



SPONSOR: Rep. Q. Johnson  
Reps. Collins, Wilson; Sen. Lavelle

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL NO. 59

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO LICENSURE AS A  
JOURNEYPERSON ELECTRICIAN.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1           Section 1. Amend § 1408, Title 24 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strikethrough and  
2     insertions as shown by underline as follows:

3           § 1408. Qualifications of applicant.

4           (a) An applicant, who is applying for licensure as an electrician under this chapter, shall submit evidence, verified  
5     by oath and satisfactory to the Board, that such person:

6           (1) For licensure as a master electrician shall have knowledge of electricity in the residential, commercial and  
7     industrial areas, and in addition shall have:

8           a. Six years' full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician; or

9           b. Eight thousand hours of full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician,  
10     plus 576 hours of related instruction, or other approved training verified by a certificate of completion of  
11     apprenticeship from any bona fide, registered apprenticeship program of any state; or

12           c. Four years' full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician and 2 years' of  
13     technical training.

14           (2) For licensure as limited electrician shall have knowledge of electricity in the residential area, and in  
15     addition shall have:

16           a. Three years' full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed electrician, master or limited; or

17           b. Four thousand hours of full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed electrician, master or  
18     limited, plus 288 hours of related instruction, or other approved training verified by a certificate of completion of  
19     apprenticeship from any bona fide, registered apprenticeship program of any state.

20           (3) For licensure as master electrician special shall have knowledge of electricity as it relates to the particular  
21     type or types of specialty, and in addition shall have:

a. Six years' full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician, or master electrician special in the applicable specialty; or

b. Eight thousand hours of full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician or master electrician special, plus 576 hours of related instruction, or other approved training in the applicable specialty, verified by a certificate of completion of apprenticeship from any bonafide, registered apprenticeship program of any state.

(4) For licensure as limited electrician special shall have knowledge of electricity as it relates to the particular type or types of specialty, and in addition shall have:

a. Three years' full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician, master electrician special or limited electrician special in the applicable specialty; or

b. Four thousand hours of full-time experience under the supervision of a licensed master electrician, master electrician special or limited electrician special, in the applicable specialty, plus successful completion of 288 hours of related instruction, or other approved training in a specialty verified by a certificate of completion of apprenticeship from any bonafide, registered apprenticeship program of any state.

(5) For licensure as a journeyperson electrician shall:

a. Be at least 20 years of age.

b. Shall either:

1. Successfully complete an apprenticeship program approved by the Board that includes passing a final exam for successful completion of such program; or

2. Have over 8,000 hours of full-time experience performing electrical work under the supervision of a licensed master electrician, master electrician special, limited electrician or limited electrician special.

c. The exam required for a journeyperson license in paragraph (a)(7) of this section shall not be required for any person that has successfully met the requirement of paragraph (a)(5)b.1. of this section; regardless of whether such person has been issued a certificate of completion by the Department of Labor.

(6) For licensure as an apprentice electrician shall:

a. Be at least 18 years of age unless enrolled in a Board approved vocational program at a vocational school.

b. Be enrolled in or have successfully completed an apprentice program approved by the Board.

(7) After fulfilling the applicable experience and/or training requirements of this section, a person applying for licensure as a master electrician, master electrician special, journeyperson electrician, limited electrician, and limited

electrician special shall have achieved the passing score on the written, standardized examination for licensure, with a passing score as determined by the Board in rules and regulations, and which is approved by the Division.

(8) Shall not have been the recipient of any administrative penalties regarding that person's practice as an electrician, including, but not limited, to fines, formal reprimands, license suspensions or revocation (except for license revocations for nonpayment of license renewal fees), probationary limitations, and/or has not entered into any "consent agreements" which contain conditions placed by a Board on that person's professional conduct and practice, including any voluntary surrender of a license. The Board may determine after a hearing whether such administrative penalty is grounds to deny licensure.

(9) Shall not have any impairment related to drugs or alcohol that would limit the applicant's ability to act as an electrician in a manner consistent with the safety of the public.

(10) Shall not have a criminal conviction record, nor pending criminal charge relating to an offense, the circumstances of which substantially relate to providing electrical services. Applicants who have criminal conviction records or pending criminal charges shall request appropriate authorities to provide information about the record or charge directly to the Board in sufficient specificity to enable the Board to make a determination whether the record or charge is substantially related to providing electrical services. After a hearing or review of documentation demonstrating that the applicant meets the specified criteria for a waiver, the Board, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum, may waive this paragraph (a)(10), if it finds all of the following:

a. For waiver of a felony conviction, more than 5 years have elapsed since the date of the conviction. At the time of the application the applicant may not be incarcerated, on work release, on probation, on parole or serving any part of a suspended sentence and must be in substantial compliance with all court orders pertaining to fines, restitution and community service.

b. For waiver of a misdemeanor conviction or violation, at the time of the application the applicant may not be incarcerated, on work release, on probation, on parole or serving any part of a suspended sentence and must be in substantial compliance with all court orders pertaining to fines, restitution and community service.

c. The applicant is capable of practicing electrical services in a competent and professional manner.

d. The granting of the waiver will not endanger the public health, safety or welfare.

(11) Shall have no disciplinary proceedings or unresolved complaints pending against the person in any jurisdiction where the applicant has previously been or currently is licensed or registered.

#### SYNOPSIS

This bill clarifies that all journeyman applicants of sufficient age who successfully complete any apprenticeship program approved by the Board, and successfully pass the final exam associated with the Board approved program, should

be treated equally for purpose of licensure. Currently the Board grants a journeyperson license only to applicants who receive one of a limited number of Department of Labor certificates of completion, despite completing the same program.