primarily to the scheduling of exams. The current testing sites are limited to Charleston(six times per year), Martinsburg(six times per year), Beckley, Clarksburg and Wheeling(four times per year) along with various other special testing sites/dates provided on an as needed basis. These test examinations are proctored by the Fire Marshals in the respective areas. This proctoring requires one to two Fire Marshals at each test depending upon the number of applicants. This also removes the Fire Marshal from performing their primary duties of Fire Code enforcement and complaints investigations. The current exam practices place an unnecessary burden on the staff of the Fire Marshal's Office of which their time is very limited due to staffing issues.

David Blaylock, DSFM
Divisional Director Fire Services Division
Office of the State Fire Marshal

5.2.2. A twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) application review fee, for the Master, Journeyman or Specialty examination ~~or ten dollars (\$10.00) for the Apprentice examination~~. The fee is not returnable.

5.5. Failure to Meet Experience and/or Qualifications - Any person who fails to meet the required experience or qualifications for a certain level of licensure, when applying for an examination may change their application and select a lower level of licensure for which they do qualify without having to pay an additional review fee.

5.6. Age Requirement - An applicant must be eighteen (18) years of age in order to take any examination or to be issued a license. Provided that such applicant is currently enrolled in an approved West Virginia Department of Education electrical vocational program may take the examination and upon passing the exam shall not be issued a license until they are (18) years of age.

5.8. Authorization Form Required - An applicant complying with Subsection's 5.2 and 5.7 of this rule will be issued a written authorization form acknowledging receipt of the application review fee and setting forth the level of competency for which testing is authorized. No person will be permitted to take the examination who is unable to present the authorization form at the place of examination.

5.10. Scheduling of Examinations - Under provisions of applicable law, the State Fire Marshal shall prepare and arrange for the giving of examinations at least four (4) times each year. ~~Such examinations will regularly be held on the second Tuesday (excluding holidays) in the months of January, April, July and October.~~ The State Fire Marshal may schedule examinations at such additional times at other locations as he deems necessary.

5.11. Location of Testing Centers - Tests will be ~~given at the Capitol Complex, administered in~~ Charleston, WV at least four (4) times a year. Tests at other locations may be scheduled provided a sufficient number of applications have pre-registered. Notification of test locations to each applicant will be provided as required in subsection 5.8 of this rule: ; or

5.11.1 The State Fire Marshal may:

- 5.11.1.1. Contract with a private testing agent to conduct examinations, in which case applicants shall pay the testing agents examination fee directly to the testing agent; or

- 5.11.1.2. Develop examinations and examination procedures and conduct examinations, in which case applicants shall pay the examination fee directly to the Fire Marshal in advance of the examination.

~~5.14. Failing Grade — An applicant who fails to make the required passing score on any examination may retake the same examination or a lesser class examination upon the payment of a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) and upon submission of a new application for examination.~~

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Sincerely,

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